

**Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology**

**Request for Proposal**

**Transportable Array Seismic Vault**

**May 11, 2011**

**RFP**  
**Transportable Array Seismic Vault**

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# **Request for Proposals Transportable Array Seismic Vault**

## **I. Background**

### **A. Information about IRIS**

The Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology (IRIS) is a consortium of over one hundred U.S. universities dedicated to exploring the Earth's interior through the collection and distribution of heterogeneous geophysical data.

IRIS programs contribute to scholarly research, education, earthquake hazard mitigation, and the verification of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, in addition to the long-term stewardship of collected data.

Support for IRIS comes from the National Science Foundation (NSF), other federal agencies, universities, and private foundations.

IRIS is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization incorporated in the state of Delaware with its primary headquarters office located in Washington, DC.

## **II. Project Description**

The IRIS Consortium ([www.iris.edu](http://www.iris.edu)) is installing seismic stations to record earthquakes occurring locally and worldwide as part of a National Science Foundation award under the project name (EarthScope-USArray). The data is used to image the Earth's interior and produce new insights into the earthquake process. Planned for over 2000 sites across the country on both government and private land, EarthScope is relying on the participation of each of these communities to accomplish this university-based research experiment. For more detailed information regarding this project, please visit the following web location ([www.iris.edu/usarray](http://www.iris.edu/usarray)).

The following is a request for proposal to design, manufacture and deliver up to 500 Transportable Array Seismic Vaults by September 30, 2013.

## **III. Tasks and Deliverables**

### **A. Description of Need**

To achieve good performance with seismic equipment, the sensors must be placed well below grade while at the same time operate in a dry enclosure. A buried sealed tank with inside diameter of 42" and adapted to accommodate equipment installed inside the tank is the preferred approach. To date, we have used a 86" section of HDPE corrugated drain pipe 42" inch diameter mounted vertically and sealed at the bottom with a piece of

EPDM membrane. While this design worked well in the relatively dry western US, we seek a much better seal to water intrusion. The need is for a tank that is watertight to 1 meter submersion, suitable for burial in soil and rock up to 0.3 meters below grade (for the top surface) and made of high density polyethylene with the dimensions and penetrations as described in the attached conceptual drawings. The penetrations are for 1.5" and (3) ¾" NPT Bulkheadfitting on not less than 4" on center in a horizontal plane 8-12" below tank rim. The tank lid must be capable of supporting the weight of livestock.

## **B. Requirement Details**

We desire a molding capability to produce at least 25 units per month, in either of two lengths. An initial order of 60 units is planned, with expected follow-on quarterly orders of 55 for up to 12 quarters.

The response shall address the following requirements:

- Cost for Non-recurring engineering including mold fabrication, maintenance to support manufacture of up to 500 units over 2 years.
- Cost of molded product in the expected quantities as stated above.
- Delivery date of first article.
- Delivery date for production quantity of 25 units.
- A 3D computermodel in CAD/CAM software format-(e.g. Solidworks preferred) of the as built mold.
- Vendor would retain ownership of the mold, tradecraft to construct and maintain mold.
- IRIS would retain ownership of the as built design.

## **C. Project Deliverables**

1. A first article for evaluation;
2. A 3D computer model in CAD/CAM software format-(e.g. Solidworks preferred) of the as built mold;
3. Delivery of 60 molded tanks.

## **IV. Award Conditions**

This award will be issued as a Fixed Price contract. Funding for this activity is provided to IRIS through a Cooperative Agreement from the National Science Foundation. Contractor must comply with all applicable federal, state, local laws and regulations and all applicable orders and regulations of the executive and other departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of the United States as stipulated in the Contract (Appendix A). IRIS makes no commitment for follow-on orders at this time.

All OSHA and FCC safety regulations must be followed.

## **V. Respondent Instructions**

### **A. Intention to Bid**

If your company intends to respond to this RFP, please send an email acknowledgement by **Thursday, May 19, 2011, 9 PM EST**, to the contact below:

<SPO@iris.edu>

### **B. Proposal Evaluation Criteria**

Proposals will be evaluated on the basis of both the written proposal and any written responses to questions IRIS may receive. However, IRIS may use information other than that provided by the Respondent in its evaluation.

An evaluation panel of IRIS and Transportable Array Project staff will rank proposals on the following criteria (not listed in order of priority):

- Quality and suitability of design for intended application;
- Cost of non-recurring engineering including mold fabrication, maintenance to support up to 500 units over 2 years;
- Cost of initial order of 60 production units;
- Cost of follow-on quarterly orders of 55 for up to 12 quarters
- Schedule for delivery of evaluation article;
- Schedule for delivery of first 25 of the 60 production units;
- Previous experience.

Proposals should address the criteria specified in this RFP.

### **C. References**

Proposals must include three (3) client references. The minimum information that must be provided about each reference is:

- Name of individual or company
- Address of individual or company
- Name and phone number of contact person
- Type of services or materials provided to reference and date provided

### **D. Proposal Length**

The proposal should be limited to 8 pages including budget pages and supporting materials. Margins shall be 1-inch all around with a 12-point font. The 8 page proposal and budget pages must stand on its own with respect to the evaluation.

Quite simple proposals are acceptable.

### **E. Transmittal Information**

The proposal should include a cover page with the following information:

- Name and Address of the Responding Organization
- Name, Title and Contact Information of the Key Technical Personnel,
- Name, Title and Contact Information of the Key Administrative Personnel, and
- Name, Title, Contact Information and Signature of the person authorized to submit the proposal.

### **F. Supplemental Information**

Any supplemental information furnished by a Respondent after the due date for receipt of proposals will not be considered, unless IRIS formally requested such information. IRIS may request a Respondent to furnish such supplementary information as is required, in the opinion of IRIS, to assure that the Respondent is sufficiently competent and financially sound to successfully perform the contemplated work.

### **G. Rights of Retention**

Following submission of proposals and final evaluation, IRIS will have the right to retain the proposals, maintaining them in confidence. All documents submitted in response to this RFP shall become the property of IRIS.

### **H. Clarification of RFP**

Any questions, requests for clarification or requests for data in connection with this RFP shall be made no later than **Wednesday, May 18, 2011, 3 PM EST** via email to:

<SPO@iris.edu>

Questions and all responses will be publicly posted at <http://www.iris.edu/hq/rfp/tasv>.

### **I. Cost of Proposal**

IRIS will not reimburse the Respondent for their cost of preparation and submission of a proposal.

### **J. Confidentiality**

IRIS shall treat responses to this RFP as proprietary and confidential property (hereinafter "Proprietary and Confidential Information"). News or other information

releases pertaining to this RFP shall not be made without prior written approval from IRIS.

### **K. Proposal Submission**

Proposal submission deadline is **Monday, May 23, 2011, 7 PM EST**. Submit one electronic copy to:

<SPO@iris.edu>

The proposal must be received by the proposal submission deadline to be considered for this award.

### **L. Other**

By submitting a proposal, Respondent agrees to all applicable provisions, terms and conditions associated with this Request for Proposal.

## **VI. Vendor Selection**

IRIS reserves the right to make an award based solely on the information provided, to reject any or all proposals, to accept any proposals, or to effect any combination of proposals. IRIS reserves the right to conduct discussion or request proposal revisions, if deemed necessary.

The vendor(s) selected for the award(s) will be chosen on the basis of IRIS evaluation and determination of which vendor will provide the greatest benefit to IRIS, not necessarily on the basis of lowest price. IRIS has no obligation to reveal how proposals were assessed. Therefore, proposals should contain your best terms within the proposed functional and technical approach.

IRIS reserves the right to reject any or all proposals that are deemed to be non-responsive, late in submission or unsatisfactory in any way. IRIS shall have no obligation to award a contract for work, goods and/or services as a result of this RFP.

Awards will be contingent upon the availability of funds and IRIS will solely be responsible for determining which, if any, proposals will be funded.

## **VII. Preliminary Schedule**

The following schedule may be changed or modified by IRIS:

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|--|-----------|
| 1. RFP issued:   | 5/11/2011 |
| 2. Respondents indicate they wish to submit              | 5/19/2011 |
| 3. Respondents requests for clarification of RFP due     | 5/18/2011 |
| 4. IRIS response to request for clarification of RFP due | 5/19/2011 |

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| 5. Proposals due:                         | 5/23/2011 |
| 6. Contractor selected:                   | 5/24/2011 |
| 7. Respondents notified of determination: | 5/26/2011 |
| 8. Contract issued:                       | 5/27/2011 |



