



2022-116

**Visual Techniques, Inc
Supplier Response**

Event Information

Number: 2022-116
Title: Safety Equipment, Supplies and Services
Type: Request for Proposal
Issue Date: 6/6/2023
Deadline: 7/11/2023 02:00 PM (CT)
Notes: Education Service Center (ESC) Region 13 is seeking proposals to establish a pre-qualified list of reliable, high-performance vendors to supply safety equipment, supplies, and related services to ESC Region 13 Purchasing Cooperative Members that include public agencies and certain non-profit organizations in the United States.

ESC Region 13 Will only accept proposals through the system. Submissions of Qualifications that are submitted without meeting all requirements stated in the solicitation may be rejected.

Contact Information

Contact: Jennifer Irrobali
Address: 5701 Springdale Road
Austin, TX 78723
Email: jennifer.irrobali@esc13.txed.net

Visual Techniques, Inc Information

Contact: Bill Lewis
Address: 2200 Jahan Trl
Longview, TX 75604
Phone: (903) 297-4642
Email: bill@vtitx.com
Web Address: www.vtitx.com

By submitting your response, you certify that you are authorized to represent and bind your company.

Crystal Just

Signature

Submitted at 7/11/2023 01:48:33 PM (CT)

crystal@vtitx.com

Email

Supplier Note

Thank you for the opportunity!

Requested Attachments

Region 13 Vendor Packet

ESC Region 13 Vendor Packet 22-23_Final_vs1 VTI.pdf

Reference List

Vendor_References.pdf

Certificate of Notice of Eligibility

Certificate_of_Notice_of_Eligibility_Final.pdf

W-9 Form

W9-Form-2022-Fillable VTI.pdf

Pricing Detail

VTI Safety and Security Price List - Sheet1 (1).pdf

Resumes

JW_Bill Lewis resume new (2)(2).pdf

Response Attachments

Form 1295 Certificate 101074414.pdf

Visual Techniques, Inc Form 1295 Certificate

VTI Voided Check (1).pdf

Visual Techniques, Inc Voided Check

Bid Attributes

1 Introduction

This solicitation is considered a "Multiple Award" with the intent to establish a list of qualified awarded vendors to provide a variety of services including but not limited to, the following:

- Silent Panic Alert Technology
- Video Analysis
- Perimeter Security Fencing
- Bullet proof glass
- Shatter and Abrasion resistant safety film
- Security Systems

- Metal Detectors at School Entrances
- Active Shooter Alarm Systems
- Two-way Radio Systems
- Door-locking Systems
- Camera Systems
- Security Technology using Artificial Intelligence
- Drones
- License Plate Reader (LPR)
- Perimeter Security Systems
- Gunshot Detection Systems
- other equipment or services rationally related to safety needs of public and open enrollment charter schools.

This type of solicitation and award is part of the ESC Region 13 Cooperative and provides ESC Region 13 Cooperative Members an opportunity to identify and purchase items or services that best fit their needs through various awarded vendors while meeting the state's competitive bidding requirements.

Each qualified approved vendor will be placed on the Region 13 School Safety Equipment, Supplies & Services Cooperative list located on the ESC Region 13 website. Vendors included in the pre-qualified list understand being included in a vendor pre-approved vetted list does not guarantee work.

As a part of the Region 13 School Safety Equipment Cooperative, the vendor agrees to a 2% or higher administrative fee of all goods and services.

ESC History

Texas Education Service Centers (ESCs) are intermediate educational units that provide training, technical assistance, administrative support and an array of other services as determined by the state legislature, the Commissioner of Education, and the needs of local school districts and charter schools. The current goals of ESCs as defined in the state statute are to assist school districts and charter schools in:

- Improving student performance
- Operating efficiently and economically
- Implementing state and federal initiatives
- Providing quality educational products at a reasonable cost (<https://store.esc13.net/>)

ESC Region 13 claims an exemption from payment of sales and use taxes for the purchase of taxable items. ESC Region 13 provides services and tools to the assigned regional area which encompasses 57 school districts, 24 charter schools, 8 institutions of higher education, and 17 private schools in a sixteen-county area of central Texas. Additionally, ESC Region 13 also provides services and tools nationwide.

Calendar of Events

Listed below are the calendar of events associated with this Solicitation.

- **Issued:** Listed on Bid Information section
- **FAQs Due:** Listed on Bid Information section
- **Submission Deadline:** Listed on Bid Information section
- **Notification of Selections:** 30 days after deadline
- **Anticipated Contract begin date:** Listed on Bid Information section

ESC Region 13 may seek board approval for selection of vendors which may alter timeline.

2 Scope of Work

Proposals should include all listings of safety equipment, supplies, and related services, description of services, and any other related services. **DO NOT INCLUDE ITEMS THAT ARE NOT CONSIDERED** safety equipment, supplies, and related services. Unit pricing for installation (including hourly rates), repair, or maintenance should be included in submittals. Additionally, accessories to support the safety equipment, supplies, and related services should be submitted.

Proposers may elect to limit their proposals to a single service within any category, or multiple services within any or all categories. Region 13 ESC is seeking service providers that have the depth, breadth and quality of resources necessary to complete various aspects of this contract.

Respondent shall perform and provide these products and/or services under the terms of this agreement. The supplier shall assist the end user with making a determination of their individual needs.

Proposers may serve a local area only or a broader geographic area at their discretion and should indicate their limitations for a service area.

Proposers may submit all items and goods related to supplying safety equipment, software, supplies, and related services that they offer. The proposer should submit all applicable services for all types of safety equipment, software, and supplies.

3 Payment and Pricing Terms

Respondent must provide a summary of the pricing proposed. The information is to allow for the ESC Region 13 to determine within reasonable accuracy the overall costs associated with the offerings. This summary should include ALL catalog/websites, District discounts, quantity breaks, fees, etc. Note that pricing is to be considered "not to exceed". If awarded, the respondent may be required to provide specific pricing via quote for a particular scope of work/project. Pricing shall remain constant throughout the term of the contract unless the Contractor has emailed the ESC Region 13 Procurement Department to request and has received written approval.

Unit pricing for installation (including hourly rates), repair, or maintenance should be included in submittals.

Respondent may provide pricing based on a discount from a manufacturer's price list or catalog, or fixed price, or a combination of both with defined and indefinite quantities. An Electronic Catalog, links to same, and/or availability to access the list prices should accompany the proposal if a discount off catalog is proposed. A multiple percentage discount structure is acceptable and must be specified where different percentage discounts apply. Additional pricing and/or discounts may be included. Each service proposed is to be priced separately with all eligible items identified. Region 13 ESC may award to multiple vendors.

This information will be provided as an attachment requirement outlined in **Section 5 "Response Submission Requirements"**. The respondent should be aware that, if awarded, they may have competition and the best offer presented may receive the order without discussion.

4 Terms & Conditions

Multiple Award

A Multiple Award solicitation will be made to multiple vendors during the solicitation offering period. There will not be hierarchy or tier level to the awards. The ESC Region 13's end users will be the sole determinant as to which awarded vendor to contract and ESC Region 13 reserves the right and encourages the end users to request quotes from more than one vendor.

There is no obligation upon or guarantee ESC Region 13 to use any particular awarded vendor during the term of the contract. ESC Region 13 reserves the right to select the awarded vendor that best meets the needs of the organization.

As a part of the Region 13 School Safety Equipment Cooperative, the vendor agrees to a 2% or higher administrative fee of all goods and services.

Questions and Concerns

Questions concerning the content of the solicitation should be submitted through the IONWAVE system on or before the target dates outlined in the Bid Information section. Questions concerning the proposal process should be emailed to purchasing@esc13.txed.net, addressed to the point of contact for the solicitation.

Contact with ESC Region 13 Employees

Contact with ESC Region 13 employees outside of the ESC Region 13 Procurement department regarding this solicitation is prohibited during the solicitation process unless directed by the ESC Region 13 representative listed on the solicitation. Respondents who fail to adhere to this requirement risk having their responses disqualified.

Public Information Requests

ESC Region 13 is required to provide documentation as requested through the Texas Public Information Act as found in the Texas Government Code 552. Requests for information regarding this solicitation must go through the ESC Region 13 PIR request. The ESC Region 13 Procurement Department will not be able to provide information directly.

Use of Federal Funds

This solicitation is issued utilizing the guidelines presented in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), 2 CFR 200. As such, the awarded contracts can be used by the departments with federal funds. Some federal programs will require quotes as normal procedure. This allowance is based on the awarded vendor remaining active in SAM.gov and not being suspended or debarred by the federal government.

Changes to the Solicitation

- The Procurement department is the only office at ESC Region 13 that may authorize changes in this document, negotiate price, or incur additional charges related this document.

Exclusive Rights

- ESC Region 13 reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals, waive all minor formalities, and to choose the proposals that best serves the interest of the ESC. It is not the policy of the ESC to purchase on the basis of low price alone.
- ESC Region 13 reserves the right to add, delete, and/or modify products covered under this contract at any time for any purpose throughout the term of this contract. Pricing on the added or modified products will be negotiated with the company on an individual basis but should be consistent with the pricing on similar products.

Award of Contract

A response to this solicitation is an offer to contract with ESC Region 13 based on the terms and conditions contained in the solicitation and the Vendor's proposal. Responses do not become contracts unless and until they are accepted through an authorized issuance of a Contract from ESC Region 13. The Contract will be null and void if sold or assigned to another Vendor(s) without written approval of ESC Region 13.

Vendor Contact Information Changes

Written notification of changes to company name, address, telephone number, etc. shall be provided to ESC Region 13 no later than thirty (30) days from the date of change.

Termination

ESC Region 13 may, at its option and discretion, terminate the approval of a Vendor(s) for serious violation of the Terms and Conditions of this solicitation or failure to perform, by giving a written notice to the Vendor(s) at least ten (10) days prior to the effective date of termination as set forth in the notice.

Public Disclosure

No public disclosures or news releases concerning this solicitation or the subsequent Contract between ESC Region 13 and Vendor shall be made without written approval of ESC Region 13.

Contract Terms

The terms and conditions of this solicitation and the subsequent contract for goods or services are for the period beginning on September 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2024. Upon successful completion of the requirements of this solicitation, including but not limited to, contract requirements and project quality, this contract may be renewed on an annual basis, for up to an additional three (3) years.

I have read and agree to General Conditions

5 Response Submission Requirements

Proposal Submission Requirements

To be considered for this award, vendors have one option of submission and that is through IONWAVE. Responses and any quotes in the response must be firm from the opening date until acceptance by ESC Region 13. Responses that are submitted without meeting all requirements in this solicitation may be rejected.

The proposer is responsible with ensuring all required information and submittals are included with the proposal response prior to the closing of the solicitation. Minor technicalities such as documents that are not pertinent for an award may be waived only by the ESC Region 13 Purchasing Department.

Proposal Narrative Questions

Vendor must follow the instructions and respond carefully and accurately to all questions within the system.

Required Submission Documents

The following documents are required to be considered for this solicitation.

Region 13 Vendor Packet

The Region 13 Vendor Packet must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section, completed all required sections, signed, and uploaded to the "Response Attachments" section.

W9 Form

The W9 Form must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section, completed all required sections, signed, and uploaded to the "Response Attachments" section.

Certificate of Notice of Eligibility

Each vendor submitting a response to this solicitation must complete and attach the Certificate of Notice of Eligibility.

Resumes

Submit resumes for the relevant staff members of the organization and any additional staff that will be directly supporting this Solicitation. The résumé(s) included in the solicitation response must:

- Be limited to two (2) pages.
- Contain no more than 10 most recent years of full-time employment history, education, training, and other relevant appointments and activities.
- Provide a brief narrative of the engagements with these references, highlighting the areas in which the scope of those services intersects with the scope of services outlined in this solicitation.

Pricing Detail

Submit pricing details aligned with the scope of work. See Section 3 "Payment and Pricing Terms" for more information.

References

It is important that the ESC Region 13 work only with proposers that will service the needs and best interest of the ESC Region 13 to the best of their abilities. To ensure this, all proposers are required to provide a minimum of three (3) references of clients that have done business with the proposer's company in the last two (2) years. The references should be familiar with the proposer's work, billing, and post-completion support of the product or services provided. The ESC Region 13 reserves the right to ask for additional clients or reject any that are not appropriate to provide information or feedback in the reference process. The information provided in the references is to be complete and up to date to be considered.

Additional Documentation

As necessary, a respondent can provide additional documentation to support their response. ESC Region 13 does not guarantee that these documents will be reviewed or provided to the evaluation team. The proposer is warned against providing too much documentation that could be considered exorbitant and not relevant to the process as this may distract from the information needed by the ESC Region 13 to make a clear judgement of the system. This is to be done under the *Response Attachment* tab.

6 Evaluation Criteria

ESC Region 13 will award a contract to the vendor deemed to provide the BEST VALUE for the goods and services being purchased. ESC Region 13 does not award contracts solely on the basis of low price. ESC Region 13 considers the following guidelines per Texas Education Code Chapter 44.031:

- Purchase Price
 - Detailed line-item budget outlining costs to acquire vendor's goods or services
- Reputation of the vendor and of the vendor's goods or services
- **Quality of the vendor's goods or services**
- Extent to which the goods or services meet the needs of the proposal
- Vendor's past relationship with Education Service Center, school districts, charter schools or other organizations
- Compliance with applicable laws pertaining to historically underutilized businesses
- Details outlined in provided proposal rubric

The evaluation process for this solicitation will be reviewed by the appropriate staff to ensure awards are made in accordance with the requirements of the solicitation.

Potential for Oral Presentations

Upon completion of the evaluation process, selected vendors **may** be asked to present in an interview format. The presentation/interview may consist of the following:

- Information about your organization and its capacity to meet the requirements
- Description/presentation of comparable work projects
- Description of experiences supporting school districts and/or campuses
- **Information about the organization's structure and leadership, specifically team members who will work on this project.**

*For solicitations resulting in ESC Region 13 choosing a single vendor, vendors will be invited to an interview (in person or phone conference) in the event scoring results in a tie or the top vendors have a 1 point or less score differential.

7 PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

Complete the following questions.

8 Conflict of Interest Questionnaire

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

Does this vendor have conflict of interest with ESC Region 13?

9 Conflict of Interest pt. 2

If you indicated, above, there is a conflict of interest with ESC Region 13, please provide detailed explanation.

If there is no conflict, please enter N/A.

N/A

10 Equal Procurement Opportunities

We are committed to increasing small business enterprise participation in ESC Region 13 contracts. A small business is defined as a for-profit small business that has been certified as small or disadvantaged by either a State Certification Office, or by any city, county, or regional government agency. Although this solicitation does not have a specific contract goal attached, the Provider's ability to include small business participation as subcontractors, suppliers, or vendors will be considered during the evaluation of proposals.

No

11 Equal Procurement Opportunity Response

If you selected "Yes" in Part 1, provide a response to each of the following. If selected "No", enter NA in the required field.

- Is the Provider certified as a small business?
- Provide a narrative description of the Provider's experience in promoting small business participation as partners, subcontractors, or suppliers on previous projects.
- Provide a list of firms certified small business with which the Provider's firm has had a contractual relationship during the last 12 months. Include the name of the small business, type of work they performed and the dollar value of their contract. (can be included as an attachment)
- Considering the scope of work of this RFP, past small business achievements on similar types of projects and the Provider's current relationships with the small business community, clearly state what small business goal as a percentage of the contract dollars the Provider believes it can realistically achieve on this contract based on the proposed work.

N/A

12 Executive Summary

Provide an overview of proposal components included as part of the vendor's submission. Include the history and leadership of the vendor's organization.

Our Values. Our Principals. Our Ethics. Our drive to provide our customers with the best service possible. Our passion for education and respect for educators. Our expertise and knowledge of school settings, lesson delivery, technology, and how it all works together. This is what sets VTI apart in the Technology and Audio Visual educational marketplace. Whether schools are needing a replacement bulb for a projector or a fully automated and programmed control system, we understand the urgency and importance in all solutions we provide. VTI will be there every step of the way. From consulting on initial designs to training and service after installation, we want to be the knowledge base you rely on for making decisions best for your educational setting. Our team consisting of former educators, instructional technologists, principals and educational leaders, technology experts, designers, technicians, and programmers all work to support the current needs in education. VTI offers a wide range of products including safety and security systems, access control, environmental sensors, panic alerts, camera systems, projectors, screens, sound systems, webcams, AV carts, laminators and laminating film, Interactive Flat Panels, temperature scanners, control systems, document cameras, and much more. Our consultations help in designing solutions that align with district goals and school needs. Ensuring those needs are met after the deployment is of utmost importance which is why we offer training for all products we provide. Bill Lewis will be your primary point of contact for this contract. Bill has 30 years in public education and recently retired as the Associate Superintendent / Chief Operations Officer for Seguin ISD. During his time in Seguin ISD, he also served as Interim Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent of Technology and Curriculum Support as well as the Executive Director of Information Systems and Instructional Technology. Bill's experience ranges from supporting teachers to leading the new high school construction project. As your point of contact for this contract, you will have someone who has the expertise to ensure your project is successful. Technology changes. It always will. But what doesn't change is our commitment to our values upon which VTI was built.

1 3	Select the School Safety Equipment, Supplies, and/or Service <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Silent Panic Alert Technology <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Video Analysis <input type="checkbox"/> Perimeter Security Fencing <input type="checkbox"/> Bullet proof glass <input type="checkbox"/> Shatter and Abrasion resistant safety film <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Security Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Detectors at School Entrances <input type="checkbox"/> Active Shooter Alarm Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Two-way Radio Systems <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Door-locking Systems <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Camera Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Security Technology using Artificial Intelligence <input type="checkbox"/> Drones <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> License Plate Reader (LPR) <input type="checkbox"/> Perimeter Security Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Gunshot Detection Systems <input type="checkbox"/> Other
----------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 4	Other School Safety Equipment, Supplies, and/or Service If "Other" was selected above, indicate what additional School Safety Equipment, Supplies, and/or Services your organization can provide. <input type="text" value="No response"/>
----------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 5	Location of Services Select the area(s) below that your organization is available to provide services and products. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within Region 13 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Within Texas <input type="checkbox"/> Nationally
----------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 6	Contact Name Enter your company's contact person's name that will be listed on the ESC Region 13 Cooperative Website. <input type="text" value="Bill Lewis"/>
----------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 7	Contact Person's Phone Number <input type="text" value="(512) 970-1480"/>
----------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1 8	Contact Person's Email Address <input type="text" value="bill@vtitx.com"/>
----------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

1
9

Efficiency with ordering products

Describe how your organization will ensure the efficiency with product ordering.

Bill Lewis can provide consulting via phone, email or with onsite walk throughs to ensure the proper products are ordered to meet the needs of the building, staff, and students as well as be compliant with laws. Through this consulting, a scope of work along with a bill of materials will be generated with a full quote provided. Once the quote is approved it can be emailed to either bill@vtitx.com or orders@vtitx.com to be processed. Updates will be provided on equipment ship dates along with installation scheduled dates on a regular basis. Bill will work alongside VTI's Project Manager, Cory Threadgill, to ensure a successful installation project is completed.

2
0

Availability of Supplies

Indicate how your organization will ensure the availability of supplies in demand.

While we have no control of potential supply chain issues, we are in constant communication with our manufacturers to know current inventory as well as forecasted inventory. Knowing this information helps us to better serve our customers. This allows us to notify our manufactures of potential orders and their timelines so that product can be set aside to meet deadlines. Being VTI also does the design work on our systems, we are able to offer adjustments in our designs to allow for alternative products in the event there is an unforeseeable supply chain issue.

2
1

Reputation with School Districts & Charter Schools

Describe your organizations reputation of the vendor with school districts and charter schools or other organizations.

Since 1981 we have been serving Texas schools. Our success started with providing the best customer service and we still believe in that today. Our motto is "Technology Changes, Our Values Do Not" and we stand by that. We believe our reputation with schools is favorable, as districts who have used us for years have continued to trust our expertise to help them find various technology related solutions year after year.