

# Question and Answers for IARPA-BAA-15-09

9 July 2015

## **1. Question: Are foreign corporations permitted to submit proposals?**

**Answer Q1:** Yes. Per the SCITE BAA, Section 3.A., “Foreign participants and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any necessary Non-Disclosure Agreements, Security Regulations, Export Control Laws and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances.”

## **2. Question: How will the Challenge Problems be presented to the performers? Is there a specified format in which the data will be provided and will it be consistent across all Challenge Problems?**

**Answer Q2:** Proposers should assume that the challenge problems in Phase I will be provided in a narrative format, with statistical information interspersed throughout and in tables. The format for describing challenge problems will evolve as larger and more complex challenge problems are developed in Phases II and III.

## **3. Question: May a single organization submit two separate proposals; one for Thrust 1 and one for Thrust 2?**

**Answer Q3:** Yes. A single organization may submit two separate proposals, one for each Thrust. Alternatively, a proposer may submit a single proposal that provides an integrated response to both Thrust 1 and Thrust 2.

## **4. Question: What are the page limits if an organization submits separate proposals for Thrust 1 and for Thrust 2.**

**Answer Q4:** As prescribed in the BAA section 4.B.1, if an organization submits separate proposals for Thrust 1 and Thrust 2, then each proposal shall not exceed the 30 page limit for Volume 1, Technical and Management Proposal. If a proposer submits an integrated proposal that includes both Thrusts, then the page limit for Volume 1, Technical and Management Proposal is 45 pages.

## **5. Question: If a proposer submits an integrated proposal that includes both Thrust 1 and Thrust 2, will that proposal be evaluated as a single proposal or will each thrust be evaluated separately.**

**Answer Q5:** Integrated proposals will undergo two evaluations, one for each thrust.

## **6. Question: If an organization submits separate proposals for each thrust, how should those proposals be submitted to the IDEAS system?**

**Answer Q6:** Proposals that address Thrust 1 only should be submitted under Thrust 1 in IDEAS. Proposals that address Thrust 2 only should be submitted under Thrust 2 in IDEAS. Proposals that provide an integrated response to both Thrust 1 and Thrust 2 should be submitted under Thrust 3 in IDEAS.

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**7. Question: Is a single organization permitted to be a part of multiple proposals and teams.**

**Answer Q7:** Yes. A single organization can be a part of multiple teams and be a subcontractor on multiple different proposals.

**8. Question: Will the redacted challenge problems include information describing the correlation between sensors?**

**Answer Q8:** In some cases statistical correlational data will be available and will be provided. In other cases subjective judgments will be provided. Yet in other cases no inter sensor correlation information will be provided. This variation may even occur within a single redacted challenge problem. As prescribed in the BAA, for each redacted challenge problem an Inference Enterprise Model must produce a forecast certainty range for each forecast question. The width of the certainty ranges should reflect the quality and completeness of the information provided in each redacted challenge problem.

**9. Question: Are hardware-based solutions to detecting indicative responses within scope of the active indicators research, such as employing sensors to detect neuromotor reactions that may be indicative of deceptive responses to questions?**

**Answer Q9:** Yes. The indicative response may involve behavioral changes that can be detected with hardware sensors.

**10. Question: May detectors of indicative responses use patented technology?**

**Answer Q10:** Yes. Section 6.B.3.c in the BAA provides instructions on how patented technology should be addressed in a proposal.

**11. Question: Could you provide some guidance on the type of testing scenarios that would be favorably viewed by you and your review panel?**

**Answer Q11:** Proposed technical approaches will be evaluated against the objectives and criteria described in the BAA.

**12. Question: To aid in team-forming can IARPA post a copy of the Proposers' Day list of attendees?**

**Answer Q12:** No additional information about Proposers' Day will be released or posted. Note however that on the SCITE Program website (<http://www.iarpa.gov/index.php/research-programs/scite/scite-baa>) there is posted a number of presentations from organizations interested in teaming.