

DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS FOR SINGLE AVAILABLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

CONTRACT NO.: Not Applicable

CAPTION: Roadway Weather Information System

PROPOSED CONTRACTOR: Vaisala, Inc.

PROGRAM AGENCY: District Department of Transportation

FINDINGS

1. AUTHORITY:

D.C. Official Code §2-303.05(a)(1) and 27 DCMR 1702.3

2. MINIMUM NEED:

The District Department of Transportation (DDOT) requires the services of a contractor to repair, operate, maintain and calibrate the District of Columbia's (District) Roadway Weather Information System (RWIS) consisting of six (6) weather stations located at:

1. Michigan Avenue Bridge, NE
2. Chain Bridge, NW
3. 34th Street and Garfield Street, NW
4. Virginia Avenue and 6th Street, SE
5. New York Avenue and South Dakota Avenue, NE
6. Benning Road at Anacostia River, NE
7. Georgia & Alaska Ave NW

The District's RWIS is a specialized computer based weather monitoring system that provides pavement and atmospheric weather data to the District's operations and maintenance personnel. The RWIS system was originally installed in 2001 and has been maintained by QTT Surface Systems Inc (recently acquired by Vaisala Inc) for approximately 10 years. The system is currently fully operational and data is reported by all stations.

The Contractor shall provide the following specific services:

1. Priority technical support by a dedicated technician;
2. 24/7 phone support;
3. remote monitoring of the system for proper functionality;
4. extension of standard warranty terms and conditions for equipment covered in contract;

5. inform DDOT of software upgrades and provide them free of charge;
6. on site preventative maintenance;
7. at Vaisala factory preventative maintenance; and
8. on site repair and necessary replacement work of faulty devices.

3. ESTIMATED FAIR AND REASONABLE COST:

\$29,870.00

4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SINGLE AVAILABLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:

Specialized Knowledge of the RWIS weather instruments, pavement sensors and software configuration are paramount in order to repair and maintain proper operation and accuracy of the RWIS system hardware and software. The software and maintenance are proprietary in nature; therefore, a competitive solicitation is not feasible

Vaisala Inc, being the original provider of this system, is uniquely qualified to provide this specialized maintenance and repair service. (Please also see a formal letter from Vaisala, Inc attached). Therefore, it is in the best interest of the District to award the maintenance of the RWIS system to Vaisala, Inc.

5. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

Date

Director, Terry Bellamy
District Department of Transportation

6.

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive bidding process under Section 303 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Act of 1985 (D.C. Law 6-85; D.C. Official Code § 2-303.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source method of procurement.

Date

Jerry M. Carter, Chief Contracting Officer
District Department of Transportation
Office of Contracting and Procurement



October 13, 2011

Mr. Brook A. Hailemariam
District of Columbia DOT
2000 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

Subject: RWIS Service/Maintenance Contract

Dear Mr. Hailemariam:

Vaisala acquired Surface Systems, Inc. ("SSI") when they purchased Quixote Transportation Technologies in December 2009. Vaisala will continue to provide the Department with Road Weather Information Systems ("RWIS") equipment and services. RWIS is a specialized computer based pavement weather monitoring system which provides pavement and atmospheric weather data for use by the operations and maintenance personnel of the District Department of Transportation.

RWIS utilizes specialized hardware components, software and GUI. These specialized hardware components and software are designed, developed and manufactured by Vaisala to fulfill the unique requirements of the District's RWIS program. These specialized components are only available from Vaisala. Providing a managed RWIS system requires that system software be fully compatible and will seamlessly operate with the existing remote RWIS sites located throughout the District.

The pavement sensors are exclusively available from Vaisala, and these sensors communicate to the existing Linux RPU installed throughout the District. The Vaisala sensors provide pavement temperature and atmospheric conditions.

Vaisala managed RWIS equipment provides a standard, browser based, off-the-shelf solution that is used widely throughout North America. Duplication or replication of this solution would require significant software development that would be prohibitive in terms of the investment in time and cost.

As Vaisala originally provided this RWIS equipment through SSI, Vaisala is the only source to economically provide managed RWIS equipment that will be immediately available for the District. Vaisala will provide the same user interface previously utilized by your personnel that will be fully compatible and will seamlessly operate with the existing RWIS sites. Additionally, Vaisala is the only source that can provide you with direct, ongoing support of the managed RWIS equipment.

Please feel free to contact me directly if you have any questions.

Regards,

Kurt Kinion
National Sales Manager