Next Generation Enterprise Network draft Request for Proposal released

The Naval Enterprise Networks (NEN) Program Management Office (PMW 205) / Next Generation Enterprise Network (NGEN) Program has released the draft Request for Proposal (RFP) in the area of transport and enterprise services. The release of the draft RFP is part of an ongoing dialogue between the Department of the Navy (DON) and industry to allow participants to be informed, make comments and ask questions regarding the transition and future implementation of NGEN.

The purpose of issuing this draft RFP, which was announced via FedBizOpps.Gov is to provide industry with an opportunity to review the document to determine that the delivery approach does not hinder industry’s ability to deliver transport or enterprise services at the lowest possible price for the Department of the Navy. This pre-solicitation announcement is issued solely for information and planning purposes. Comments being sought include recommended changes to the delivery approach and a business case analysis explaining the recommended changes. Industry has until Oct. 30, 2011 to submit comments to the NEN Program Office. Those comments will be considered during preparation of the final RFP which is scheduled for release on Dec. 21, 2011. The contract(s) based on the RFP are scheduled for award in December 2012.

“The release of the draft RFP marks a major milestone in the transition to NGEN,” said NEN Program Manager Capt. Shawn Hendricks, U.S. Navy. “It is the last major opportunity for industry to comment on the NGEN acquisition strategy prior to the issuance of the RFP. All of the feedback that we have received from industry to date has been invaluable in the development of the RFP. Our goal is that when the RFP is officially issued, industry will be able to bid on it and execute the requirements flawlessly.”

The draft RFP is the final major document release prior to the issuance of the final RFP. In support of the draft RFP, the program office has released thousands of pages of documents including:

- Three sets of Acquisition Concept documents
- Requests for Information about end user communications and collaboration services, Thin Client and cloud computing
- Technical Data

Similar to the previous document releases, the draft RFP is available to all companies that have a signed NGEN Government Purpose Rights Non-Disclosure Agreement on file with the NGEN Procurement Contracting Officer.

NGEN represents the continuous evolution of the Department of the Navy’s (DON) enterprise networks and will provide secure, net-centric data and services to the Navy and Marine Corps personnel.

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NGEN is the follow-on acquisition approach to providing enterprise network services that were originally consolidated in 2000 under the Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) contract, which is considered the U.S. government’s largest information technology (IT) program, providing IT services to more than 700,000 Navy and Marine Corps users. The goals during the transition from NMCI to NGEN are to maintain continuity of services, provide an increased level of Government control, maintain information security, remain within fiscal parameters and minimize time to transition to NGEN.

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**About the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command**
As the Navy’s Information Dominance systems command, SPAWAR designs, develops and deploys advanced communications and information capabilities. With more than 8,900 active duty military and civil service professionals located around the world and close to the fleet, SPAWAR is at the forefront of research, engineering, acquisition and support services that provide vital decision superiority to our forces at the right time and for the right cost.

**About the Naval Enterprise Networks**
The Naval Enterprise Networks (NEN) Program Office manages the acquisition life-cycle of the Department of the Navy’s (DON) enterprise-wide Information Technology (IT) networks. NEN’s portfolio includes the Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI), the Base Level Information Infrastructure (BLII) for the Outside of the Continental United States (OCONUS) Navy Enterprise Network (ONE-Net) and the Next Generation Enterprise Network (NGEN). NEN unifies the Navy’s terrestrial networks and data management to improve capability and service while saving significant dollars by focusing efforts under one program office and one enterprise network construct.

**About the Navy Marine Corps Intranet**
The Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) is the Department of the Navy’s (DON) shore-based enterprise network in the continental United States and Hawaii, providing a single integrated, secure information technology (IT) environment for reliable, stable information transfer. NMCI represents about 70 percent of all DON IT operations and is second only to the Internet in size. NMCI revolutionized the way the DON does business in both classified and unclassified environments. It brought standardization to network operations, data security, technical support and real-time communications across every level of the Navy and Marine Corps by establishing common hardware, software and operating systems. As a result, the DON achieved: Increased productivity, greater interoperability and enhanced Information Assurance (IA) security.