

Addendum #1
RFP 1401LJB
Lagrangian drifters

ADDENDUM: # 1

DATE ISSUED: 2014

ISSUED BY: Lori J. Brierre, RFP Administrator

RFP#: 1401LJB

Addendum #1 Issued to:

- A. Respond to Questions asked via email and questions posed at Pre-Bid Conference**
- B. Changes made to the RFP document for the purposes of clarification.**

A. Response to Questions asked via email and questions posed at Pre-Bid Conference

- Q. As an established supplier to UCSD, I am trying to determine whether it is advisable to attend the pre-bid conference for the subject RFP. Will additional information be provided or simply answers to bidder's questions?
- A.
 - Yes, questions / requests for clarifications to the RFP during the Pre proposal conference can cause changes to be made to the RFP
 - There is no advantage or disadvantage to having done business with UCSD previously.
 - The benefits to attending the .pre proposal conference include will include:
 - A discussion of the project by the Principal Investigator
 - A guide to the solicitation process and it is also
 - An opportunity to meet 5-6 panelist that will be scoring the proposals
 - An opportunity to network/partner with other businesses in the market.
 - An opportunity to partner with UCSD Small Business Development Office for immediate assistance on this project.
- Q. Will there be more than one technical evaluator for the bid responses?
- A. Yes
- Q. How do we properly reference sections in our responses?
- A. By titling and ordering responses as they are laid out in the RFP
- Q. Is the Argo System preferred in the vendor bids?
- A. Yes. Argos 3 is ranked highest.
- Q. What is "work for hire" mean?
- A. A work created by a contractor or an employee as part of his or her job, or a work created on behalf of a client where all parties agree in writing to the work for hire designation.
- Q. Can vendors use the UCSD name?
- A. No.
- Q. What metrics are being used for the evaluation?
- A. Best value, adherence to RFP request, proof of existing, tested and robust design
- Q. Are there extra points for more references?
- A. No.
- Q. What headings do we submit for our past performance information?
- A. 2.5.0
- Q. Attachment 1: What does UCSD intend the headings to be, the section is blank?
- A. The form will be updated to include headings and posted as part of an Addenda
- Q. Should the FOB point and/or shipping cost be included in the vendor bids?
- A. No. Shipping costs will be borne by NOAA but packaging material must be provided by the manufacturer as denoted in section 2.3.0
- Q. Should prepayments or milestones be included in the vendor bids?
- A. Yes. You may propose payment terms with your bid/proposal
- Q. Will the cost and technical requirements be weighed 50/50 percent in the vendor bids?
- A. No... Technical proposals will weigh more than cost
- Q. Will small business make a difference in this bid award?
- A. There is no small business set aside for this bid.

- Q. What is your formal definition of small business?
A. The definition for this engagement can be found here: SBA.GOV
- Q. Is communication with the PI regarding existing contracts okay?
A. Yes. Provided communication is limited to the existing contracts.
- Q. Who is the RFP Administrator?
A. Lori Briere lbriere@ucsd.edu (858) 534-5210
- Q. What is a RFP based on Best Value?
A. Best Value is a balance between price and performance that provides the greatest overall benefit under the specified selection criteria.
- Q. What is considered confidential information regarding vendor technical information?
A. Information that is not public knowledge, not subject to Public Records Acts, and that is viewed as the property of the holder.
- Q. Do vendors use an Excel spreadsheet for price information?
A. Yes.
- Q. What are the scoring metrics?
A. Technical and Cost
- Q. Are the vendors to only bid the Argos drifter, or can vendors bid the Iridium drifter as an alternate?
A. The University will entertain alternative proposals provided submissions are made in accordance with section 4.3.0.
- Q. Section 2.0: Will a proposal that does not specifically follow the design specification in Attachment 5 be considered as conforming?
A. Yes, to the extent that the specifications explicitly stated section 2 are satisfied
- Q. I have a question concerning the letters of reference. Did I understand these are to be submitted directly to you or should we just include copies with our proposal? If the former, can they be emailed?
A. They should be submitted with your proposal and are not included in the 15 page limit count.
- Q. Question submission due date
A. 2:00 PM P.S.T Friday 31 January 2014
- Q. Proposal due date
A. 2:00 PM P.S.T Tuesday 18 February 2014
- Q. Volume requirements and Schedule
A. To be determined during negotiation of contract. the gdp deploy 1,000 drifters annually
- Q. Target Price
A. Should be based on production needs
- Q. Delivery Schedule
A. • Prices quoted may not increase prior to 01 April 2014.
• <20 drifters lot delivered in 60days
- Q. Payment is net 30 upon receipt of invoice or as negotiated
A. TBD during negotiation of contracts
- Q. Is cost of material covered separately?
A. No
- Q. Any ITAR restrictions?
A. No
- Q. Is collaboration with other companies acceptable?
A. Diversity is encouraged
- Q. Are there required logs and/or forms that needs to be released
A. Yes. for example, including and not limited to, design details and test data, and any applicable proof that a functional product will meet requirements and it is not in the development phase
- Q. Are there any NDA/confidentially agreements required?

- A. Not from our end
- Q. Drifters appear to already been built, what is the reason there is a solicitation for bids?
A. This is a requirement of our funding agency.
- Q. Will our company be responsible for the development and maintenance of all tooling required for those components which require production tooling?
A. Yes
- Q. Has assembly/fab drawing been issued and is it available
A. No, and there is no plan to release them. companies need to propose their own solutions and a construction manual is provided for reference purposes
- Q. Do individual parts require special marking, storage, segregation, etc.?
A. Satellite transmitter id's need to be clearly marked and visible together with deployment instructions. A template of the latter will be provided by SIO
- Q. What are the environmental requirements?
A. Guidelines for materials are specified in the reference manual and can be considered viable. However, any packaging material proposed must comply with U.S. and international environmental legislations
- Q. What are reliability (burn-in sockets, etc.)
A. This is left to the judgment of the manufacturer as part of your quality assurance and production standards. Your criteria, however should be clearly stated in the proposal
- Q. What are the ESD requirements? Have we met these?
A. No electrostatic discharge requirements are enforced.
- Q. The Global Drifter consists of three (3) components --- surface float, tether, and drogue. Will our company be responsible for assembly of only the surface float or a completed unit?
A. Completed units
- Q. Will the customer supply all needed material and drop-ship to our company, or will our company be responsible for all purchasing activities?
A. The customer will not supply materials; your company will be responsible for all purchasing activities.
- Q. Has Material (BOM) been purchased to the required specifications?
A. No
- Q. Are all components available from BOM, Any substitute for lower cost? No obsolete components.
A. N/A as there is no BOM
- Q. Have hazardous material been addressed and training complete.
A. N/A as there is no BOM.
- Q. Are there material's shelf life or min/max requirements?
A. 4 TO 5 Years
- Q. Is there an Approved Vendors List for all components?
A. No
- Q. Do suppliers have to be domestic?
A. Manufacturers need to comply with us import/export laws. Drifters will be exported internationally and globally and as such need to comply with state and federal laws.
- Q. What are facility requirements? Have we met these?
A. There are no specific requirements besides complying with U.S. laws. Providing proof of appropriate facility for the tasks will be considered during scoring.
- Q. How many sq. ft. of space will be required for component and assembled unit storage
A. Open to implementation
- Q. Are there any special equipment needed for assembly
A. Open to implementation
- Q. Has all processes been characterized to the new requirements.
A. No.
- Q. Are all tooling/fixtures available?
A. No.

- Q. Does new equipment require maintenance procedures?
A. No.
- Q. Is packaging defined (Trays, boxes) and has it been ordered.
A. Palletized. Double walled container capable of domestic and international air, land, or sea transport. Container should allow easy access for inspection and testing of instrumentation and Argos (or other) telemetry system at the point of delivery.
- Q. Will our company be required to apply the anti-fouling coating to the surface float and upper tether?
A. Yes
- Q. Any of the processes needs to be done outside or by a specified supplier?
A. Open to implementation
- Q. Are process critical variables defined?
A. Please clarify the question Can you call them?
- Q. Yield requirements?
A. No more than 4% of drifters per order shall fail on deployment (a drifter is said failed of deployment if lasts less than, or does not turn on within, 24 hours).
- Q. What are the reliability requirements?
A. PLEASE REFER TO RFP FOR FULL REQUIREMENTS FROM RFP:
Drifters need to withstand impact with water from a moving vessel ship < 10 m high and a cruising speed of at least 15 knots.
Drifter power/battery life should last an average of 450 days and 90% of the drifter should be functional (i.e. with all the sensors functioning and the drogue attached) for at least 90 days. With the variation of drogue tension throughout the global oceans, the GDP expects drogues to stay attached on an average of at least 270 days, more preferred. These averages will be determined using the quantity of drifters in each Order, public data or vendor-provided data when available.
- Q. What type of inspection plan will be imposed?
A. Random checks on assembled drifters. Statistics on the performance of the drifters will be maintained, including and not limited to mean/median life, drogue duration, battery depletion, failure on deployments.
- Q. What are the audit requirements?
A. Manufacturers must be open to in person auditors from the drifter laboratory at SIO
- Q. What type of inspection equipment is needed?
A. As applicable for providing quality assurance
- Q. Has incoming inspection criteria been defined for receiving materials, die, components,...etc.
A. No.
- Q. Can discrepant parts undergo rework to correct the discrepancy?
A. It depends on the nature of the discrepancy. Not a great answer
- Q. How are defective parts handled?
A. Manufacturer shall pay shipping costs and make all shipping arrangements for any returned defective drifters.
- Q. Will customer employ on-site inspection prior to each shipment?
A. Occasionally
- Q. What are the power requirements?
A. Please refer to RFP. Drifters need to be powered with alkaline D cells.
i.e. Drifters fitted with diode protected battery packs made of alkaline cells, no more than 32 D cell elements, Powered with primary batteries, no lithium batteries.
- Q. Who is responsible for testing?
A. Manufacturer. test data must be made available to SIO and when appropriate, need to be part of specification sheet
- Q. Test requirements and software defined?
A. Manufacturers are supposed to propose test criteria in their proposals and to develop the required software
- Q. What type of test equipment is needed and will these be customer furnished?
A. Open to implementation. No equipment will be provided by SIO
- Q. Has data tracking system requirements established & implemented.
A. Please specify the data you are referring to Can we call them?
- Q. How long do data need to be stored?

- A. Indefinitely
- Q. What is the frequency of data acquisition
- A. Drifters need to report hourly value. The frequency at which sensors need to be sampled to provide a measurement within the required specs depends on the choice of the sensors and it is left open to the manufacturer
- Q. Is it acceptable to use a 40D cell battery pack rather than 32D cell? The new more accurate and reliable barometers that are being requested by the Meteorological departments require a higher voltage to operate, hence this would be preferred
- A. No. The packs need to be made of 32 or fewer D cells
- Q. The proposal itself is to be a maximum of 15 pages with only the front sheet containing the company name and information. Are the appendices allowed to reference the company? (i.e. User manual, Quality Certificate, Data Analysis, etc.)
- A. The 15 page limit pertains to the technical proposal and is exclusive of required submittal documents such as references and cost proposal.
- Q. Are the letters of reference allowed to reference our company?
- A. They should reference your company and they need to be from business partners/customers
- Q. Are the letters of reference part of the 15 pages or in the Appendix?
- A. They do not count as part of your 15 page maximum response
- Q. Do you see value in us including the user manual as an appendix with the proposal?
- A. No, however feel free to offer a link to the document if it is on the web
- Q. Is there a limitation to the number of appendices we can provide?
- A. No, but they will not be scored.
- Q. What is the format for submitting a "Notice of Intent to Respond"?
- A. Email is fine
- Q. Can the alternate proposal reference the company or should it be prepared similar to the main proposal?
- A. It should not reference the company

B. The following changes have been made to the RFP:

Change Section 2.1.1 to read: Drifters should use the ARGOS system to send data using a 60 to 90 second repetition rate, with a 100% duty cycle. The transmission power to ARGOS should be 1 watt or less. UCSD reserves the right to take advantage of the best available technology for communications (i.e. Iridium, Argos III, etc.). *Argos III is the preferred method of telemetry and location's acquisition.* A manufacturer utilizing advanced technology with demonstrated success should include technical specifications and performance statistics.

Change Section 2.5.6 to read: The drifter will self-activate shortly (<30 minutes) after contact with water, and shall be otherwise powered down during storage. The minimum required shelf life of the drifters is **four (4) to five (5) years**.

Change Section 2.2.8 to read: The tether **shall** be wrapped and taped with water soluble tape around a water-soluble cardboard tube that **shall** be left in place for deployment to prevent tangling. The drogue **shall** be wrapped with water-soluble paper tape that **shall** be left on the drogue upon deployment. Both tapings **shall** include "DO NOT REMOVE" warnings

Change Section 2.2.9 to read: The tape **shall** dissolve quickly once the drifter has been deployed, allowing for an orderly release of the drogue. To protect the water-soluble tape and warning instructions from weather and ocean elements, each unit shall be wrapped in clear plastic. Instructions for pre-testing and deployment **shall** be fastened on the outside of each individually wrapped unit.

Change Section 2.4.0 to read: Contractor shall complete a specification sheet and submit it to the Scripps Institute of Oceanography (SIO) before the SIO issues approval to ship the drifters. Specification sheets should list individual ID numbers of each buoy produced and provide calibration and message format information. **Specification sheets shall include reasonable checkout verification of the environmental and engineering data through the chosen telemetry system. Proposals shall provide samples of the specification sheet in an appendix.** Specification sheets must at a minimum contain the information as outlined below:

Change Section 2.5.0 to read: No more than 4% of drifters per order shall fail on deployment (a drifter is said failed of deployment if lasts less than, or does not turn on within, 24 hours). Drifter power/battery life should last an average of 450 days and 90% of the drifter should be functional (i.e. with all the sensors functioning and the drogue attached) for at least 90 days. With the variation of drogue tension throughout the global oceans, the GDP expects drogues to stay attached on an average of at least 270 days, more preferred. These averages will be determined using the quantity of drifters in each Order, public data or vendor-provided data when available. **Whenever applicable, proposers should provide survival statistics of their products for at least the previous 2 or 3 years specific to the implementation proposed. Metrics such as mean, median and half-life, drogue retention duration and failure on deployments will be evaluated when available.** Revised Specification sheets must be provided before each order is shipped. Specification sheets should list individual Purchase Order numbers, and ID numbers of each buoy produced and provide calibrations and message format information. A new "Specification Sheet", **including new test data**, must accompany any modification that is made if a buoy is found defective and is returned to the manufacturer for repair. Manufacturer shall pay shipping costs and make all shipping arrangements for any returned defective drifters.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA FORM
RFP# 1401LJB
Lagrangian drifters

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: 2:00 PM P.S.T Tuesday 18 February 2014

NAME OF PROPOSER: _____

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF ADDENDA

The undersigned, hereby acknowledges the receipt of the following addenda:

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Addendum No. _____ dated _____

Please sign below, acknowledging receipt of Addenda and return this document with your response to the RFP.

Signature _____
Name of Firm

Please Print Name of Person Signing Above _____
Date

All changes are incorporated into the RFP and will become part of the future contracts. Receipt of this Addendum must be acknowledged within your Proposal by signing and returning the "Acknowledgement of Receipt of Addenda"