

Request for Proposal

Part 1 Bidding Instructions

RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

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Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

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PART 1 BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS

1. General.

This is a Firm Fixed Price service contract in accordance HQ SACT General Terms and Conditions. Contract Award is contingent upon funding availability.

2. Classification.

This RFP is a **NATO UNCLASSIFIED** document.

3. Definitions

- (a) The "Prospective Bidder", shall refer to the entity that has completed and returned the Enclosure of the transmittal letter of this RFP, and has indicated thereon its intention without commitment, to participate in this RFP.
- (b) The term "Bidder", shall refer to the bidding entity that has completed a bid in response to this RFP.
- (c) The term Contractor shall refer to the bidding entity to whom the contract is awarded.
- (d) The term "Contracting Officer" designates the official who executes this RFP on behalf of HQ SACT.
- (e) "Contracting Officer`s Technical Representative" or "COTR" is the official who is appointed for the purpose of determining compliance of the successful bid, per the technical specifications.
- (f) The term "HQ SACT" shall refer to Supreme Headquarters Allied Command Transformation.
- (g) The term "ACT" shall refer to Allied Commander Transformation.
- (h) The term "NATO", shall refer to the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.
- (i) The term "days" as used in this RFP shall, unless otherwise stated, be interpreted as meaning calendar days.
- (j) The term "Habitual Residence", means HQ SACT, Norfolk, Virginia, VA 23511.

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

4. Eligibility.

This RFP is open to selected companies:

- (a) Established in a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation Alliance member nation.
- (b) Working in the required field of study and legally authorised to operate the United States of America and European Union, at the time of bidding.
- (c) Has performed the desired past performance including size, cost and scope, as described in this RFP.

5. Duration of Contract

- (a) The contract awarded shall be effective upon date of award.

6. Exemption of taxes.

- (a) In accordance with the agreements (Article VIII of the Paris Protocol dated, 25 August 1952) goods and services under this contract are exempt from taxes, duties and similar charges.

7. Amendment or Cancellation.

(a) HQ SACT reserves the right to amend or delete any one or more of the terms, conditions or provisions of the RFP prior to the date set for bid closing. A solicitation amendment or amendments shall announce such action.

(b) HQ SACT reserves the right to cancel, at any time, this RFP either partially or in its entirety. No legal liability on the part of HQ SACT shall be considered for recovery of costs in connection to bid preparation. All efforts undertaken by any bidder shall be done considering and accepting, that no costs shall be recovered from HQ SACT. If this RFP is cancelled any/all received bids shall be returned unopened, per the bidder's request.

8. Bidder Clarifications.

(a) Prospective Bidders should seek clarification at their earliest convenience. Any explanation regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFP, terms, clause, provision or specifications, shall be requested in writing, from the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer must receive such requests for clarification no later than 7 calendar days prior to the bid closing date.

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

(b) Information in response to a request for clarification to a prospective bidder shall be furnished to all prospective bidders as a Question and Answer amendment. All such amendments shall be incorporated into this RFP. Oral Interpretations shall not be binding. **All questions must be received NLT 20 April 2019, 1000 hrs Eastern Standard Time, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.**

9. Bid closing date.

(a) Bids shall be received at HQ SACT, Purchasing and Contracting Office, no later than **3 May 2019, 1200 hours, Eastern Standard Time, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.** No bids shall be accepted after this time and date.

10. Bid Validity.

(a) Bids shall remain valid for a period of one hundred and twenty days (120) from the applicable closing date set forth within this RFP. HQ SACT reserves the right to request an extension of validity. Bidder shall be entitled to either grant or deny this extension of validity; HQ SACT shall automatically consider a denial to extend the validity as a withdrawal of the bid.

11. Content of Proposal.

The proposal shall consist of **1 electronic copy** (1 PDF document containing each of the documents below excluding the price proposal) and **5 paper copies (to include price proposal)**. Submissions must be received prior to **3 May 2019, 1200 hours, Eastern Standard Time, Norfolk, Virginia, USA.**

- (a) The bidders full name address, Point of Contacts, Telephone, Fax number and Internet site, (See Enclosure 1);
- (b) Compliance statement (See Enclosure # 2);
- (c) Completed Annex A & Supporting Key Personnel Resumes
- (d) Company Price proposal, (Enclosure # 3)
- (e) Any other technical information to determine whether proposed services, terms and conditions comply with all the requirements of this RFP.

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

12. Proposal Submission.

- (a) E-mail proposals shall be submitted in a single PDF document to include only the Technical volume. Hard copy proposals shall be submitted in two separately packaged and sealed volumes, Technical and Price prior to the established bid closing date/time.
- (b) Proposal packages should be delivered to HQ SACT via e-mail, courier, or hand carried with confirmation of delivery. **Suppliers wishing to hand carry submissions MUST have access to deliver on-base at a military installation without escort.**
- (c) Price proposals shall be in **U S Dollar currency.**
- (d) Prices shall be on a Firm Fixed Price Basis
- (e) It is the sole responsibility of the interested company to review any Q & A that may be issued in support of this solicitation, prior to bid submission.
- (f) No oral bids or oral modifications or telephonic bids shall be considered.
- (g) It is the ultimate responsibility prior to submission that all proposal submissions are reviewed to ensure they meet the technical and administrative specifications and that offers meet the limitations and expressed conditions.

13. Late Proposals.

- (a) It is solely the bidder's responsibility that every effort is made to ensure that the proposal reaches HQ SACT prior to the established closing date and time. **All late bids shall be returned to the offering company unopened.** Only if it can be unequivocally demonstrated that the late arrival of the bid package was the result of NATO staff negligence (mishandling) shall the bid be considered.

14. Bid Withdrawal.

- (a) A bidder may withdraw their bid up to the date and time specified for bid closing. Such a withdrawal must be completed in writing or facsimile, with attention to the HQ SACT Contracting Officer. The proposal shall be returned unopened, at the expense of the company.

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

15. Bid Evaluation.

Bid Evaluation.

- (a) The evaluation of bids and determination as to the responsiveness and technical adequacy or technical compliance, of the products or services requested, shall be the responsibility of HQ SACT. Such determinations shall be consistent with the evaluation criteria specified in the RFP. HQ SACT is not responsible for any content that is not clearly identified in any proposal package.
- (b) Proposals shall be evaluated taking into consideration of the following factors;
- Successful administrative submission of bid packages and requested Enclosures 2-6, as listed in this RFP. (Pass/Fail).
 - Successful determination of Technical compliance based upon criteria contained in Annex A.
 - Lowest Price Offer.
 - Acceptance of HQ SACT General Terms and Conditions.

16. Proposal Clarifications.

- (a) During the entire evaluation process HQ SACT reserves the right to discuss any bid with the order to clarify what is offered and interpretation of language within the bid, to resolve in potential areas of non-compliance.

17. Award.

HQ SACT intends to award a firm fixed price contract to the Lowest Priced Technically Compliant offeror.

HQ SACT will collect information from references provided by the Offeror in regard to its past performance. The Offeror must provide the information requested for performance risk evaluation, or affirmatively state that it possesses no directly related or similar past performance. Firms lacking relevant past performance shall provide at least one Letter of Reference.

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

HQ SACT reserves the right to negotiate minor deviations to the listed General Terms and Conditions to this RFP.

18. Communications.

- (a) All communication related to this RFP, between a prospective bidder and HQ SACT shall be only be through the nominated HQ SACT Contracting Officer. Designated contracting staff shall assist the HQ SACT Contracting Officer in the administrative process. **There shall be no contact with other HQ SACT personnel in regards to this RFP.** Such adherence shall ensure Fair and Open Competition with equal consideration and competitive footing leverage to all interested parties.

19. Point of Contact is;

Tonya Bonilla, Contracting Officer 757-747-3575

tonya.bonilla@act.nato.int

or Catherine Giglio, R&D Contracting Officer 757-747-3856

Catherine.giglio@act.nato.int

All correspondence shall be forward to;

HQ SACT, BUDFIN BRANCH

Purchasing & Contracting,

Contracting Officer

RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23

ATTN. Tonya Bonilla

Tonya.bonilla@act.nato.int

7857 Blandy Road, Suite 100,

Norfolk, VA, U.S.A.

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Enclosure 2

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT TO SEALED BID RFP-ACT-SACT-18-41

It is hereby stated that our company has read and understands all documentation issued as part of RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23. Our company proposal submitted in response to the referenced solicitation is fully compliant with the provisions of RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23, and the intended contract with the following exception(s); such exemptions are considered non substantial to the HQ SACT solicitation provisions issued.

<u>Clause</u>	<u>Description of Minor Deviation.</u>
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-----	-----
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(If applicable, add another page)

Company: _____ Signature: _____

Name & Title: _____ Date: _____

Company Bid Reference: _____

Bidder's proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the RFP and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non-substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

Enclosure (3)

SUBJECT: RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23 Sealed Bid Price Proposal

Please find on behalf of **Insert: Company Name** to provide HQ SACT with services (collectively referred as “ITEMS”), subject to the provisions, terms and conditions stated in RFP-ACT-SACT-19-23 and the “**Insert : Company Name** Technical proposal”, submitted in accordance with solicitation provisions.

		Base Rate	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
		1 May 19 – 31 Dec 19	1 Jan 20 - 31 Dec 20	1 Jan 21 – 31 Dec 21	1 Jan 22 – 31 Dec 19	1 Jan 23 - 31 Dec 19
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
	Total Annual Contract Value					

Total of Base + Options _____

Please verify and acknowledge propriety of above, by duly completing signatures below.

Authorizing Company Official: Printed Name: _____ Position: _____ Title: _____

Authorizing Company (Signature): -----, Date: -----.

Company name Witness Official:

Printed Name: _____

Position: _____

Title: _____ Witness Signature: -----, Date -----

Bidder’s proposal must be based on full compliance with the terms, conditions and requirements of the IFIB and all future clarifications and/or amendments. The bidder may offer variations in specific implementation and operational details provided that the functional and performance requirements are fully satisfied. In case of conflict between the compliance statement and the detailed evidence or explanation furnished, the detailed evidence/comments shall take precedence/priority for the actual determination of compliance. Minor or non substantial deviations may be accepted. Substantial changes shall be considered non responsive.

Annex A

Innovation Hub Online Collaborative Platform SOW

1. Introduction

The purpose of this Statement of Work (SOW) is to ensure that the Innovation Hub online collaborative platform is secure, functional and up to date at all times.

2. Background and Scope of Work

- a. The NATO Innovation Hub (IH) is a worldwide community of experts from Industry, Academia and the Public collaborating on developing innovative solutions to NATO priority challenges. IH collaboration and operations rely on an online collaboration platform/website allowing information sharing with the Public and remote collaboration between members.
- b. The IH collaboration platform requires permanent security monitoring, periodic maintenance and updates, occasional upgrade to new functionality and emergent response to service disruption.
- c. The website is based on Drupal 7 CMS and hosted on an Acquia server.

3. Type of Contract and Period of Performance

- a. This is a firm fixed price service contract in accordance with HQ SACT General
- b. Period of Performance: from 15 May 2019 - 31 Dec 2019 (base period), with Option Period 1 from 1 Jan 2020 - 31 Dec 2020, Option Period 2 from 1 Jan 2021 - 31 Dec 2021, Option Period 3 from 1 Jan 2022 - 31 Dec 2022, Option Period 4 from 1 Jan 2023 - 31 Dec 2023. This is an inclusive period of performance per option period not indicative of the expected effort required within the contract – expected LOE identified with taskings below.

4. Tasking

- a. Routine Maintenance and Security. (approximately 50 hours)
 - i. Daily check of security and functionality.
 - ii. Implementation of security and maintenance *as needed*. (Including modules and core updates).
 - iii. Conduct host and server related tasks in liaison with the host agents
 - iv. Conduct domain and security certificate related tasks in liaison with the relevant service providers.
- b. Emergency response (approximately 75 hours)
 - i. Respond to any major malfunction or security issue within one hour of notification of malfunction, if notified during normal business hours (8:00am – 5:00pm EST, Monday-Friday). Respond to any major malfunction or security issue within 6 hours, if notified outside of normal business hours (see above). Determine a plan for restoration of site functionality or security and implement the plan in consultation with Innovation Hub staff.
- c. Content management (approximately 150 hours)
 - i. Create and manage the collaborative platform content in order to support the IH activities and meet the objectives. This includes but is not limited to:

Annex A

basic pages, projects, news, events, web forms, registrations, members, views, graphics and styles, groups, forums.

- d. Upgrade (approximately 150 hours)
 - i. Advise the Innovation Hub staff on any potential improvement of the collaborative platform in support of their objectives.
 - ii. Develop and implement new online collaborative platform functionalities and design needed in support of the Innovation Hub projects as directed by the COTR.
 - iii. When requested by COTR, design and develop a new collaborative platform and conduct its implementation and migration of older content to it.
- e. Compliance
 - i. Permanently ensure the collaborative platform compliance with NATO Minimum Requirements for the Protection of Networks (AC/322-D), and with the General Data Protection Regulation, and any other relevant regulation identified by the COTR.
 - ii. Participate in relevant NATO security audits
 - iii. Ensure online platform effectiveness on any device.
- f. Reporting
 - i. Report on security incidents according to the NATO Minimum Requirements for the Protection of Networks.
 - ii. Every other week attend a 1hr online meeting with the Innovation Hub staff and discuss any matter relevant to the contract.

5. Qualifications

- a. Expertise:
 - i. Demonstrate more Than 5 Years of experience in Front End and Back End Web Development with Drupal 7
 - ii. Demonstrate development and publication of more than one Drupal 7 custom module
 - iii. Demonstrate development and publication of at least one Drupal 7 custom theme
 - iv. Demonstrate development and publication of at least five Drupal 7 websites
- b. Personal
 - i. Traits
 - 1. Ability to communicates effectively within a team
 - 2. Ability to resolve any problem directly, fairly and professionally
 - 3. Willingness to continually look for ways to improve the Innovation Hub website both technically and creatively
 - ii. Languages
 - 1. Fluent in written and spoken English

Annex A

6. The Contracting Officer Technical Representative (COTR) will review the outcome of the performed tasks and inform the contractor of needed corrections or adjustments. Routine tasks are conducted without involvement by the COTR, however the COTR will maintain oversight to ensure tasks are being accomplished properly. Emergency tasks are triggered by the COTR or the contractor depending on how the issues are detected. Upgrade tasks are planned and coordinated in advance between the COTR and the contractor. At no time shall the hours exceed the maximum identified on the resulting purchase order without written approval for the ACT Contracting Officer.
7. Contractor Performance Requirements and Reporting
 - a. Contract Officer Technical Representative is assigned by the Contracting Officer for the technical performance of this contract. The COTR is responsible for the, coordination and performance assessment of the contractor as well as the acceptance of the deliverables.
8. Place of performance
 - a. The tasks will be performed at the contractor's facility, coordination will be conducted remotely or at the NATO ACT Innovation Hub (4111 Monarch Way, Norfolk, VA).

ANNEX A

DESIRED EXPERTISE

Familiar with key server-side web development concepts including:

- Managing a hosting environment, and has administered databases.
- Scaling an application and/or its hosting environment to support increases in traffic.
- Setting up or using a version control system, and manage control with file based assets and data.
- Implementing or working with content approval and staging workflows.
- Migrating data, scripting migration of data.
- Implementing, managing or using a backup system and disaster recovery.
- Outputting data in multiple document formats.
- Securing data or access to applications with multiple user levels, or has the ability to customize based on user levels
- Working with multiple delivery platforms such as mobile versus desktop.
- Creating and implementing database schemas that represent and support business processes.
- Ensuring the quality of applications through unit testing.

Demonstrated knowledge of PHP and database programming including:

- The features and syntax of PHP datatypes, variables, constants and operators.
- Working knowledge of syntax of and how to employ expressions and functions.
- Knowledge of how to apply control structures of PHP such as expressions, loops, conditional statements, and switch statements.
- Session handling, PHP Configuration.
- Familiarity with modifying Drupal Theme hooks to display data

Familiar with web development markup languages HTML/XML; stylesheet languages CSS/XSL and JavaScript. Additionally, knowledge of the DOM, its objects and their properties.

DRUPAL

- More Than 5 Years of experience and knowledge of Front End and Back End Web Development with Drupal 7
- Strong knowledge and experience of cross-browser/platform testing (including smart phones/tablets), identifying and resolving bugs
- Adapt in integrating multimedia content
- Thorough knowledge of Drupal API, commitment to following Drupal standards for coding and commenting
 - Experience in creating custom themes, modules and/or distributions
- Experience with Responsive Development best practices
- Design, development, testing, and maintenance of Drupal websites, associated web applications and databases, 508 compliance, as well as generating various reports
- Testing ,maintenance and implementation of Drupal Internet security and privacy
- Experience with Drupal theme layering, PHP, PHP Files, and theme functions
- Experience with Drupal custom module design

DESIRED EXPERTISE

HTML

- Familiarity of HTML syntax for multiple specifications, including HTML 5.
- Knowledge of the semantic meaning of most HTML elements.
- Familiarity with the semantic markup for display of lists, tabular data, forms, articles, etc.
- Knowledge of markup used for layout such as dividers.
- Knowledge at the level to be able to hand-code markup.
- Including media and images.
- Interpreting graphic visual or interaction designs in HTML, CSS and Javascript.
- Programming interaction with JavaScript and/or a library such as jQuery, YUI or Prototype.

XML

- Knowledge of XML syntax for markup and content.
- Knowledge of how to use XML for the interchange of data

CSS

- Specifying different CSS for various media, devices and displays.
- Methods for including CSS inline, internal and external via linked style sheets.
- Syntax of CSS declarations, properties and attributes.
- CSS box model and methods for CSS positioning, absolute and relative.
- Knowledge of properties and attributes to control the display.
- Best practices in CSS file organization and structure.

JavaScript

- Knowledge of the operators, variables, datatypes, objects, properties and methods.
- Familiarity with control structures such as objects, functions, conditional statements, arrays, loops and expressions.
- Forms and regular expression validation and submitting data.
- Knowledge of how to apply logical operators and conditional statements.

jQuery

- Knowledge of how to employ the jQuery library for visual effects, event handling, and document manipulation.

Assessment and Evaluation

1. Contractor’s technical proposals will be assessed on the qualifications of the individuals proposed to perform the work. Individuals` résumés will be measured against each criteria specified below in order to ascertain whether the individuals have adequately demonstrated that they possess the required qualifications. HQ SACT reserves the right to conduct interview of nominated candidate(s). Examples of how detailed knowledge levels were attained are expected. Ultimately, Contractor/Companies shall clearly demonstrate by providing unequivocal reference to where meet the criteria set forth in this solicitation.

2. The bids will be evaluated against the following levels:
 - a. Compliant (C) = Meets the criteria
 - b. Minor shortfall (M) = Marginally meets the criteria
 - c. Serious shortfall (S) = Proposal will be deemed non-compliant

#	Criteria	Evaluation (C/M/S)	Comments <small>(Contractor should complete each section below outlining how compliance is achieved and concisely demonstrate by direct reference to technical proposal that unequivocally demonstrates compliance)</small>
1	Demonstrate more Than 5 Years of experience in Front End and Back End Web Development with Drupal 7		
2	Demonstrate development and publication of more than one Drupal 7 custom module		
3	Demonstrate development and publication of at least one Drupal 7 custom theme		
4	Demonstrate development and publication of at least five Drupal 7 websites		
5	Ability to communicates effectively within a team		
6	Ability to resolve any problem directly, fairly and professionally		

Annex A

7	Willingness to continually look for ways to improve the Innovation Hub website both technically and creatively		
8	Fluent in written and spoken English		

HQ SACT General Contract Terms and Conditions

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1. Definitions. As used throughout this contract, the following terms shall have meanings as set forth below:

a. "HQ SACT" means the Supreme Headquarters Allied Command Transformation, located at 7857, Blandy Road, Suite 100, Norfolk, Virginia, United States of America. Wherein a subordinate command is referred, it shall have equal meaning and representation as HQ SACT. (HQ SACT SEE, JALLC, JWC, JFTC).

b. Contracting Officer means the person executing and managing this contract on behalf of HQ SACT.

c. Inspector means a person appointed by the Contracting Officer for the purpose of determining compliance with the technical requirements of the contract.

d. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is hereafter referred to as "NATO".

e. The term "days" shall be interpreted as meaning calendar days

2. Applicable law. Except as otherwise provided in this contract, this contract shall be governed, interpreted and construed with the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia of the United States of America.

3. Assignment. This agreement is not assignable by the Contractor either in whole or in part unless agreed in writing by HQ SACT Contracting Officer in accordance with;

a. Any modifications, including changes, additions or deletions and instructions under this contract shall not be binding unless issued in writing by the Contracting Officer

b. Sub-contractors shall be limited to citizens or legal entities of member nations of NATO, unless specifically authorized by the Contracting Officer.

c. The Contractor shall determine that any sub-contractor proposed by him for the furnishing of supplies or services which shall involve access to classified information in the Contractor's custody has been granted an appropriate facility security clearance by the sub-contractor's national authorities, which is still in effect, prior to being given access to such classified information.

4. Acceptance

a. Acceptance or rejection of the supplies shall be made as promptly as practicable after delivery, except as otherwise provided in this contract.

b. Acceptance shall be conclusive, except for latent defects, fraud, gross mistakes amounting to fraud, or otherwise stated in the Contract. It is the action by which HQ SACT acknowledges that the Contractor has fully demonstrated that the deliveries are complete and operational. The formal acceptance will take place when the following requirements have been met:

- Availability at final destination of all deliverables.
- Successful completion of acceptance testing.
- Verification of the inventory.
- Satisfactory completion of all training or other services, if any, required by that date.
- Agreement between the Contracting Officer and the Contractor on a discrepancy list (if necessary) and corresponding clearance dates.

c. When discrepancies exist and if these do not prevent satisfactory use or operation of the supplies, the Contracting Officer may declare the acceptance provisional. In this case he will withhold from payment an amount commensurate with the importance of the discrepancies but in any case not less than ten (10) percent of the total contract value and this until all discrepancies have been cleared; at that time the acceptance becomes final.

5. Service and Parts Availability. Unless as specified otherwise in the Technical Specifications, the Contractor and his subcontractors will maintain and furnish a source of an adequate supply of services, components, spare parts and sub-assemblies to properly maintain the supplies for a period of minimum five (5) years from Contract Effective Date.

6. Preferred Customer

a. The Contractor warrants that the prices set forth in this contract are as favorable as those extended to any Government, Agency, Company, Organization or individual purchasing like quantities covered by the contract under similar conditions. In the event that prior to complete delivery under this contract the Contractor offers any of such items in substantially similar quantities to any customer at prices lower than those set forth herein, the Contractor shall so notify HQ SACT and the prices of such items shall

be correspondingly reduced by a supplement to this contract.

b. Prices in this sense means "Base Price" prior to applying any bonuses.

7. Notice of Shipment

a. At the time of delivery of any supplies to a carrier for transportation, the Contractor shall give notice of shipment to the Contracting Officer and to such other persons or installations as are designated by the Contracting Officer. If such instructions have not been received by the Contractor at least one working day prior to such delivery to a carrier, the Contractor shall request instructions from the Contracting Officer concerning notice of shipment to be given.

b. The following information shall be included in such notification:

(1) Contract Number

(2) Shipping address

From: (Name and complete address of consignor)

To: (Name and complete address of consignee)

(3) Listing of supplies by Contract Items(s)

(4) Number of and marking on packages(s)

(5) Weight and dimensions of packages(s)

(6) Name and address of Carrier, mode and date of shipment with waybill number,

(7) Customs documents required by Contractor (if applicable).

8. Security

a. The Contractor shall comply with all security requirements prescribed by HQ SACT and the National Security Authority or designated security agency of each NATO

country in which the contract is performed.

b. The Contractor shall be responsible for the safeguarding of NATO classified information, material and equipment entrusted to him or generated by him in connection with the performance of the contract.

c. Any known or suspected breaches of security or other matters of security significance shall be reported by the Contractor to the Contracting Officer and to the National Security Authority or designated security agency.

d. The Contractor shall apply to the Contracting Officer for approval before sub-contracting any part of the work, if the sub-contract would involve the sub-contractor in access to classified information. The Contractor shall place the sub-contractor under security obligations no less stringent than those applied to his own contract

9. Inspection

a. Unless otherwise specifically provided for in the specifications, all equipment, materials and articles incorporated in the work covered by this contract are to be new and of the most suitable grade of their respective kinds for the purposes intended. All workmanship shall be first class.

b. All supplies (which terms throughout this clause includes without limitation raw materials, components, intermediate assemblies, and end products) shall be subject to inspection and test by HQ SACT, to the extent practicable at all times and places including the period of manufacture, and in any event prior to acceptance.

c. In case any supplies are defective in material or workmanship or otherwise not in conformity with the requirements of this contract, HQ SACT shall have the right either to reject them (with or without instructions as to their disposition) or to require their correction or to accept them against reduction in price which is equitable under the circumstances.

d. If any inspection or test is made by HQ SACT on the premises of the Contractor or sub-contractor, the Contractor without additional charge shall provide all reasonable facilities and assistance to inspectors in the performance of their duties. If HQ SACT inspection or test is made at a point other than the premises of the Contractor or a sub-contractor, it shall be at the expense of HQ SACT except as otherwise provided in this contract. In case of rejection HQ SACT shall not be liable for any reduction in value of samples used in connection with such inspection or test. HQ SACT reserves the right to charge to the Contractor any additional cost of HQ SACT inspection and test when supplies are not ready at the time such inspection, when test is requested by Contractor or when reinspection or retest is necessitated by prior rejection. Failure to

inspect supplies shall neither relieve the Contractor from responsibility for such supplies as are not in accordance with the contract requirements nor impose liability on HQ SACT therefore.

e. The inspection and test by HQ SACT of any supplies does not relieve the Contractor from any responsibility regarding defects or other failures to meet the contract requirements which may be discovered prior to acceptance. Except as otherwise provided in the contract, acceptance shall be conclusive except as regards latent defects, hidden deficiencies, fraud, or such gross mistakes as amount to fraud.

10. Title. Unless specified elsewhere in this contract, title to supplies furnished under this contract shall pass to HQ SACT upon acceptance, regardless of when or where HQ SACT takes physical possession.

11. Supply Warranty

a. Notwithstanding inspection and acceptance by HQ SACT of supplies furnished under the contract or any provision of this contract concerning the conclusiveness thereof, the Contractor warrants that for a period of twelve (12) months following the date of acceptance:

- (1) All supplies furnished under this contract will be free from defects in material or workmanship and will conform with the specifications and all other requirements of this contract; and
- (2) The preservation, packaging, packing and marking and the preparation for and method of shipment of such supplies will conform with the requirements of this contract.

b. The Contracting Officer shall give written notice to the Contractor of any breach of the warranties in paragraph a. of this clause within thirty (30) days after discovery of any defect.

c. Within a reasonable time after such notice, the Contracting Officer may either:

- (1) By written notice require the prompt correction or replacement of any supplies or part thereof (including preservation, packaging, packing and marking) that do not conform with requirements of this contract within the meaning of Paragraph a. of this clause; or
- (2) Retain such supplies, whereupon the contract price thereof shall be reduced

by an amount equitable under the circumstances and the Contractor shall promptly make appropriate payment.

d. When return, correction or replacement is required, the Contracting Officer shall return the supplies and transportation charges and responsibility for such supplies while in transit shall be borne by the Contractor. However, the Contractor's liability for such transportation charges shall not exceed an amount equal to the cost of transportation by the usual commercial method of shipment between the designated destination point under this contract and the Contractor's plant and return.

e. If the Contractor does not agree as to his responsibility to correct or replace the supplies delivered, he shall nevertheless proceed in accordance with the written request issued by the Contracting Officer per paragraph c to correct or replace the defective or nonconforming supplies. In the event it is later determined that such supplies were not defective or nonconforming within the provisions of this clause, the contract price will be equitably adjusted. Failure to agree to such an equitable adjustment of price shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Dispute".

f. Any supplies or parts thereof furnished in replacement pursuant to this clause shall also be subject to all the provisions of this clause to the same extent as supplies initially delivered. Corrected parts will be warranted for a period not less than six (6) months starting at the time the part is received back at the user's location.

g. In case of a provisional acceptance the warranty period starts at the date of provisional acceptance and ends twelve (12) months after the date of provisional acceptance.

h. Failure to agree upon any determination to be made under this clause shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the "Disputes" clause of this contract.

i. The word "supplies" as used herein includes related services.

j. The rights and remedies of HQ SACT provided in this clause are in addition to and do not limit any rights afforded to HQ SACT by any other clause of the contract.

12. Invoices

a. The contractor shall submit an original invoice and three (3) copies (or electronic invoice, if authorized) to the address designated in the contract to received invoices. All invoices shall be submitted no later than 30 days upon completion of work or services

performed. Standard Payment Terms are NET 30 days. An invoice must include: 1) Name and address of the Contractor; 2) Invoice date; 3) Purchase Order number and Purchase Order or Contract line item number; 4) Description, quantity, unit of measure, unit price and extended price of the items delivered; 5) Shipping number and date of shipment including the bill of lading number and weight of shipment if shipped on a bill of lading; 6) Terms of any prompt payment discount offered; 7) Name and address of official to whom payment is to be sent; and 8) Name, title, and phone number of person to be notified in event of defective invoice. All invoices shall be certified by the signature of a duly authorized company representative. Invoices for Contractor Travel shall include: 1) Contractor name; 2) Date of Travel; 3) Number of days; 4) Destinations. All invoices shall be submitted to:

HQ SACT
Accounts Payable
7857 Blandy Road
Suite 100, SR-82,
Norfolk, VA 23551-2490

b. Electronic Fund Transfer is the prescribed method of payment for HQ SACT. Contractors are requested to submit copies of banking information available at (<http://www.act.nato.int/organization/contracting/forms-contractor-travel>). Such information shall be submitted to HQ SACT 14 days prior to any contract award.

13. Payment. Payment shall be made for items accepted by HQ SACT that have been delivered to the delivery destinations set forth in this contract. Payments under this contract may be made by HQ SACT by electronic funds transfer payments or (check in exceptional cases) and shall submit this designation to the contracting officer as directed. In the event the Contractor, during the performance of this contract, elects to designate a different financial institution for receipt of any payment made using electronic funds transfer procedures, notification of such change and the required information must be obtained by HQ SACT thirty (30) days prior to the date such change is to become effective. The documents furnishing the information required in this clause must be dated and contain the signature, title, and telephone number of the Contractor official authorized to provide it, as well as the Contractor's name and Purchase Order number. Contractor failure to properly designate a financial institution or to provide appropriate payee bank account information may delay payments of amounts otherwise properly due. Discount time will be computed from date of delivery at place of acceptance or from receipt of correct invoice at the office specified by HQ SACT, whichever is later. For the purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date which appears on the payment check or the specified payment date if an electronic funds transfer payment is made.

14. Taxes. The contract excludes all applicable Federal, State, and local taxes and duties. HQ SACT is a tax-exempt organization.

15. Excusable Delays. The Contractor shall be liable for default unless non-performance is caused by an occurrence beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor and without its fault or negligence such as, acts of God or the public enemy, acts of HQ SACT in its sovereign or contractual capacity, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, unusually severe weather, and delays of common carriers. The Contractor shall notify the contracting Officer in writing as soon as is reasonably possible after the commencement of any excusable delay, setting forth the full particulars in connection therewith, shall remedy such occurrence with all reasonable dispatch, and shall promptly give written notice to the Contracting Officer of the cessation of such occurrence.

16. Indemnity. The contractor shall indemnify HQ SACT and its officers, employees and agents against liability, including costs for actual or alleged direct or contributory infringement of or inducement to infringe, any United States or foreign patent, trademark, copyright, or other intellectual property right, arising out of the performance of this contract, provided the Contractor is reasonably notified of such claims and proceedings.

17. Disputes. Except as otherwise provided, during the period of performance, any dispute between the parties arising out of the performance of this contract which is not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the HQ SACT Contracting Officer, who shall reduce his decision to writing and mail or otherwise furnish a copy thereof to the Contractor. The decision of HQ SACT shall be final and conclusive unless, within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of such copy, the Contractor mails or otherwise furnishes to HQ SACT a written appeal. In connection with any appeal of HQ SACT decision under this paragraph, the Contractor shall be afforded an opportunity to be heard and to offer evidence in support of its appeal. A decision shall be rendered within thirty (30) days of receipt of appeal. HQ SACT FC decision is final.

18. Termination for Convenience. HQ SACT reserves the right to terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for its sole convenience. In the event of such termination, the Contractor shall immediately stop all work hereunder and shall immediately cause any and all of its suppliers and subcontractors to cease work. Subject to the terms of this contract, the Contractor shall be paid a percentage of the contract price reflecting the percentage of the work performed prior to the notice of termination, plus reasonable charges the Contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of HQ SACT using its standard record keeping system have resulted from the termination. In the event of the failure of the Contractor and the Contracting Officer to agree as provided in paragraph d. upon the whole amount to be paid to Contractor by reason of the termination of work pursuant to this clause, the Contracting Officer shall pay to the Contractor the amounts determined by the Contracting Officer. The Contractor shall not be required to comply with the cost accounting standards or contract cost principles for this purpose. This paragraph does not give SACT any right to audit the Contractor's records. The Contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred which reasonably could have been avoided.

19. Termination for Default

a. HQ SACT may, subject to the provisions of paragraph c. below, by written notice of default to the Contractor, terminate the whole or any part of this contract in any one of the following circumstances:

- (1) If the Contractor fails to make delivery of the supplies or to perform the Services within the time specified herein or any extension thereof; or
- (2) If the Contractor fails to perform any of the other provisions of this contract, or so fails to make progress as to endanger performance of this contract in accordance with its terms and in either of these two circumstances does not cure such failure within a period of ten days (or such longer period as the Contracting Officer may authorize in writing) after receipt of notice from the Contracting Officer specifying such failure.

b. In the event HQ SACT terminates this contract in whole or in part as provided in paragraph a. of this clause, HQ SACT may procure supplies or services similar to those so terminated and the Contractor shall be liable to HQ SACT for any excess costs for such similar supplies or services. The Contractor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause.

c. Except with respect to defaults of sub-contractors, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs if the failure to perform the contract arises out of causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the contractor. If the failure to perform is caused by the default of a sub-contractor, and if such default arises out of causes beyond the control of both the Contractor and sub-contractor, without the fault or negligence of either of them, the Contractor shall not be liable for any excess costs for failure to perform unless the supplies or services to be furnished by the sub-contractor were obtainable from other sources in sufficient time to permit the Contractor to meet the required delivery schedule.

d. If this contract is terminated as provided in paragraph a. of this clause, HQ SACT, in addition to any other rights provided in the clause, may require the Contractor to transfer title and deliver to HQ SACT in the manner and to the extent directed by the Contracting Officer:

- (1) Any completed supplies and
- (2) Such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, die, jigs, Fixtures, plans, drawings, information and contract rights (hereinafter called "Manufacturing materials") as the Contractor has specifically produced or Specifically acquired for the performance of such part of this contract as has been terminated; and the Contractor shall, upon direction of the Contracting Officer, protect and preserve property in the possession of the Contractor in which HQ SACT has an interest. Payment for completed supplies delivered to and accepted by HQ SACT shall be at the contract price. Payment for manufacturing materials delivered to and accepted by HQ SACT and for the protection

and preservation of property shall be in an amount agreed upon by the Contractor and Contracting Officer; failure to agree such amount shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Dispute". HQ SACT may withhold from amounts otherwise due the Contractor for such completed supplies or manufacturing materials such sum as the Contracting Officer determines to be necessary to protect HQ SACT against loss because of outstanding liens or claims of former lien holders.

e. If, after notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, or that the default was excusable under the provisions of this clause, the rights and obligations of the parties shall, if the contract contains a clause providing for termination for convenience of HQ SACT, be the same as if the notice of termination had been issued pursuant to such clause. If, after such notice of termination of this contract under the provisions of this clause, it is determined for any reason that the Contractor was not in default under the provisions of this clause, and if this contract does not contain a clause providing for termination for convenience of HQ SACT the contract shall be equitably adjusted to compensate for such termination and the contract modified accordingly; failure to agree to any such adjustment shall be a dispute concerning a question of fact within the meaning of the clause of this contract entitled "Disputes".

f. Both parties are under duty of good faith. The contract includes not only the specific terms, but also law and customary practice applicable in the place where the contract is to be carried out and to the Type of Trade to which the contract relates.

20. Limitation of Liability. Except as otherwise provided by an express or implied warranty, the Contractor will not be liable to HQ SACT for consequential damages resulting from any defects or deficiencies in accepted items

21. Export Control. Contractor warrants that, if applicable all necessary technical assistance agreements (TAA), export control or other associated arrangements shall be valid prior to contract award. Should a Contractor require export pre-approval HQ SACT legal staff will be provided a preview of said companies request PRIOR to the companies submission to a Government entity. Upon validation of request by HQ SACT Legal staff, subject agreement or request may be submitted to appropriate authority. (Please note: There are no specified time delays regarding TAA, aor export control request being processed. However, experience has shown request can take anywhere from 30 days to 90 days depending on complexity of request, and administrative preparedness).

22. Risk of Loss. Unless the contract specifically provides otherwise, risk of loss or damage to the supplies provided under this contract shall remain with the Contractor until, and shall pass to HQ SACT upon: 1) Delivery of the supplies to a carrier, if transportation is f.o.b. origin; or 2) Delivery of the supplies to HQ SACT at the destination specified in the contract, if transportation is f.o.b.destination.

23. Authorization to Perform. The Contractor warrants that he and his sub-

contractors have been duly authorized to operate and do business in the country or countries in which this contract is to be performed; that he and his sub-contractors have obtained all necessary licenses and permits required in connection with the contract; that he and the sub-contractors will fully comply with all the laws, decrees, labor standards and regulations of such country or countries during the performance of this contract; and that no claim for additional moneys with respect to any authorizations to perform will be made upon HQ SACT.

24. Performance. Candidates/contractors who accept HQ SACT issued contracts, shall, at a minimum, serve in a designated capacity for no less than 180 calendar days from commencement of contract period of performance. Contracts' with performance periods having less than 180 days in totality shall require contractors to serve a minimum of 50% of estimated performance period. Should a candidate vacate the contract in less time than described, HQ SACT reserves the right to cancel the contract in whole or part. Replacement candidates, if acceptable to HQ SACT, shall be reviewed by HQ SACT for compliance, and, or technical acceptance per the original Statement of Work and final acceptance by HQ SACT Contracting Officer.

25. Travel. In accordance with AFM Section 24, Contractor Travel, travel by contractors in support of the HQ SACT mission will only be performed when a member of the approved International HQ SACT Peacetime Establishment is unable to perform the mission.

Once contractor travel has been established under a contract and a contractor is tasked to travel, the HQ SACT Contractor Travel Request form must be filled out and approved prior to any travel being conducted. This form may be found at: <http://www.act.nato.int/organization/contracting/forms-contractor-travel>. The in-house Travel Agency will set the Transport Ceiling Cost and at that time the contractor may elect to book their transportation with the in-house travel agency. (Please refer to Clause Number 7 above).

Transport tickets purchased through the in-house travel agency will be reimbursed by the HQ SACT entity directly to the in-house travel agency, and the applicable travel line of the contract will be charged. These costs will not be invoiced by, or paid to, the contractor company. When transport tickets are purchased through another source only the ceiling cost allocated by the in-house travel agency will be reimbursed to the contractor company.

Per Diem is based on the NATO Group One subsistence allowance, which covers meals, lodging, incidental expenses and any applicable overhead and/or fees. Per Diem Reimbursement will only be made at these rate amounts. NATO Group III daily subsistence allowances are posted on HQ SACT website at <http://www.act.nato.int/organization/contracting/forms-contractor-travel>.

26. Proposed Candidates. No proposals shall be accepted or considered for candidates already assigned to an existing contract with HQ SACT, without the prior permission of the Contracting Officer. .

27. Partial awards will be allowed when determined in the best interests of NATO. The Contracting Awards Board and the Contracting Officer, when deemed prudent and necessary have the authority to make this determination. Partial bidding shall be consistent with released solicitation.

28. Competition. HQ SACT reserves the right to engage in Full and Open Competition after exclusion of sources.

29. Contractor Notice Regarding Delay. In the event the Contractor encounters difficulty in meeting performance requirements, or when he anticipates difficulty in complying with the contract delivery schedule or date, he shall immediately notify the Contracting Officer in writing, giving pertinent details; provided, however, that this data shall be informational only in character and that this provision shall not be construed as a waiver by HQ SACT of any delivery schedule or date, or of any rights or remedies provided by law or under this contract.

30. Notice and Assistance regarding Patent and Copyright Infringement

a. The Contractor shall report to the Contracting Officer, promptly and in reasonable written detail, each notice or claim of patent or copyright infringement based on the performance of this contract of which the Contractor has knowledge.

b. In the event of any claim or suit against HQ SACT on account of any alleged patent or copyright infringement arising out of the performance of this contract or out of the use of any supplies furnished or work or services performed hereunder, the Contractor shall furnish to HQ SACT, when requested by the Contracting Officer, all evidence and information in possession of the Contractor pertaining to such suit or claim. Such evidence and information shall be furnished at the expense of HQ SACT except where the Contractor has agreed to indemnify HQ SACT.

c. This clause shall be included in all sub-contracts.

31. Health, Safety and Accident Prevention. If the Contracting Officer notifies the Contractor in writing of any non-compliance in the performance of this contract, with safety and health rules and requirements prescribed on the date of this contract by applicable national or local laws, ordinances and codes, and the Contractor fails to take immediate corrective action, the Contracting Officer may order the Contractor to stop all or part of the work until satisfactory corrective action has been taken. Such an order to stop work shall not entitle the Contractor to an adjustment of his contract price or other reimbursement for resulting increased costs, or to an adjustment of the delivery or performance schedule.

32. Patent Indemnity. If the amount of this contract is in excess of \$1,000,000 , the Contractor shall indemnify HQ SACT and its officers, agents and employees against liability, including costs, for infringement of any letters patent (except letters patent issued upon an application which is now or may hereafter be kept secret or otherwise withheld from issue by order of the government which issued the letters patent) arising out of the manufacture or delivery of supplies under this

contract, or out of the use or disposal by or for the account of HQ SACT of such supplies. The foregoing indemnity shall not apply unless the Contractor shall have been informed as soon as practicable by HQ SACT of the suit or action alleging such infringement and shall have been given such opportunity as is afforded by applicable laws, rules, or regulations to participate in the defence thereof; and further, such indemnity shall not apply to:

a. An infringement resulting from compliance with specific written instructions of the Contracting Officer directing a change in the supplies to be delivered or in the materials or equipment to be used or directing a manner of performance of the Contract not normally used by the Contractor;

b. An infringement resulting from an addition to, or change in, such supplies or components furnished which addition or change was made subsequent to delivery or performance by the Contractor; or

c. A claimed infringement which is settled without the consent of the Contractor, unless required by a court of competent jurisdiction.

33. Rights in Technical Data and Computer Software

a. HQ SACT shall have unlimited rights in:

(1) All technical data and computer software, to include source code, resulting from performance of experimental, developmental, integration, testing, or research work which was specified as an element of performance in this contract.

(2) Plans, drawings, manuals or instructional materials prepared or required to be delivered under this contract for implementation management, installation, operation, maintenance and training purposes.

b. Technical data and software delivered under this contract shall be marked with the number of this contract, name of Contractor and the rights transferred to HQ SACT.

34. Software Releases and Updates.

a. All software implemented on or delivered with the supplies shall be at the start of acceptance, the most recent versions or releases as available.

b. The Contractor shall for a duration of minimum five (5) years after acceptance, and upon their availability, offer to HQ SACT all software changes, fixes and new releases. These shall be offered at no cost when they are offered

free of charge on the commercial market.

35. Inconsistency between English Version and Translation of Contract. In the event of inconsistency between any terms of this contract and any translation thereof into another language, the English language meaning shall control

36. Contract Effective Date (CED). The effective date of the contract is the date of last signature by the contracting parties, or a specific date set forth in the Contract.

37. Enforcement. Failure by either party to enforce any provision of this contract will not be deemed a waiver of future enforcement of that or any other provision. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this contract shall not affect the other provisions hereof, and this contract shall be construed in all respects if such invalid or unenforceable provisions were omitted

38. Order of Precedence. Any inconsistencies in the solicitation or contract shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order: (1) Special Terms and Conditions;

(2) General Terms and Conditions and Purchase Order terms; (3) solicitation provisions if this is a solicitation; (4) the specification/statement of work; (5) other HQ SACT documents, exhibits and attachments; (6) addenda to this solicitation or contract, including any license agreements for computer software, or other Contract agreements.

39. Entire Agreement. This contract sets for the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and supersedes all prior agreements or representations, oral or written, regarding such subject matter. HQ SACT shall not be bound by, and specifically objects to any term, condition, or other provision inconsistent with or in addition to any provision of this contract that is submitted by Contractor in any correspondence or any document unless HQ SACT specifically agrees to such provision in a written instrument signed by an authorized representative.