

# National Transportation Safety Board

Office of the Chief Financial Officer

Washington, DC 20594



## Sources Sought Notice

September 6, 2023

THIS IS NOT A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS, AN INVITATION FOR BIDS, OR A REQUEST FOR QUOTATIONS. FURTHER, IT DOES NOT REPRESENT A COMMITMENT BY THE GOVERNMENT TO PAY FOR COSTS INCURRED IN PREPARATION AND SUBMISSION OF DATA OR ANY OTHER COSTS INCURRED IN RESPONSE TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT.

This is a Sources Sought Notice with the intent to award a sole source purchase order to Bench Top Solutions, LLC (BTS) under the authority of FAR 13.106-1 based on BTS' unique technical qualifications as the only known authorized small business reseller of the stereo optic imaging system as described below. Notice is provided as information to the marketplace, market research, and is an invitation for any other qualified companies to express their interest in and demonstrate their capability to provide the required equipment.

### Background

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is a federal agency mandated by Congress to investigate all aviation accidents, selected accidents/incidents in other modes of transportation, and report the results of those investigations.

The NTSB has a requirement for one (1) Lynx Evo Stereo Optic Imaging System with head, zoom and focus assembly, multi-axis stand, adjustable LED lighting, 0.62x lens objective, base, power supply, HD camera, USB cable and software. The equipment is due within 60 days of contract award.

The projected image technology (Dynascope) employed in this Lynx EVO Inspection System is a patent held by Vision Engineering, Ltd. It offers greater overall inspection and measurement accuracy due to its superior resolving capability, elimination of parallax error, and reduced operator fatigue. Other equipment used in similar applications utilize one or more of the following image presentation methods: video, ground glass projection, or eyepieces. Video and ground glass offer inferior resolution capability. Eyepieces provide equivalent resolution but suffer from the drawbacks of parallax error and operator fatigue. Vision Engineering, with its patented Dynascope technology, is the manufacturer of this unique projected image technology. Other types of microscope projection do not allow such an optical work area and are insufficient for the role. Additionally, the NTSB lab already employes one other Dynascope type microscope by Vision Engineering, and the specialists have training on this particular type of projection and are unfamiliar with the use of other technologies.

Additional design features of the Lynx EVO include 10:1 Zoom, iris in the optical path, and a built-in diffuser for reflected light.

**Required Capabilities**

The NTSB requires equipment that meets or exceeds the capabilities of one (1) Lynx Evo Stereo Optic Imaging System with head, zoom and focus assembly, multi-axis stand, adjustable LED lighting, 0.62x lens objective, base, power supply, HD camera, USB cable and software.

Sources capable of fully satisfying the above requirements are invited to submit capability statements/expressions of interest providing the Government the necessary information to determine actual capability. At a minimum, this information, which must be prepared specifically in response to this notice should, must include: (1) identification of company or organization; (2) an assertion of existing, full capability to meet proposed requirements; (3) business/contracts/marketing office point(s) of contact; (4) notification of business size and /or special status; and (5) any additional information that may be useful to the successful procurement of the requirements, if solicited. These expressions of interest shall adhere to a ten (10)-page submission limit plus web links and any specialized product descriptions. The statement of qualifications should include only information that clearly demonstrates the respondent's capabilities, expertise, and experience to perform the requirements described in this notice. General marketing material should not be included. The NTSB prefers that companies do not submit proprietary material. However, the Government recognizes that proprietary data may be a part of your submittal. If so, clearly mark such restricted or proprietary data and present it as an addendum to the non-restricted/non-proprietary information. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement. A determination by the Government not to compete the proposed order based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. All responsible sources may submit a capability statement, which shall be considered by NTSB. Parties must submit information within ten (10) days of publication of this notice. NTSB will not return capability statements and the supporting documentation submitted in response to this notice. Telephone responses and inquiries will not be accepted. You may email questions regarding this notice to the issuing office to Bryan Moy via email at: [bryan.moy@ntsb.gov](mailto:bryan.moy@ntsb.gov).