

Cartographic Services Contract

General Information

The U.S. Geological Survey's (USGS) Cartographic Services Contract (CSC) is used to award work for photogrammetric and mapping services under the umbrella of Architect-Engineer (A&E) contracting. The A&E contract is broad in scope and can accommodate any activity related to standard, nonstandard, graphic, and digital cartographic products. Services provided may include, but are not limited to, photogrammetric mapping and aerotriangulation; orthophotography; thematic mapping (for example, land characterization); analog and digital imagery applications; geographic information systems development; surveying and control acquisition, including ground-based and airborne Global Positioning System; analog and digital image manipulation, analysis, and interpretation; raster and vector map digitizing; data manipulations (for example, transformations, conversions, generalization, integration, and conflation); primary and ancillary data acquisition (for example, aerial photography, satellite imagery, multispectral data, multitemporal, and hyperspectral data); image scanning and processing; metadata production, revision, and creation; and production or revision of standard USGS products defined by formal and informal specification and standards such as those for digital line graphs, digital elevation models, digital orthophoto quadrangles, and digital raster graphics.

The contract is qualifications based and task orders are negotiated directly with selected firms to provide contract services. Although it was developed to meet the needs of the National Mapping Discipline (NMD), the CSC can accommodate the mapping and

photogrammetric requirements of all Bureau Disciplines and is available to any Federal, State, or local agency. Local NMD personnel are available to help agencies write standards, specifications, and task orders, conduct negotiations, perform quality assurance, and validate the contractor-produced data.

Administrative oversight of the CSC is with the Mid-Continent Mapping Center (MCMC) in Rolla, Mo. The Contracting Officer's Representative and immediate staff are located at the MCMC. Technical points of contact are also at each of the Mapping Discipline's other cost centers, located in Denver, Colo., Sioux Falls, S. Dak., Menlo Park, Calif., and Reston, Va.

Benefits of CSC

The CSC gives customers quick access—one-stop shopping—to the professional services they require. CSC contractors are selected through a competitive process adjudicated by the Mapping Discipline and are well known to the NMD's Contracts Team. The CSC contractors are likewise familiar with USGS standard products. Most have received product-specific training and maintain technical liaisons with the NMD.

Customers for nonstandard products or those requiring singular applications of geospatial data have ready access to the same pool of certified firms. Because of the Contract Team's familiarity with each contractor and the NMD's range of technical expertise within the geographic discipline, customers can depend on the NMD to perform the detailed requirements analysis needed to describe the product accurately and identify the best firm to handle unique requests.

Quality assurance also can be performed by the NMD, ensuring even greater confidence in the final product.

Summary listing of CSC advantages

- Government experts provide technical analysis of customer requests, thereby ensuring the right product.
- Immediate connections to A&E quality-based contractors eliminate the search for and uncertainties of selecting firms capable of meeting requirements (note: CSC comprises 7 prime contractors and 50-plus subcontractors).
- Experienced Government negotiators work with familiar contractors to ensure the appropriate match of contractor to customer and competitive pricing.
- Government cost estimates are based on in-house and known industry capabilities, allowing us to negotiate price and delivery schedules from a position of strength.
- Contractors are USGS trained.
- The NMD performs technology assessments when industry capabilities are uncertain.
- USGS source material is available (that is, geodetic control and map manuscripts).
- Objective quality assurance is provided.
- The CSC provides established product standards and expertise in geospatial data standards.
- The NMD develops methods and procedures for special products.
- The NMD provides expertise in geographic science, data application, and production processes and trains contractors when necessary.

The combination of A&E contractors and an experienced Government contracting staff with access to broad-ranging subject

matter experts is the best assurance of obtaining the desired product or service expeditiously at the best possible price.

Contract Costs

Contract costs are negotiated with appropriate contractor(s). This is not a bidding arrangement. A&E contractors cannot be solicited for cost estimates and cannot be asked to tender bids, though contractors do submit cost proposals following their analysis of the official task order. The USGS NMD has established and will maintain resident expertise to ensure that fair market value can be determined—we will perform an independent Government cost estimate for each task and negotiate with the contractors toward that amount.

Services provided by the USGS in support of the work being performed under contract, such as quality assurance and requirements analysis, are separate costs added if the customer requires these services.

Accessing the contract - Points of Contact

Initial contact is through the Contracting Officer's Representative or a CSC technical point of contact. Customers also can gain information on the CSC by contacting an NMD Coordination and Requirements representative. Names and contact information follow.

Contracting Officer's Representative

Phil Havens, Mid-Continent Mapping Center (MCMC), Rolla, MO, 573-308-3757

Technical points of contact

Dale Russell, Western Mapping Center (WMC), Menlo Park, CA, 650-329-5058

Doug Binnie, EROS Data Center (EDC), Sioux Falls, SD, 605-594-6160

Matt Mladinich, Rocky Mountain Mapping Center (RMMC), Denver, CO, 303-202-4452

Mike Lee, Mapping Applications Center (MAC), Reston, VA, 703-648-5660

Coordination and Requirements representatives

Robert Lemen, MCMC, 573-308-3736
Thomas Sturm, WMC, 650-329-4326
Michael Chambers, MAC, 703-648-6037
Lee Aggers, RMMC, 303-202-4123

Information

For information on other USGS products and services, call 1-888-ASK-USGS, use the Ask.USGS fax service, which is available 24 hours a day at 703-648-4888, or visit the general interest publications Web site on mapping, geography, and related topics at mac.usgs.gov/mac/isb/pubs/pubslists/.

For additional information, visit the ask.usgs.gov Web site or the USGS home page at www.usgs.gov.