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PART: U.S. GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENTS

SUBPART: SERVICES

CLASSCOD: D--Information Technology Services, including Telecommunication

Services

OFFADD: Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards

and Technology (NIST), Acquisition and Logistics Division,

100 Bureau Drive, Building 301, Room B129, Mail Stop 3571,

Gaithersburg, MD, 20899-3571

SUBJECT: D--COORDINATION AND MANAGEMENT OF .US TOP LEVEL DOMAIN

(USTLD)

SOL SB1335-01-Q-0740

DUE 072601

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DESC: The U. S. Department of Commerce (DOC), National Institute

of Standards and Technology (NIST) intends to issue a written

solicitation (Request for Quotations) pursuant to Federal

Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 13, Simplified Acquisition

Procedures, on behalf of DOC, National Telecommunications

and Information Administration (NTIA) for services to establish

centralized management and coordination of the registry,

registrar (where specified), database, and information services

for the .us top level domain (usTLD). The solicitation Number

is SB1335-01-Q-0740 and will not be a small business set-aside.

The solicitation will result in a single, no-cost (to the

Government) purchase order for the work currently being performed

on behalf of DOC NTIA in the usTLD and for future expansion

of the services available in usTLD. The Contractor will be

permitted to charge fees to third parties for performance

of the requirements of the purchase order. The purchase order

will contain a base period of four years and two one-year

options to extend the term of the contract. The usTLD is the

country code top level domain (ccTLD) of the Internet domain

name system (DNS) that corresponds to the United States.

Individuals and organizations may currently request a delegation

from the usTLD Administrator to provide registry and registrar

services for a particular locality or localities. Local governments

and community-based organizations typically use the usTLD,

although some commercial names have been assigned. Where

registration for a locality has not been delegated, the current

usTLD Administrator itself provides necessary registry and

registrar services. The usTLD is a widely distributed registry,

currently with over 8000 sub-domain delegations to over 800

individuals and entities that maintain a registry and provide

registration services for commercial, educational, and governmental

entities. While the locality-based usTLD structure has not

attracted high levels of registration and utilization in comparison

to other ccTLD's, it is popular with its current base of

users. During consultations with the public on the administration

of the usTLD, a considerable number of parties expressed

a desire for the continued operation and support of the locality-based

usTLD structure. However, the general absence of less hierarchical

registration opportunities in the usTLD has limited the domain's

attractiveness to users. It has been suggested that a more

generic space would greatly increase the utility of the usTLD.

Therefore, this request for proposals not only encompasses

the existing functions of the usTLD, but also functions that

will facilitate the registration of second level domains directly

under the usTLD (such as example.us). Notwithstanding the

fact that some of the administrative responsibilities for

the locality-based usTLD structure require the registry to

act as a registrar in certain limited circumstances, in order

to encourage competition in domain name registration services,

the Contractor will not be permitted to act as both the registry

and a registrar in the expanded usTLD space. The following

is a summary of the work required under the purchase order

awarded pursuant to this solicitation. The Contractor will

be required to perform four categories of functions: (1)

core registry functions; (2) core policy requirements; (3)

locality-based usTLD structure functions; and (4) development

of services offered in an expanded usTLD space. The Contractor

must perform the required services for this acquisition as

a prime Contractor, not as an agent or subcontractor. (The

provision of the required services may be accomplished through

coordinating the resources and services provided by entities

other than the prime Contractor.) The Contractor must be

(a) incorporated within one of the fifty states of the United

States of America or (b) organized under a law of a state

of the United States of America. The Contractor must possess

and maintain through the performance of this acquisition

a physical address within the United States and must be able

to demonstrate that all primary registry services will remain

within the United States. The competitive solicitation, solicitation

amendments, and all questions and answers related to this

procurement will be made available via the Internet at http://www.fedbizops.gov

. The solicitation, SB1335-01-Q-0740, is anticipated for

release to the vendor community on or about June 11, 2001

and will only be available via the Internet at the above

web site. Potential offerors are responsible for accessing

the web site. Interested parties must respond to the solicitation

in order to be considered for award of any resultant purchase

order. There is no written solicitation document available,

telephone requests will not be honored, and no bidders list

will be maintained. Potential offerors shall direct all questions

concerning the solicitation via email only to Joseph.Widdup@nist.gov

All responsible sources may submit a Quotation, which will

be considered.

LINKURL: http://www.eps.gov/spg/DOC/NIST/AcAsD/SB1335-01-Q-0740/listing.html

LINKDESC: Visit this URL for the latest information about this

notice

CITE: (D-145 SN50N260)