

2. Amendment/Modification No. A01	3. Effective Date 06/04/2018	4. Requisition/Purchase Reqn. No. N/A	5. Project No. (if applicable) N/A
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6. Issued By United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) Commodity Procurement Staff 1400 Independence Ave SW STOP 0239 Washington, D.C. 20250-0239	7. Administered By (If other than Item 6) See Block 6
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8. Name and Address of Contractor (No., Street, County, and Zip Code)	(X)	9A. Amendment of Solicitation No. 2000005389
	X	9B. Date (See Item 11) 06/04/2018
		10A. Modification of Contract/Order No.
		10B. Date (See Item 13)

Code	Facility Code
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11. THIS ITEM ONLY APPLIES TO AMENDMENTS OF SOLICITATIONS

The above numbered solicitation is amended as set forth in item 14. The hour and date specified for receipt of Offers is extended is not extended. Offers must acknowledge receipt of this amendment prior to the hour and date specified in the solicitation or as amended, by one of the following methods:
 (a) By completing items 8 and 15, and returning 1 copies of the amendment; (b) By acknowledging receipt of this amendment on each copy of the offer submitted; or (c) By separate letter or telegram which includes a reference to the solicitation and amendment numbers. FAILURE OF YOUR ACKNOWLEDGMENT TO BE RECEIVED AT THE PLACE DESIGNATED FOR THE RECEIPT OF OFFERS PRIOR TO THE HOUR AND DATE SPECIFIED MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF YOUR OFFER. If by virtue of this amendment you desire to change an offer already submitted, such change may be made by telegram or letter, provided each telegram or letter makes reference to the solicitation and this amendment, and is received prior to the opening hour and date specified.

12. Accounting and Appropriation Data (if required)
N/A

**13. THIS ITEM APPLIES ONLY TO MODIFICATIONS OF CONTRACT/ORDERS.
IT MODIFIES THE CONTRACT/ORDER NO. AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM 14.**

(x)	A. This change order is issued pursuant to: (Specify authority) The changes set forth in item 14 are made in the Contract Order No. in item 10A.
	B. The above numbered Contract/Order is modified to reflect the administrative changes (such as changes in paying office, appropriation date, etc.) Set fourth item 14, pursuant to the authority of FAR 43.103 (b)
	C. This supplemental agreement is entered into pursuant to authority of:
	D. Other (Specify type of modification and authority)

E. IMPORTANT: Contractor is not, is required to sign this document and return 1 copies to the issuing office.

14. Description of Amendment/Modification (Organized by UCF section headings, including solicitation/contract subject matter where feasible.)

The purpose of this amendment is to make changes to the solicitation and provide the answers to questions received via email and during the pre-proposal conference.

- 1) SF-1449 No. 5 is changed from 200000589 to 2000005389.
- 2) The questions asked via email and during Preproposal Conference and AMS' answers to them are as follow:

Except as provided herein, all terms and conditions of the document referenced in item 9A or 10A, as heretofore changed, remains unchanged and in full force and effect.

15A. Name and Title of Signer (Type or Print)	16A. Name and title of Contracting Officer (Type or Print)		
	Hilary Cole Contracting Officer		
15B. Contractor/Offeror	15C. Date Signed	16B. United States of America	16C. Date Signed
_____ (Signature of person authorized to sign)		_____ (Signature of Contracting Officer)	

- a) Question: Are we able to use our own label? Or does it have to be a AMS USDA label for the product or case?

Answer: Vendors may utilize their own label.

- b) Question: Is there a format that you would like us to follow for the proposals?

Answer: The proposal shall be submitted via PDF format uploaded into WBSCM as attachments. The documents to be submitted include the SF-1449, Proposal Part 1 - Technical, Part 2 - Management, Part 3, Past Performance, and Part 4 Prices and Constraints. Proposal Parts 1, 2, and 3 a can be submitted per the vendors own format. Prices and constraints shall be provided using the form on EXHIBIT 2.

- c) Question: Are commercial food safety protocols and standards accepted by USDA?

Answer: Commercial food safety protocols and standards are acceptable by the USDA. Offerors should describe these protocols and Standards in their technical proposal, including wheather they have a FSIS fee-for-service inspector in place.

- d) Question: Is there an SF-30 for this Solicitation?

Answer: Yes. This is the Amendment (A01) to the Solicitation. Please follow the instructions per the Proposal Submission Checklist.

- e) Question: Are the solicitation quantities determined on demand or on what is believed the industry can handle?

Answer: The solicitation quantities are based on Food Nutrition Services recipient needs and distribution schedules.

- f) Question: When do you anticipate first deliveries?

Answer: The deliveries begin September 2018.

- g) Question: Do you expect deliveries throughout the year or will you front-load as many loads as you can?

Answer: We do not expect frontloading per the Bison distribution schedule requirements

- h) Question: Will AMS graders be required to oversee the production and or just the shipping?

Answer: For this commercial purchase, the graders only involvement is at shipment.

- i) Question: Will the finished product be purchased in 1lb packages or 2.5lb packages?

Answer: We are requesting vendors submit a description of the type of product they already have commercially-available that is within the household pack size of a 1lb. to 2lb. chub.

- j) Question: Where are the payment terms for the Solicitation?

Answer: The Bison Solicitation (“Bid Invitation” not the “Bison RFP” document) references payment in the AMS Master Solicitation dated April 2017 attachment. Also located on the Commodity Procurement webpage under Becoming an Approved Vendor.

k) Question: Are we required to have a food defense audit?

Answer: Yes, a Food Defense Audit is required for this solicitation. All audits must be completed prior to the Bids Due date of June 7, 2018.

l) Question: Are we required to submit a photo of the product packaging?

Answer: A photo is not required. However, the offeror may provide one to support their proposal.

m) Question: Please explain Section C.4 Contract Clause referencing “Funds are not available for performance under this contract beyond 09/30/2018?”

Answer: FAR 52.232-19 Availability of Funds for the Next Fiscal Year (APR 1984) (This clause is to replace the MSCP section in its entirety) basically means the Government fiscal year is October 1st through September 30th. In federal contracts in which the period of performance crosses fiscal years, this clause is standard. Funds are available at the time orders are place with vendors.

n) Question: As we determine the final pricing for the solicitation bid, is the offer awarded to the lowest bidder? If the 2 million pounds are not filled by the lowest bidder, will the next highest bidder be accepted?

Answer: See Section E.1, Basis for Award. Award will be to the proposal(s) that represents the best value to the Government. Award(s) will not necessarily go to the lowest priced proposal(s). If the capacity of the proposal that represents the best value to the Government is insufficient, AMS may award multiple contracts.