**RWP-KIN-24-01**

**Questions and Answers**

Award:

1. Will the contract include 252.204-7021 Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification Requirements? If so at what level?

The problem statement states that technical inputs to the Journal of Propulsion and Energetics (Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) is required. As such, the offeror shall be compliant with DoD cybersecurity requirements for this contract. The level has not been determined at this time.

2. If the offeror believes SIPRNET is required to perform the tasks associated with the award, will the government consider making it a contract requirement.

SIPRNET is not required at the time of award, but is something that may be considered in the future.

3. We note that manufacturing process development of propellants, explosives, and fuels is an area of interest in RWP-KIN-24-01. Are proposals that focus on manufacturing process development & production for a specialty fuel with known/beneficial properties suitable or is a prototyping element of some kind (as listed on page 2 of the problem statement) required to qualify for funding?

Focus areas are mentioned in question 10. Outcomes such as the ones described in the question would not disqualify a proposer from being selected for an award.

Eligibility:

4. We propose to conduct this study entirely on an Unclassified basis.  Making this system Confidential, Secret, or Top Secret would hinder, and quite probably entirely prevent, our development efforts.  We have no need to know the details of any classified missions that this system would enable, and the system itself draws on no classified resources.  However, the problem statement (Attachment 1) includes the text, "Awardee will access and store classified information up to and including Secret."  Is it an absolute requirement that awardees be able to access and store classified information?  In other words, would a proposal that proposes to be entirely Unclassified, using only resources not cleared for access to or storage of classified information, be considered unresponsive or otherwise disqualified regardless of any other factors?

The ability to collect, retain, and distribute classified information is required. Responses that do not meet this will not be selected for award.

General Questions:

5. Is DIBC-RWP-KIN-24-01 looking for businesses to make prototypes or looking for businesses to support the prototyping efforts of others?

As stated in the Problem Statement, the performer will conduct prototyping activities and will support ongoing propulsion prototyping activities through strategic outreach and engagement with the propulsion and energetics technical communities as well as through the development of deliverables.

6. Is creating and offering CUI or SECRET short-courses to young professionals or new entrants into the industrial base a requirement and desired outcome of the JANNAF activity?

Creating and offering CUI or SECRET short-courses to young professionals or new entrants into the industrial base is not required at the time of award, but is something that may be considered in the future.

7. What agency will be responsible for reviewing STINFO materials produced for/by JANNAF?

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (OUSD(A&S)).

8. What agency will be responsible for remarking and reclassification of historical JANNAF documents?

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (OUSD(A&S)).

Proposal Topic:

9. We saw a request for white papers in DIBC-RWP-KIN-24-01 that included some “limited experimental investigation and hardware assessments” and were hoping to better understand what is included in that.  Does that include instrument development for characterizing and/or detecting plume/wake/hypersonic signatures?  Or is this just for algorithm development?

Instrument development is not included in this requirement. Per the problem statement, limited experimental investigation and hardware assessments including but not limited to Plume/Wake/Hypersonic Signature Prediction codes (existing and soon to be fielded) will occur on an as needed basis over the project period of performance.

Technology

10. We propose to study a system for space boost, possibly also for orbit transfer and in space propulsion.  It would not be suitable for tactical, strategic and missile defense rockets and missiles, or for gun propulsion systems.  It is unclear whether you are only considering propulsion systems suitable for all of those modes, or if propulsion systems only suitable for some of those modes will also be considered.  Would a system which is only suitable for some of the modes be considered unresponsive or otherwise disqualified regardless of any other factors?

All modes of propulsion in all domains will be considered.

11. We propose to conduct a feasibility study, not construct a prototype yet.  There is significant work we need to do, quantifying the tasks that would be needed (primarily to satisfy regulatory criteria: getting answers from the regulators as to what is "safe enough" is part of the proposed study) in order to construct a budget for a prototype.  It is unclear whether you will only fund efforts intended to directly result in a prototype, or if earlier-stage efforts may also be considered.  Would a feasibility study that stops short of a prototype (but could in subsequent years be extended into making a prototype) be considered unresponsive or otherwise disqualified regardless of any other factors?

Per the Problem Statement, technical assessments and studies are a part of this requirement but will be done in support of and based on lessons learned from prototyping activities.