

Rapid Adoption Project Solicitation

Version: 1.0 dated March 25, 2022

MISSION

- ❖ Employ a unique collaborative framework to research, develop, mature, and implement industry-relevant shipbuilding and sustainment technologies and processes, improving efficiency across the U.S. shipyard industrial base and meeting future demand.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	INTRODUCTION.....	2
2.	IMPORTANT DATES.....	2
3.	RAPID ADOPTION PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS.....	3
4.	SUBMISSION PACKAGE PREPARATION INFORMATION.....	3
4.1	Submission Form.....	4
4.2	Statement of Work.....	4
4.3	Cost Data Table.....	4
5.	OFFEROR QUESTIONS.....	5
6.	SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS.....	5
7.	EVALUATION CRITERIA.....	5
8.	AWARD INFORMATION.....	6
8.1	Funding Estimate.....	6
8.2	Award Terms.....	6
9.	ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.....	7
9.1	Security Requirements.....	7
9.2	Other Special Requirements.....	7
9.3	Teaming.....	7
9.4	Notice to Foreign-Owned Firms.....	8
9.5	Anticipated Period of Performance.....	8

1. INTRODUCTION

The National Shipbuilding Research Program Advanced Shipbuilding Enterprise (NSRP ASE, hereafter "NSRP") is interested in receiving Rapid Adoption Project (RAP) proposals for the research effort described below. The NSRP mission is to employ a unique collaborative framework to research, develop, mature, and implement industry-relevant shipbuilding and sustainment technologies and processes, improving efficiency across the U.S. shipyard industrial base and meeting future demand. The NSRP's Government impact is primarily on U. S. Navy ships, but the program is also intended to benefit other Government agencies such as the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Maritime Administration (MARAD), Military Sealift Command (MSC), and Army Corps of Engineers (ACoE). The NSRP considers unmanned and optionally-manned vessels to be the types of ships fully within the mission scope.

NSRP has long-established processes for soliciting research and development (R&D) proposals for major, multi-year R&D efforts through Research Announcements, and for smaller R&D projects through the program's communities of practice known as panels. This solicitation targets sufficiently advanced technology solutions that require minimal development and can be rapidly implemented in shipbuilding and/or ship repair at the project's end.

The RAP solicitation is posted on the [NSRP](#) and System for Acquisition Management ([SAM.gov](#)), formerly Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps) websites. It will be amended as necessary to reflect required changes. Potential offerors are reminded that there are several requirements incorporated in NSRP Rapid Adoption Project solicitation that merit particular attention. Readers are strongly urged to review further details provided in this announcement and the NSRP Rapid Adoption Project Guide.

This is an unrestricted solicitation.

2. IMPORTANT DATES

It is intended that the RAP solicitation will remain open and active for the entire Government FY22 (through 30 September 2022), with several cycles during the year. The dates listed below are anticipated for the initial cycle of RAP submissions. Subject to the decision of the NSRP Executive Control Board (ECB) and availability of program funding, additional RAP submission cycles may be announced by amendments to this solicitation. The following is a list of important dates associated with this RAP solicitation cycle:

Event	Date
Current cycle Submission Packages Due	19 May 2022
Technical/Financial Review (estimated)	05 July 2022
Final Proposal Development (estimated)	11 July 2022
Current cycle ECB Selection (estimated)	02 August 2022
Current RAP cycle Awards (estimated)	15 August 2022
End of FY22 RAP solicitation	30 September 2022

3. RAPID ADOPTION PROJECT SELECTION PROCESS

As with the project duration and implementation timeline, the RAP selection process is intended to be rapid. The goal of the process is 12 months from submission to completion of a project ready for implementation. Proposals are evaluated by both Navy Technical Authorities (Technical Warrant Holders and Ship Design Managers) and by NSRP leadership on a compressed timeline. Final RAP selection will be made by the NSRP ECB. The selection process is designed with a goal of three months duration from the RAP submission date to award of successful RAP proposals. The process is illustrated below and described in detail in the RAP Proposal Guide.

To support the RAP Selection process, it is important that accurate and complete information be provided upon submission. Requests for clarification or additional information from the Program Administrator to Offerors during this process are to be met completely and rapidly. Failure to do so may result in elimination of a proposal from the current RAP cycle.

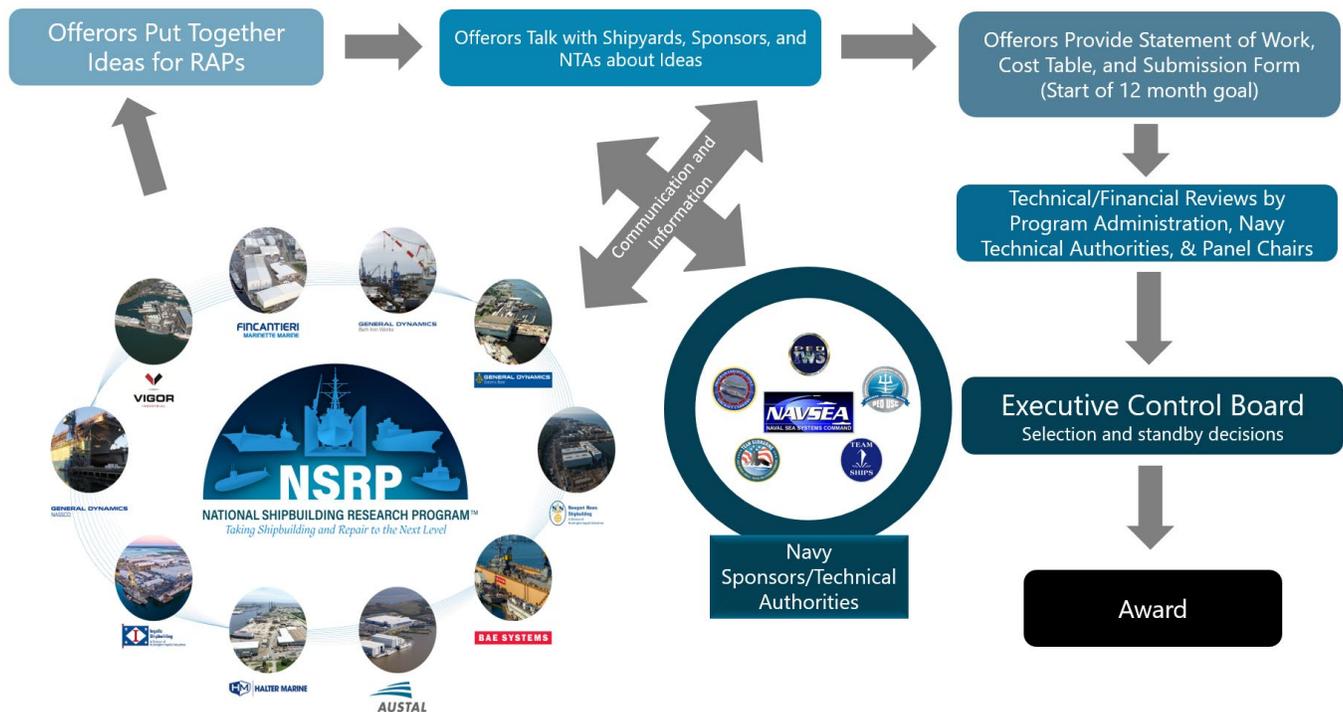


Figure 1 - NSRP RAP Project Submission and Selection Process

4. SUBMISSION PACKAGE PREPARATION INFORMATION

A complete and compliant RAP proposal, or Submission Package, will include:

1. RAP Submission Form
2. RAP Statement of Work (includes schedule of milestones/deliverables)
3. RAP Cost Table

Offerors may submit Submission Packages for evaluation according to the criteria set forth in this solicitation, and further defined in the [RAP Proposal Guide](#). Offerors are advised that, as Program Administrator, only Advanced Technology International (ATI) contracting officials are legally authorized to execute contract awards on behalf of the program.

The RAP Proposal Guide is a key resource developed to assist potential offerors in developing compliant and most competitive Submission Packages. The Guide provides background material on the NSRP project selection process, guidance for the preparation of the Submission Form, and required forms and instructions. ***Submissions must be in accordance with the latest Rapid Adoption Project Proposal Guide.***

A program goal is for industry to share 50% of the cost of NSRP technology development and technology transfer activities with the Government. Cost share is welcome, and is an evaluation criteria, but it is not required for a RAP. Acceptable forms of cost share are defined in detail on the [NSRP Base Task Order Agreement under Article VI](#).

This solicitation **does not** obligate the program to pay for any proposal or other response preparation cost. The costs of preparing proposals or other documentation in response to this solicitation are not considered a direct charge to any resulting award or any other existing contract.

4.1 SUBMISSION FORM

The Submission Form shall include a description of the nature and scope of the issue/problem being addressed and the proposed solution, the technical requirement documents that must be addressed (if any), the Navy platforms targeted for implementation, and proposed metrics to gauge the impact of implementation. The Submission Form must be filled out completely with as much information as the Offeror can provide. The Submission Form and associated instructions are included in the RAP Proposal Guide.

4.2 STATEMENT OF WORK

The Statement of Work (SOW) is submitted as an attachment to the Submission Form. The SOW defines the scope of the proposed effort by defining the project team and tasks to be accomplished. The SOW also lists the project deliverables and provides the milestone and deliverable schedule, including a projected timeline for implementation. Along with the Submission Form, the SOW will be evaluated by the cognizant Navy Technical Authorities and other evaluators for the effectiveness of the proposed effort in supporting rapid implementation and other requirements from the RAP Solicitation and Proposal Guide. The RAP SOW template is included in the RAP Proposal Guide.

4.3 COST DATA TABLE

A completed Cost Data Table will be required at the same time as the Submission Form and SOW, and will also be used in the evaluation of the proposed project. The Cost Table is not directly attached to the Submission Form at submission. It will not be provided to the Navy Technical Authorities. The completed table will only be evaluated by the NSRP Program Administrator; the total Program funding and Cost Share values will be provided to other NSRP reviewers including the ECB. The RAP Cost Data Table is included in the RAP Proposal Guide.

5. OFFEROR QUESTIONS

During this solicitation, the Offerors will have an open line of communication with the Navy Technical Authorities. Mr. Howard Franklin (howard.l.franklin9.civ@navy.mil or (202) 781-2171) will act as the liaison between Offerors and the cognizant Navy Technical Authorities. Offerors will be encouraged to communicate with the Navy Technical Authorities regarding their potential project solution during the solicitation window from release of the solicitation through the Submission Package due date, to ensure that the proposal is beneficial and a viable option for award. Once the deadline has passed for the submission period for each round of RAPs, the communication between the Navy Technical Authorities and Offerors regarding this cycle's proposals will be limited.

Questions concerning contractual, cost or pricing, format, or submission should be directed to the NSRP ATI Contracts Manager, Elizabeth Frankart, at NSRP-contracts@ati.org.

6. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Submission Packages in response to this RAP **must be** received by **5:00 pm Eastern Time on 19 May 2022**.

Submission Packages received after the time and date specified above **will not** be evaluated in this cycle. **No extensions will be granted**. Those packages submitted after the due date may be modified and resubmitted by the Offeror for a future RAP solicitation cycle. ATI will provide acknowledgement, via email, of submission receipt.

For this solicitation, submission will be via ATI's Secure File Transfer Protocol (FTP) site.

1. Offerors are required to use this link for submission of the full RAP Submission Package
 - a. <https://filetransfer.ati.org/filedrop/~SJK2sa>
2. Offerors must register on the ATI FTP site prior to uploading Submission Package.
3. Once registration is complete, offerors will then be able to upload **one (1) copy** of their RAP Submission Package in Microsoft Word (version 2010 or later) or **searchable PDF (not a scanned copy)**.
4. ATI will be alerted via FTP site email message that the Submission Package has been uploaded. After ATI has downloaded the Submission Package, the offeror will receive an email confirmation that the proposal has been downloaded.

7. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The ECB will evaluate RAPs for selection using criteria that include, but are not limited to, those shown below. There is no relative importance or weight of criteria implied by their order of this list. Offerors should consider these criteria during planning and development of a RAP Submission Package.

- Participation and endorsement by one, or preferably multiple shipyards.¹
- The proposed solution's strategic fit and value to the shipbuilding and ship repair industry, Navy, and/or other Government sponsors.
- Conformance of the proposed effort within the RAP Elements detailed in the RAP Proposal Guide.
- Likelihood of the proposed effort will meet the criteria of "Ready for Implementation," detailed in the RAP Proposal Guide.
- Reasonableness of proposed costs.
- Likelihood that the measurable beneficial impact(s) identified will result in a measurable Return on Investment (ROI) determination by the end of the project.
- Breadth of application of the solution to shipbuilding industrial base and/or naval platforms.
- Perceived risks to successful project completion and implementation, and realization of project ROI.
- Inclusion and amount of proposed cost share.
- Degree of Teaming anticipated.

8. AWARD INFORMATION

8.1 FUNDING ESTIMATE

It is anticipated that multiple RAP projects will be awarded per RAP solicitation cycle based on expected budget actions; however, there is no guarantee of Government funding. Individual project funding is not predetermined.

The NSRP Rapid Adoption Project solicitation should result in multiple awards through the fiscal year depending, in part, on the cost of individual proposals and available funding. The combined value of program funding and cost share for individual proposals may exceed \$150,000, but individual proposals shall not exceed \$150,000 in program funding.

Of note, both cost reasonableness and overall project ROI evaluations are enhanced by proposing only that amount of cost needed to successfully complete the project.

8.2 AWARD TERMS

The NSRP Program reserves the right to select for award any, all, part, or none of the Submission Packages received.

¹ See Rapid Adoption Project Proposal Guide, Section 3.0, "Definitions", for the definition of a "shipyard"

The contractual vehicle used to award and fund selected projects will be a Task Order (TO) executed under a Base [Task Order Agreement](#) (TOA). A Base TOA, content of which may be found on the [NSRP website](#), must be executed prior to the award of any RAP TOs.

Offerors are advised to contact ATI if they have any questions on this requirement. Offerors are also advised to check the [NSRP](#) website periodically during the solicitation period for any new changes to the Base TOA terms and conditions.

Upon notification of project selection, awardees will have 10 business days to sign and return the Base Task Order Agreement (if not already executed) and the project Task Order Agreement to ATI. Failure to do so may result in cancellation of the project.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

9.1 SECURITY REQUIREMENTS

NSRP is not a program authorized to store or handle classified information. Do not include any classified material in either proposals or deliverables.

9.2 OTHER SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Offerors are advised that research findings and technology developments arising under this project may constitute a significant enhancement to the national defense, and to the economic vitality of the United States. As such, in the conduct of all work under this project, the offeror will comply strictly with the International Traffic in Arms Regulation (22 CFR 120-130), the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual (DoD 5220.22-M) and the Department of Commerce Export Regulation (15 CFR 730-774), to include marking, handling, and exchange of any project notes, documents, and deliverables.

Although RAP projects do not typically contain Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI), in accordance with the security requirements specified by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-171 "Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Information Systems and Organizations" (see <http://dx.doi.org/10.6028/NIST.SP.800-171>) all Offerors that include marked CUI in their proposals also represent by submission of proposals that these security requirements have been implemented, if required.

9.3 TEAMING

Teaming arrangements are strongly encouraged on NSRP projects, and at least one shipyard shall be a participant, if not the prime. Exceptions to this requirement may be considered on a case-by-case basis where there is compelling justification that the program mission is best served by the proposed deviation.

In addition to the industry teaming, engagement of Navy Technical Authorities is strongly encouraged. Interested parties should contact the NAVSEA NSRP Program Engineer, Mr. Howard Franklin, at howard.l.franklin9.civ@navy.mil or (202) 781-2171 for early coordination.

9.4 NOTICE TO FOREIGN-OWNED FIRMS

Foreign-owned firms are asked to immediately notify the NSRP Program Administrator (ATI) point of contact cited in [Section 5](#) after deciding to respond to this announcement. Foreign contractors should be aware that prior Government approval may be required before their proposals can be considered.

9.5 ANTICIPATED PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE

Offerors may submit proposals for projects lasting up to nine (9) months. Offerors should specify key tasks (activities) and deliverables (results) as described in the [Guide](#). All technical work (including submission of the project Final Report) must be completed within the nine (9) month period of performance.