

Special Notice, DARPA-SN-09-09: Sole Source Contract to Multi Dimensional Imaging (MDI); Responses due: January 7, 2009, 4:00pm EDT; POC: Mr. Thomas E. Lyon; Email: DARPA-SN-09-09@darpa.mil.

Synopsis:

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Defense Sciences Office (DSO), intends to award a Sole Source contract to Multi Dimensional Imaging (MDI) , Inc., Tustin, CA to (1) mature rotating X-ray transmission-anode technology into a prototype wide vertex angle X-ray source for battlefield Computed Tomography (CT) applications, and (2) start the development of long lead items to enable the integration of these technologies and components into a prototype compact CT scanner for military field-hospital use. In the DSO IM-VAC program MDI conducted a feasibility demonstration effort involving these technology concepts under Cooperative Agreement No. MDA972-03-2-0001. Under this agreement MDI established that transmission X-ray anodes can generate a uniform beam of X-rays, in a wide vertex angle and with significantly enhanced X-ray yield than conventional reflection anodes currently used in state-of-the-art CT X-Ray sources. The proposed effort is a follow-on to the prior effort conducted by MDI. In the proposed effort MDI will (1) evaluate the processing and performance of candidate anode substrate materials, (2) select an anode process and fabricate, develop, and lifetime-test a reproducible high X-ray yield, high X-ray output transmission anode and (3) develop and bench test a sealed tube, wide vertex angle prototype X-ray source that integrates the reproducible transmission anode. The proposed contract action is for research & development services for which the Government intends to solicit and negotiate with only one source under the statutory authority that permits other than full and open competition when there is only one responsible source (10 U.S.C. 2304 (c) (1)). As the developer of the compact CT enabling technology concepts, the MDI team possesses unique knowledge, capabilities and proprietary intellectual property¹/data required to carry out the required X-ray Source development effort. This notice of intent is not a request for competitive proposals and no solicitation is currently available. However, interested parties may identify their approach and capability to respond to the requirement. Responses/proposals received within forty-five (45) days after the publication date of this notice will be considered by the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement. A determination by the Government not to compete this proposed effort on a full and open basis is solely within the discretion of the Government.

¹ Serial numbers: 60/745213, 60/745215, WO/2008/060671, 60/745230, WO/2008/054860

Interested parties may identify their approach and capability to meet the requirements by submitting a white paper and past performance data in electronic form by no later than January 7, 2009 to DARPA-SN-09-09@darpa.mil. Questions shall be submitted to the above email address. Please refer to Numbered Note 22.

It is noted that DARPA's Defense Sciences Office (DSO) maintains an annual Office-wide Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) seeking innovative research ideas in science and engineering that can lead to important, radically new military capabilities. Under the current BAA (DARPA BAA 08-22) the categories of "New Materials, Materials Concepts, Materials Processing and Devices" and "Other Technical Area" specifically seek proposals for revolutionary technologies and design approaches for innovative medical technologies and devices such as MDI's CT X-ray source concept. Parties wishing to respond to this notice are invited, as an alternative, to submit a white paper against DARPA BAA 08-22, <http://www.darpa.mil/baa/BAA08-22.html>.