



U N I V E R S I T Y O F
SOUTH CAROLINA

AMENDMENT NO.1 TO SOLICITATION

TO: ALL VENDORS
FROM: Kevin Sanders, Procurement Manager
SUBJECT: SOLICITATION NUMBER: USC-IFB 3170-KS
Public Address (PA) and music for various athletic events

DATE: July 21st, 2017

This Amendment No.1 modifies the Request for quote only in the manner and to the extent as stated herein.

Deadline for submitting solicitation responses is extended to July 31st, 2017 at 2:30pm

Site Visit is scheduled for:

Thursday July 27th, 2017 at 2:00PM
1304 Heyward Street Columbia SC 29208

Vendor questions and USC answers

BIDDER SHALL ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF AMENDMENT NO.1 IN THE SPACE PROVIDED BELOW AND RETURN IT WITH THEIR BID RESPONSE. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY SUBJECT BID TO REJECTION.

Authorized Signature

Name of Offeror

Date

We need specifications (or at least some sense) of how loud they will need to go, what frequency range (basically music or speech only) and are there other noise sources that will mask the sound from our system. Can I talk with someone that is familiar with what is needed for these systems. We have a wide range of systems available to us.

All events will have speaking and music. Frequency levels are unavailable

Please provide a drawing or layout of the different areas that we will be providing sound for.

Site visit will be made available

Please provide a list of existing equipment for any venue that has an existing system.

Site visit will answer

Please provide a list of the expected length of each event or game. You provided estimates of how early you expect staff to be on site for setup but you didn't include estimates of how long the games or events will take to conclude.

Rough estimations of competition time:

Football-3.5-4 hours

Soccer- 2 hours

Baseball-3 hours

Softball-2.5 hours

Equestrian-4-5 hours

Cross country- 1.5 hours

Track- 8-10 hours

Volleyball-1.5-2 hours

Swimming-3-4 hours

Will you provide a specific contact person at each event and if so will this be the same person each week?

One event manager will coordinate details per sport

Will there be other wireless equipment in use at the games or events that will interfere with our wireless equipment?

Depends on event

Do you need a price for additional cost for time over what we estimate or do you expect us to guess how long the events will take and give a price based on that guess?

Competition estimates should help in accurate pricing

Who had this contract last year, how much was the contract amount last year and how many events were staffed last year?

General Lee Productions had contract last year. Athletics would normally pay out between \$110,000-125,000 annually for sound services. 165-175 events will be scheduled per year normally. It varies based on whether or not teams make postseason, host SEC champions, etc.

Can we use your existing equipment or will we be required to supply everything that is needed to fulfill the requirements

Can use equipment where equipment exists. Can look at equipment during site visit

Will the successful bidder be paid based on the number of events or are you planning to pay the same amount even if there is an additional event or if one cancels?

Company will be paid based on the number of events worked

We need to make a site visit for each of the locations where we would look at each venue and evaluate what is needed. When can we schedule this?

Site Visit will be scheduled

What is to be included in to "maintain" all athletic sound systems? Is this requirement for periodic maintenance such as filter cleaning or does this include any possible repairs of the systems that may be needed?

Maintenance will be billed separately from events. Company will be expected to do preseason checks of systems and recommend maintenance.

Most at issue is the maintenance of the EAW KF900 series loudspeaker system at Williams-Brice Stadium. This installation cost nearly \$500,000 in 2008 when it was installed and now beginning its 9th season, some repairs are to be expected. Additionally, the ferrofluid in the compression drivers of this system should be replaced every few years in accordance with manufacturer recommendations. Are these items to be included in this bid?

Yes, items that can be anticipated to be needing maintenance

If any items beyond basic periodic maintenance are to be included, should these costs be split up over a 3-year contract and included in the per-game price for each event?

Yes

What qualifies as a “sound system” for each line item? Like most purchases, higher costs generally correlate with higher quality equipment and a “sound system” is a very vague specification. Even non-qualitative descriptions such as “professional” or “adequate” are open to a very wide range of interpretation. The side-line sound systems utilized successfully and acceptably for Williams-Brice in recent years have included dozens of arrayable and stackable speaker modules (with selectable angles between boxes). Each of these speaker modules has a long-term, broadband SPL audio output of 135db. In addition, other similar-output, point-source speakers were utilized for specific areas. Should we assume this level of sound system will be required to meet the specifications for the different Stadium systems in this proposal or can you clarify what would be acceptable?

Crowd dependent. FB sound system would not be used @ Equestrian. Company will learn more about the needs at each venue during site visit.

This specification has a staff number range needed instead of an exact number of technicians. Who determines whether the actual number provided is the minimum or maximum of this range (or in between)? Is this at the discretion of the contractor as long as they can accomplish what is needed?

Company in coordination with the event manager will determine the number of technicians needed in order to complete events.

Or will the university reserve the right to demand the maximum number of people in the range as the university deems necessary?

The event manager will work with the company to determine the number of staff needed to execute the events

Similar to the “sound system” from the above questions, there are drastically varied qualities and performance ranges for wireless microphone systems and one company’s definition of professional may be drastically different than that of another potential vendor. Currently the wireless microphone systems owned by the University and utilized for the Williams-Brice site are Shure UHF-R models that have external directional antennas. This Shure model would be similar to a Sennheiser 2000 Series or a Lectrosonic UCR400 Series. Should we assume this level of wireless system will be required to meet the specifications for the different wireless systems in this proposal or can you clarify what would be acceptable?

The appropriate equipment needed to run a first class event.

Spring Game is mentioned for staffing in the proposal, but is not included on the list of items to be priced at the end of the specifications (just 7 football games are notated). Should the Spring Game be included in this pricing?

Yes

For Track the specification is for 1-4 wireless microphone systems. Who will specify how many will be needed for each event and when will that information be available?

Event operations will notify the vendor 4-6 weeks in advance.

What changes about the different Track events that may cause variations the number of wireless microphones needed?

Depends on size of meet. SEC Championships require more equipment than smaller meets.

How does weather affect the billing of these services (I am sure that several of these situations will come up during the course of a season)? If a sporting event is interrupted by weather after the contractor-provided staff arrives does this event then count as one of the expected billable events on the calendar?

Yes If a game is delayed for a significant period of time due to weather are there any provisions for additional hours to be billed?

Yes

If perhaps, a baseball game is cancelled and never rescheduled, is this part of the 33-game package and it is still billable to the university?

No

Alternatively, if a baseball game is started on one day and concludes on a second day due to weather delays is that still billable as just one game or is it now billable as two separate games?

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Would games outside of the regular schedule be contracted and billed separately? (high school championship weekends, baseball regionals, etc).

Billed separately.

Is there any requirement or expectation for the contractor to provide these services and if so, would those be at the same rates?

Same rates.

Are there any provisions for reserved parking spots to be provided by the University to the contractor for any of these venues?

Yes depending on availability at venues.