

AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION/MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT			1. CONTRACT ID CODE	PAGE OF PAGES 1 7
2. AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION NO. 0003		3. EFFECTIVE DATE 19 JUL 01	4. REQUISITION/PURCHASE REQ. NO. SP0600-01-0001	5. PROJECT NO. (If applicable)
6. ISSUED BY DEFENSE ENERGY SUPPORT CENTER 8725 John J. Kingman Road, Suite 4950 Ft. Belvoir, VA 22060-6222 P. BURKE/DFSC-PLC/703-767-9503 FAX - 703-767-8506		CODE SC0600	7. ADMINISTERED BY (If other than Item 6) CODE	
8. NAME AND ADDRESS OF CONTRACTOR (NO., street, city, county, State, and ZIP Code)			(<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>)	9A. AMENDMENT OF SOLICITATION NO. SP0600-01-R-0059
Bidder Code CODE			CAGE Code	9B. DATED (SEE ITEM 11) 10 APR 01
				10A. MODIFICATION OF CONTRACT/ORDER NO.
CODE			FACILITY CODE	10B. DATED (SEE ITEM 13)
11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS				
<p>[<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in Item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers [] is extended, [<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>] is not extended</p> <p>Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:</p> <p>(a) By completing Items 8 and 15, and returning <u>1</u> copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.</p>				
12. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA (If required)				
13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACTS/ORDERS, IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.				
A. THIS CHANGE ORDER IS ISSUED PURSUANT TO: (Specify authority) THE CHANGES SET FORTH IN ITEM 14 ARE MADE IN THE CONTRACT ORDER NO. IN ITEM 10A.				
B. THE ABOVE NUMBERED CONTRACT/ORDER IS MODIFIED TO REFLECT THE ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES (such as changes in paying office appropriation date, etc.) SET FORTH IN ITEM 14, PURSUANT TO THE AUTHORITY OF FAR 43.103(b)				
C. THIS SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT IS ENTERED INTO PURSUANT TO AUTHORITY OF:				
d. OTHER Specify type of modification and authority				
E. IMPORTANT: Contractor [] is not, [] is required to sign this document and return ___ copies to the issuing office.				
14. DESCRIPTION OF AMENDMENT/MODIFICATION (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible).				
CUSTOMER ORGANIZED GROUP 7 – COG 7 – PURCHASE PROGRAM 3.27				
1. This is Amendment 0003 to the Solicitation. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF AMENDMENTS: All offerors must acknowledge receipt and acceptance of all amendments to the solicitation. You may do so by signing and dating (blocks 15A, 15B, and 15C) of the Standard Form 30 and returning the amendment or by facsimile to (703) 767-8506. The Solicitation is closed for offers and evaluation is on-going. These changes must be acknowledged prior to Contract awards.				
Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in Items 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remain unchanged and in full force and effect.				
15A. NAME AND TITLE OF SIGNER (Type or print)			16A. NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (Type or print)	
15B. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR		15C. DATE SIGNED	16B. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	16C. DATE SIGNED
(Signature of person authorized to sign)			(Signature of Contracting Officer)	

2. Base reference prices for the following Nevada items were stated incorrectly in Amendment 0002 for items 880-24/28 and in the basic base reference price attachment of the Solicitation for the other items: The correct base reference prices are shown below:

ITEM	LOCATION	STATE	QUANTITY/GL	BAS REF PRICE
860-24/28	INDIAN SPRINGS	NV	270,000	\$1.1783
880-24/28	LAKE MEAD	NV	110,000	1.1783
890-24/28	NELLIS AFB	NV	1,520,000	1.1783

3. The following versions of these Clauses are hereby deleted from this Solicitation:

A. Clause G150.03-1 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF INVOICES FOR PAYMENT (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) (DESC MAR 1999).

B. G150.03-1.100 PAPERLESS ORDERING AND RECEIPT TRANSACTIONS SCREENS (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION (APPLICABLE TO DoD ACTIVITIES ONLY) (DESC FEB 2001).

C. L2.01-1 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND PAST PERFORMANCE SUBMISSION (DOMESTIC) (DESC OCT 1999).

D. M72.02 EVALUATION FACTORS FOR BEST OVERALL VALUE (DOMESTIC) (DESC MAR 1999).

4. The following clauses are revised updates versions of the clauses deleted above that are hereby incorporated into and applicable to this Solicitation, clauses are also included in full text in this Amendment:

A. Clause G150.03-1 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF INVOICES FOR PAYMENT (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) (DESC JUL 2001).

B. L2.01-1 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTINS AND PAST PERFORMANCE SUBMISSION (DOMESTIC) (DESC JAN 2001).

C. M72.02 EVALUATION FACTORS FOR BEST OVERALL VALUE (DOMESTIC) (DESC JAN 2001).

5. On the DD 1707 cover sheet, paragraph 2 under the heading INSTRUCTIONS the caution concerning "Certification of Non-Segregated Facilitateis" is deleted. This certification does not apply to commercial items as solicited under this solicitation.

**G150.03-1 PAPERLESS ORDERING AND RECEIPT TRANSACTION SCREENS (PORTS) INTERNET APPLICATION
(DESC JUL 2001)**

APPLICABLE TO DoD ACTIVITIES ONLY.

(a) **CONTRACTOR PASSWORD.** The Contractor will furnish an email distribution list to the DESC Contracting Officer providing name(s), email address(es), phone and facsimile number(s) for all those individuals that may need to receive email notification of orders. The DESC Contracting Officer will furnish the Contractor with a password. Supplementing the "user name" (bidder code), the Contractor shall use this password to access contract-specific web pages and the Paperless Ordering and Receipt Transaction Screens (PORTS) Internet application. This includes access to electronically signed written orders (SF 1449), as described in (b) below. The Contractor shall also use the password to access PORTS for transmitting receipt documents to the Activity and for transmitting invoices to the payment office, as identified in (d) below.

(b) **PREPARATION AND TRANSMISSION OF ORDERS AND CALLS AGAINST ORDERS.**

(1) The Government may issue an order for a specific delivery or a series of deliveries (e.g., several deliveries during a week). The Government may also elect to issue an order covering a longer period (including monthly orders) and make periodic calls against these orders designating specific delivery dates, times, and quantities.

(2) Orders, and calls against orders, may be issued orally or in writing. An oral delivery order for fuel shall be considered issued by the Government when it is verbally assigned a delivery order number. For all orders, the appropriate ordering office/officer will provide the Contractor, via the PORTS Internet application, with an electronically signed written order, SF 1449, within 24 hours or one business day after issuing the oral order. (Once the Ordering Officer has completed the web page order, an email will be sent to the Contractor to provide notice that the order is available on the contract-specific web page. The order will also be submitted to the payment office.) An oral order shall provide the required advance notice to the Contractor and the following information: Order number; contract number; item number; quantity; delivery location; any applicable taxes, which should be billed as a separate item on the invoice; and the required delivery date. Regardless of the unit price cited on the written order, the office designated to make payments on the written order will pay the applicable unit price in effect under the ECONOMIC PRICE ADJUSTMENT (PC&S) clause.

(3) Calls against previously issued orders must be confirmed in writing within 24 hours or one business day via email message. The email confirmation will reference the previously issued order number and item number and designate specific delivery location, dates, and quantity to be delivered against that order.

(4) The Contractor's nonreceipt of a written or electronic confirmation of an oral order or oral call against a written or electronic order does not itself relieve the Contractor from its obligation to perform in accordance with the oral order or oral call against a written or electronic order. The Contractor should contact the DESC Contracting Officer if problems are experienced with receipt of the electronic or written confirmation.

(c) **COMMERCIAL RECEIPTS.**

(1) The Contractor shall provide a commercial receipt (bill of lading, metered ticket, or delivery ticket) upon completing delivery. The Government representative may date and sign the commercial receipt and will be provided with a legible copy. The following information shall be stated on the commercial receipt:

- (i) Item number;
- (ii) Order number;
- (iii) Type of fuel delivered;
- (iv) Date of the delivery into the Government's tank(s);
- (v) Delivered quantity and, if volume correction is required in accordance with the DETERMINATION OF QUANTITY (PC&S) clause, the fuel temperature and API gravity. If temperature compensating meters are used, only the API gravity and delivered quantity are recorded;

(vi) Tank identifier determined by the base; and

(vii) Any other required information specified in the narrative of the Schedule for the item.

(2) The Contractor will maintain all signed receipts as evidence of delivery and will provide them to the Government upon request, as dictated by the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS - COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) clause. The records will be annotated with "NONTAXABLE USE ONLY. PENALTY FOR TAXABLE USE" where applicable.

(d) **PREPARATION AND TRANSMISSION OF THE MATERIAL INSPECTION AND RECEIVING REPORT (DD FORM 250)/INVOICE.** At the time of each delivery of supplies or services under this contract, the Contractor shall prepare and furnish to the Government a Material Inspection and Receiving Report in the manner and to the extent required by Appendix F of the Defense FAR Supplement, Material Inspection and Receiving Report, except as noted in this clause. The Contractor, or its designee, shall key the following information from the commercial receipt(s) into the contract-specific web pages for generation of the continuation page and the first page of the DD Form 250 document upon accessing the web screens per the instructions to be provided on the DESC homepage.

(1) On the first page of the web screen for creating a new DD Form 250, the Contractor will select the appropriate line item and order/amendment number from a pull-down list (which already depicts the associated contract number, requisition number, and mode of delivery). The Contractor must insert the shipment date reflecting the date fuel was actually delivered. On the next screen, the Contractor will enter a unique invoice number, confirm the escalated unit price (which may also be corrected if applicable) and any discount terms offered other than net 30 days, and select the appropriate method of quantity determination (either loading rack method or nonloading rack method). The loading rack method is selected if the quantity delivered is determined based on loading rack meter tickets from the terminal; the nonloading rack method is selected if quantity determination is based on any other method as specified in the DETERMINATION OF QUANTITY (PC&S) clause.

(2) On the next screen, the Contractor will enter sequentially the following information from each commercial ticket, which will be depicted in three columns on the DD Form 250 continuation page:

- (i) The commercial ticket number;
- (ii) The quantity indicated on the commercial receipt, (system will round quantity up or down), determined in accordance with the DETERMINATION OF QUANTITY clause; and
- (iii) The tank identifier determined by the Activity (such as a building number). This tank identifier is required only for auto-fill items.

The total volume delivered to the Activity as input by the Contractor will automatically be entered into Block 17 of the DD Form 250 as a whole number; the required sequential shipment number under the order will automatically be entered into Block 2. If there is disagreement between the Contractor and the Government as to the quantity delivered, the DESC Contracting Officer will be promptly notified. (See the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS – COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) clause.)

(3) Upon completion of the DD Form 250/invoice web screen document, the Contractor or designee will key the submission for processing, which automatically triggers two actions:

(i) An email message to the Activity. The email message will request approval of the DD Form 250 and inform the Activity to access the web page to accomplish this by electronic signature or it will specify order number, shipment date and number, item, quantity shipped and all delivery tickets that apply.

(ii) An electronic submission to the payment office and Contractor notification of that invoice submission. The invoice transaction must be received no later than 5:30 p.m. to be considered received that day. Invoices received after 5:30 p.m. shall be considered received the next United States Government business day.

(4) **AIR FORCE ONLY:** The Government's Authorized Representative will either—

(i) Verify the invoiced amount and return an email message confirming the quantity invoiced. The Contractor will receive an email message from the activity that the invoiced amount has been confirmed; OR

(ii) Dispute the quantity being invoiced. Advise the Contractor by email of the reason (such as shipment date or quantity error). In this case, the Contractor will then submit a revised DD Form 250/invoice to the Activity (and to the payment office) via PORTS; the Contractor need only key in the data field(s) requiring correction and resubmit for processing. The DD Form 250 must be resubmitted within 24 hours or one business day of the Activity's notification. If the Contractor disagrees with the Activity's notification of disagreement, the Contractor may contact the DESC Contracting Officer. (See the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS – COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) clause.

(iii) If any errors are discovered on the Contractor's DD Form 250 after submission to the Activity, but before either confirmation or notification of disagreement, the Contractor will promptly correct by clicking on the **"Correct Submitted DD Form 250/invoice"** key and entering corrections of any prior errors. When submitted to the Activity for verification/confirmation, the DD Form 250/invoice document is automatically labeled with the words **"CORRECTED COPY."** As in (d)(4)(i) and (ii) above, the Contractor is notified with automatic posting of the electronic transmission to the payment office.

(5) **OTHER DoD ONLY:** The Government's Authorized Representative will either—

(i) Approve or accept the DD Form 250 document by electronic signature and submit the document via the PORTS Internet application to the payment office. The Contractor will receive an email message via the Internet application that the document has been approved and submitted to the payment office; OR

(ii) Reject the DD Form 250 document, advising the Contractor by email of the reason for rejection (such as shipment date or quantity error). In this case, the Contractor will then submit a revised DD Form 250/invoice to the Activity (and to the payment office) via PORTS; the Contractor need only key in the data field(s) requiring correction. If the Contractor fails to submit a revised DD Form 250 within 24 hours or one business day of the Activity's rejection notification based on discrepancy in quantity or shipment date, in order to avoid potential delays in payment the Activity may proceed to change either the quantity or shipment date to that which the Activity had asserted. These changes will be forwarded to both the payment office and the Contractor. If the Contractor still disagrees with the Activity's change(s), the Contractor may contact the DESC Contracting Officer. (See the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS – COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) clause.)

(iii) If any errors are discovered on the Contractor's DD Form 250 after submission to the Activity, but before either approval or rejection, the Contractor will promptly advise the Activity by either telephone or email in order that the document can be rejected with an accurate notation and then revised (see (d)(5)(ii) above) as soon as possible.

(iv) Upon signature of approval/acceptance on the DD Form 250 by the Government representative, any corrections to the document must be performed via the web page. The Contractor will click on the "Correct Submitted DD Form 250/Invoice" key and enter corrections of any prior errors. When submitted to the Activity for approval, the DD Form 250/invoice document is automatically labeled with the words "**CORRECTED COPY.**" As in (d)(5)(i) and (ii) above, the Contractor is notified, with automatic posting of the electronic transmission to the payment office.

(6) Invoices will be handled in accordance with the Prompt Payment Act (31 U.S.C. 3903) and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-125, Prompt Payment.

(7) The Government will not be liable to the Contractor for any incidental or consequential damages resulting from any delay, omission, or error in the transmission or receipt of invoices under the Internet application.

(8) Electronic data transmitted by the Internet application will be admissible as evidence on the same basis as customary paper documents. The parties will be legally bound by the electronic documents.

(e) **REQUIRED USE OF PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION.** Use of PORTS, as described above, is required except in the cases indicated in (g) below and as identified exceptions to electronic invoicing under the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS – COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) – ADDENDUM clause.

(f) **PAYMENT.**

(1) Payment shall be made in accordance with the terms as stated in the CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS - COMMERCIAL ITEMS (PC&S) (PORTS INTERNET APPLICATION) clause. Notwithstanding any permissible variation percentage between the ordered and delivered quantity, payment is authorized for a percentage not to exceed 120 percent of the ordered quantity.

(2) Payment terms for an invoice received via electronic PORTS submission by the payment office will be net 30 days from date of receipt of a proper invoice. See (d)(3) above. Payment terms for invoices other than by the electronic PORTS transmission will also be net 30 days from receipt of a proper invoice unless a discount is offered and accepted by the payment office.

(g) **INVOICING DETENTION AND DEMURRAGE COSTS.** Detention costs allowable only on tank truck deliveries (not applicable to multiple drop tank truck or any tank wagon deliveries, and demurrage costs for barge/tanker deliveries will be the sole responsibility of the Activity incurring them. The Contractor will submit invoices for detention or demurrage costs directly to the Activity receiving the product. These provisions are applicable to DLA -owned/capitalized as well as non-DLA-owned/noncapitalized products. If the receiving activity is an Army activity, a copy of the detention/demurrage cost invoice must also be furnished to the following address:

COMMANDER US ARMY PETROLEUM CENTER
SATPC-L
NEW CUMBERLAND PA 17070-5008

(DESC 52.232-9FH6)

**L2.01-1 PROPOSAL PREPARATION INSTRUCTIONS AND PAST PERFORMANCE SUBMISSION (DOMESTIC)
(DESC JAN 2001)**

(a) **THE OFFER.** The offer (proposal) shall consist of the following items:

(1) **Standard Form (SF) 1449,** Solicitation/Contract Order for Commercial Items, Blocks 12, 17 through 24, and 30.

(2) **Schedule clause.** The offeror shall insert its proposed unit prices for each contract line item in the spaces provided in the SUPPLIES TO BE FURNISHED clause or as specified in the solicitation.

(3) **Offeror Submission Package.** The offeror shall complete the representations and other statements of offerors contained in the Offeror Submission Package enclosed with this solicitation. The clauses/provisions found in the Offeror Submission Package are duplicated in the basic solicitation.

(4) **Other Required Documents.** The offeror shall submit all other documents required by the terms and conditions of this solicitation.

(5) **Exceptions.**

(i) Any exceptions the offeror takes to the terms and conditions of the solicitation must be submitted with the offer. Only exceptions detailed in the offer will be treated as exceptions to the terms and conditions of the solicitation. Any exceptions taken by the offeror will be considered by the Government and either accepted or rejected. Exceptions that are accepted by the Government will be incorporated into any resultant contract; exceptions that are rejected by the Government must be withdrawn by the offeror or the offer will be rejected.

(ii) If the offeror does not take any exceptions, completion of Blocks 12, 17 through 24, and 30 of the SF 1449 signifies the offeror's agreement to the terms and conditions contained in the solicitation.

(b) PAST PERFORMANCE SUBMISSION.

(1) In addition to its offer, each offeror must complete the Contractor Performance Data Sheet (CPDS) (Attachment 4) and submit a separate description of any past efforts to subcontract with small businesses, veteran-owned small business, HUBZone small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, and women-owned small businesses identifying highly successful efforts or any regulatory or subcontracting plan noncompliance. The contracts and/or subcontracts submitted on the CPDS should be similar in nature to the solicitation requirements and completed within the last **two (2)** years. All contracts/subcontracts submitted should have a minimum of one year's performance history. The Government reserves the right to consider contracts still in progress and to consider contract and/or subcontract information outside the specified time periods. The contracts may include efforts undertaken on behalf of the Defense Energy Support Center, other Federal agencies (including those performed for non-DoD activities), quasi-government organizations, State or local governments, and/or private industry. By submitting the CPDS, the offeror agrees to permit the Government's representatives to contact the references listed and inquire as to the past performance of the offeror.

(2) If the offeror determines that it has not performed any contracts or subcontracts for the same or similar work required by the solicitation, the offeror should indicate this on the CPDS by marking the appropriate box.

(c) SOCIOECONOMIC PLAN SUBMISSION (APPLICABLE TO LARGE, SMALL, VETERAN-OWNED SMALL, HUBZONE SMALL, SMALL DIS ADVANTAGED, AND WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESSES). The offeror must provide a description of its efforts to ensure that small business, veteran-owned small business, HUBZone small business, small disadvantaged business, and women-owned small business concerns will have an equal opportunity to compete for subcontracts under any resultant contract. The description should include any partnering arrangements with such companies and include specific names to the extent they are known.

(DESC 52.215-9F80)

M72.02 EVALUATION FACTORS FOR BEST OVERALL VALUE (DOMESTIC) (DESC JAN 2001)

(a) APPLICATION. This provision applies only after all price evaluation factors have been considered.

(b) BASIS OF AWARD.

(1) The Government will award contracts to the responsible offeror(s) whose offer conforms to the solicitation and that represents the best overall value. The Government will determine best overall value on the basis of an integrated assessment of the following evaluation factors, which are in descending order of importance:

- (i) Price;
- (ii) Past Performance; and
- (iii) Socioeconomic Commitment.

The relative influence of price, past performance, and socioeconomic commitment will depend on the differences among the competing offerors, and not on any predetermined, fixed, weighted arrangements or trade-off formula. Price is more important than past performance, and price combined with past performance is significantly more important than socioeconomic commitment. All evaluation factors other than price (past performance and socioeconomic commitment), when combined, are approximately equal to price in importance.

(2) In determining best overall value, the Government will evaluate and rate each offeror's past performance based on preestablished standards. The offer(s) selected as best value will represent the best tradeoff to the Government among price, past performance, and socioeconomic commitment. The Government may make award to other than the lowest priced offeror; however, the Government will not pay a premium that it considers disproportionate to the benefits associated with the offeror's record of past performance and socioeconomic commitment.

(c) ACCEPTABILITY OF OFFERS. An offer will be considered acceptable if, and only if, an offeror agrees to the terms and conditions in the solicitation, or if the Government has accepted any exceptions submitted with the offer.

(d) EVALUATION OF PAST PERFORMANCE.

(1) The Government will evaluate, based on preestablished standards, the quality of the offeror's past performance. This may include any aspect of past performance related to this solicitation. The assessment of the offeror's past performance will be used as a means of evaluating the offeror's ability to meet the solicitation requirements. A record of poor past performance may be considered an indication that the offeror has failed to conform to contract requirements and/or to standards of good workmanship; to adhere to contract schedules, including the administrative aspects of performance; to provide reasonable and cooperative behavior and commitment to customer satisfaction; and/or to display a business-like concern for the interests of the customer. Offerors shall be afforded an opportunity to address unfavorable reports of past performance, and the offeror's response, or lack thereof, will be taken into consideration. Recent contracts may be examined to ensure that corrective action measures have been put in place to prevent the recurrence of past performance problems. Prompt actions taken to correct performance problems may be considered a reflection of management concern for customer satisfaction; however, such action may not mitigate all negative performance trends. Additionally, a record of satisfactory or exceptional past performance will not result in a favorable assessment of an otherwise unacceptable proposal. Offerors lacking relevant past performance history or for which past performance information is not available will not be evaluated favorably or unfavorably on past performance.

(2) The Government reserves the right to consider any information available to it in evaluating an offeror's past performance. This includes information obtained from the offeror's references, past and present customers, subcontractors, and any other sources that may have useful information. However, the Government reserves the right not to contact all of the references listed by the offeror. The Government also reserves the right to assess the offeror's past performance based solely on the offeror's performance under an existing DESC contract or a previous DESC contract for work similar to that required by the solicitation.

(3) The subfactors listed below are equal to one another in importance and will be used to evaluate past performance:

(i) **Quality of Product and Service.** Assessment of the offeror's ability to conform to contract requirements, specifications, and standards of good workmanship.

(ii) **Schedule.** Assessment of the offeror's ability to meet delivery schedules, to respond to administrative issues in a timely manner, and to complete a contract.

(iii) **Business Relations.** Assessment of the offeror's commitment to maintaining an acceptable level of performance, customer satisfaction, and meeting small business, veteran-owned small business, HUBZone small business, small disadvantaged business, and women-owned small business participation goals, as applicable. This includes the offeror's history of reasonable and cooperative behavior, participation in problem identification, and corrective action measures.

(e) **EVALUATION OF SOCIOECONOMIC COMMITMENT.**

(1) The socioeconomic proposal provided by the offeror will be evaluated as follows:

(i) As a separate factor, for the offeror's proposal under this solicitation; and

(ii) As an element of the Business Relations subfactor of the Past Performance Factor.

(2) The Government will evaluate, based on preestablished standards, the extent to which an offeror proposes to use small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, and women-owned small businesses. An offeror that demonstrates greater commitment to partnering and subcontracting with small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, and women-owned small businesses will receive more favorable ratings. An offeror with higher percentage, complexity level, and variety of participation by small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, and women-owned small businesses generally will receive more favorable ratings. An offeror's current efforts to develop additional opportunities for small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, and women-owned small businesses will also be considered.

(3) The offeror's proposal for socioeconomic support will be made a part of any resultant contract for use in determining how well the Contractor adheres to its socioeconomic plan. This plan will be monitored by the cognizant Defense Contract Management Command's small business office as a means of assisting the Contracting Officer in determining how well the Contractor performs. This determination may be used in future best value decisions.

(f) **BEST VALUE DETERMINATION.** After the past performance ratings are determined, a series of paired comparisons will be made between competing offerors for each line item. In making these paired comparisons, the Government will determine the difference in price, past performance, and socioeconomic commitment. If, in any paired comparison, one offeror is superior in past performance and offers the lowest price, then the Government will consider that offeror to represent the better value. But, if the offeror with the superior past performance offers a higher price than the competing offeror, the Government will decide whether the superior performance merits the higher price. If so, then the Government will consider the offeror with superior past performance at a higher price to represent the best value. Otherwise, the Government will consider the competing offeror with the lower price and lower past performance rating to represent a better value. If, in any paired comparison, the offerors are equal in the elements of price and past performance, then the offeror with the superior socioeconomic evaluation will represent the better value. The Government will continue to make paired comparisons in this manner until it has identified the offeror that represents the best value based on price, past performance, and socioeconomic commitment. In the event of a tie among all factors and subfactors between two or more offerors considered to represent the best value, the final award decision shall be made by a drawing by lot limited to those offerors. The drawing shall be witnessed by at least three persons, with the names and addresses of the witnesses and supervising official documented in the contract file.

(DESC 52.209-9F55)