U.S. ARMY
EDGEWOOD CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL CENTER
Public Affairs Office 410-436-3610
www.ecbc.army.mil

News Release

News Release No. 29 June 2009
For Information: Don Kennedy, 410-436-7118

RDECOM Seeks Requests for Proposals on $485M Contract Vehicle for CBRNE Defense Community

Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. — The U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command Contracting Center (RDECOM CC) issued requests for proposals Wednesday, June 24, for a $485 million contract vehicle that will streamline the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) defense development cycle.

The new contract vehicle will be used to support the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center's (ECBC) research, development, acquisition, analysis, experimentation, product engineering and integration, testing, safety, surety, security, health and environmental requirements, as well as similar needs from other customers.

"This new contract mechanism will give RDECOM, ECBC and client organizations the flexibility to acquire a very broad range of contract support from basic laboratory research through CBRNE defense systems design acquisition, engineering, development and testing," said Charles Comaty of the RDECOM CC. "It will allow larger firms to bid but it will also feature a small business set-aside that will provide opportunities for smaller firms to compete for contracts. There are actually two separate requests for proposals issued. The first is an unrestricted full and open competition, and the second is a 100 percent Small Business set-aside. These two requests for proposals will run parallel with a maximum ceiling of approximately $485 million."

The new vehicle is designed to replace two existing contract vehicles and has the potential to replace others in the CBRNE community.

"Right now there is an artificial break in the development cycle of CBRNE defense technologies that occurs when they transition from the research portion of the development cycle to the engineering portion. That break occurs because there are two sets on contracts," Comaty said. "As a technology transitions from the research to engineering, new contracts must be initiated in order for the work to proceed. This new vehicle will allow for a seamless, cradle-to-grave acquisition process in which most, if not all the work on any given project may be covered under a single contract."

"We see this contract vehicle as potentially helping to unite the CBRNE community at APG, since it will have a broad application for our CBRNE customers," added ECBC Technical Director Rick Decker.

The request for proposals can be found online at:
- https://www.fbo.gov/spg/USA/USAMC/DAAD13/W911SR-09-R-0023/listing.html

- https:/www.fbo.gov/spg/USA/USAMC/DAAD13/W911SR09R0031/listing.html.

ECBC is the Army's principal research and development center for chemical and biological defense technology, engineering and field operations. ECBC has achieved major technological advances for the warfighter and for our national defense, with a long and distinguished history of providing the Armed Forces with quality systems and outstanding customer service. ECBC is a US Army Research, Development and Engineering Command laboratory located at the Edgewood Area of Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. For more information about the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, please visit our Web site at http://www.ecbc.army.mil or call (410) 436-7118.

 # 30 #

# #