

Note: This Sole Source Certification will become a public document, open to public inspection; therefore, you should be certain all material facts are true, relevant and clearly understandable.

## SOLE SOURCE CERTIFICATION

Under the requirement of University of Florida Rule No. 6C1-3.020(5)(e)(2), the following is submitted in support of this request for authority to purchase, without bidding, the items available from only one source.

Note: Sole Source means that the item/service is unique and that the vendor is the only one from whom the item/service can be provided. Best Price alone cannot be used for sole source. If the item/service is available from more than one source of supply, best price must be determined through the competitive bid process.

A. Sole Source Vendor Company Name: Soft Serv Intl. Inc.

Contact Person: Imran Khan

Address: 41 Eliot Hill Road, Natick, MA 01760

Telephone: 508-517-1854

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: i.khan@softserv-intl.com

B. Describe in lay language, what the item/service is and how it is to be used in your area of research. (cont. P2)

The service provides specific knowledge and unique skill aligned with and applied to a contract between the Department of Defense and our applied and classified research arm for the College (Florida Applied Research in Engineering / FLARE).

C. What feature or special condition of this commodity/service is unique and cannot be obtained from any other source? Why are these features or special conditions important to the research? (cont. P2)

A unique and proven methodology for implementing the prototype features based on specific experience with related prototype technology and FLARE-specific tailoring based on broad and deep relationships across the DOD and Intelligence Community with irreplaceable FLARE alignment (please see C. continued below).

D. Is this product being purchased directly from the manufacturer? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If No, is it available from more than one dealer? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, it is available from more than one dealer, why can this item not be bid? (cont. P2)

E. Prior to submitting this requisition, did you investigate other possible sources? ☒ Yes ☐ No


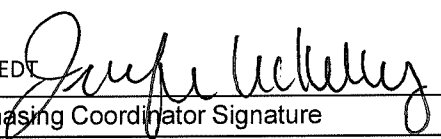

If Yes: 1) Did you obtain quotes from the other sources? ☒ Yes ☐ No If Yes, attach copies.

2) Is this Vendor's price lower than the other sources? ☐ Yes ☐ No If No, justify the additional cost below.

We looked at other consultants but determined their skill sets do not fully align with the expertise and specialized skill sets outlined in part C. This was determined after working with multiple contractors through the above mentioned vendor. Furthermore due to the specialized technology involved, prior phase involvement, and associated knowledge needed, there are no vendor or consultant options that are able to fill this role in this capacity.

F. What efforts have been made to obtain the best price possible? Why do you feel this price is fair and reasonable? (cont. P2)

I / We, the undersigned, certify the above to be true and correct to the best of my / our knowledge and belief and the user and / or undersigned does not have a financial interest in the above named vendor.

DEPARTMENT APPROVAL	PURCHASING APPROVAL
I hereby certify the validity of the information and feel confident the Sole Source Certification will meet University criteria and would withstand any audit or vendor protest.  Principal Investigator's Signature Date: 9/26/2023   10:26 AM EDT	This acquisition is approved as a non-competitive purchase.  Purchasing Coordinator Signature Date: 10-2-23
FAILURE TO FILE A PROTEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) REGULATION 18.002 OR FAILURE TO POST THE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY AS REQUIRED IN THE BOG REGULATION 18.002 AND 18.003(3) SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF PROTEST PROCEEDING.	 Purchasing Authorized Signature Date: 10-2-2023

## Sole Source Certification (Continued)

Please use the following sections to continue documentation if needed.

### B. continued

### C. continued

The contributor, Imran Khan (Principal/ President of Soft Serv Intl.) has a unique combination of skills and experience that aligns specifically with critical tasks on projects. Imran has vast experience and demonstrated skill developing the algorithm and implementation, design, and testing for this rare and unique application toward reducing risk of failure to meet the requirements. Certain task algorithm work requires multidimensional signal processing, for which his image processing Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA) experience is one of a kind in this application area. Machine Learning (ML) algorithm development, with a path to FPGA demonstration, for which his work history aligns like no one of the subject matter experts working on this task have ever come across. To further distinguish this individual's capability, he has High Performance Computer (HPC) coding experience and demonstrated expertise with the nVidia Graphics Processor Units (GPUs) that will allow direct application to target simulation technology that enables algorithm development and subsequent demonstration in FPGA-based prototype sensors. Imran fits our program requirements across multiple technology area intersections with a precise and distinguishing skill set and application correlation like no other we have heard of in the field.

### D. continued

### E. continued

### F. continued