

## **Optical Instruments on Fixed Platforms RFP Bidders' Conference Summary and Questions/Answers**

The Ocean Observatories Initiative (OOI) project of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership (Ocean Leadership) conducted an Informational Bidder's Conference for the "Optical Instruments on Fixed Platforms" RFP on 6 January 2011 at 1:00 PM EST.

Ocean Leadership provided an informational presentation on the OOI program and the RFP. A copy of the presentation is included as Attachment 1.

An update to the URL given in Section C of the RFP for supplementary documents was provided. The updated URL is:

<http://www.oceanleadership.org/2010/rfp-1410-00002-for-optical-instruments-on-fixed-platforms-ooi/>

### Questions Received During the Bidders' Conference:

Q1: Do we have to fulfill all requirements on all series? Do we have to bid all categories (i.e., series).

A1: Yes. You can propose either both or only one instrument class (OPTAA, SPKIR) but need to propose all series within a proposed class. Please propose your instruments that best meet the requirements for all series within a class even if they may not meet all the requirements for that series.

Q2: Some deployments are for 13 months. Are these unmanned during the intervening 13 months?

A2: Yes. All of the high latitude (global) deployments will be unmanned for a full deployment interval of approximately 13 months.

Q3: Can development costs be proposed?

A3: The Contract resulting from this Optical Instruments RFP will be an Indefinite Quantity Contract with Delivery Orders funded and awarded individually post-award as a firm fixed price award. Any development costs incurred by the Offeror cannot be costed separately as part of the cost proposal, but must be included (absorbed) in the proposed unit price.

### Questions Received Via E-Mail Following The Bidders' Conference:

Q4: For the OPTAA contract, you have asked for a maximum of 51 instruments (Table B-1). Must Table B-1 sum to at most \$1,060,000?

A4: No. The figure of \$1,060,000 represents the maximum contract value possible for the contract over its life, including any needed factory services, spare equipment,

and unanticipated growth for the life of the contract. The prices in your proposal are independent of the maximum contract value.

Q5: We have noticed in other documentation that there is a requirement for PAR sensors as well. Is this particular proposal SPKIR independent of the PAR proposal?

A5: Although PAR instruments are part of the overall OOI program, PAR instruments are not being procured as part of this RFP; they will be procured as part of a separate RFP. The OOI intends to calculate PAR from the SPKIR instruments on fixed platforms.

Q6: Would it be acceptable for a vendor to supply external logging/battery options for the sensors that require these capabilities?

A6: Yes, this is an acceptable solution. Please list these in Tables B-2 and B-4 as available options and price them separately.

Q7: Can you clarify exactly how many sensors will require internal logging/batteries and how many will not?

A7: Internal data storage is required on all Series D OPTAA instruments and on all Series B SPKIR instruments. The number of instruments in each series is provided in Tables B-1 and B-3, and in the Bid to Tables in Section C.

Internal batteries are not required on any sensors. As such, the price quotes in Table B-1 (for OPTAA) and in Table B-3 (for SPKIR) should be for instruments without internal batteries. Ocean Leadership *may* consider the purchase of internal batteries as an option for approximately 8 Series D OPTAA instruments, not including spares, and for approximately 4 Series B SPKIR instruments. These options, if available, should be costed in Tables B-2 and B-4.