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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

POC Joseph Widdup, Contract Specialist, Phone (301) 975-6324,

 Fax (301) 975-8884, Email joseph.widdup@nist.gov - Alba Sanchez,

 Contracting Officer, Phone (301) 975-6344, Fax (301) 975-8884,

 Email alba.sanchez@nist.gov

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)