**Request for Information (RFI)**

**Track Inspection Vision System**

**Introduction:**

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA) is gathering information that may facilitate a formal procurement process and invites your firm to provide input associated with this Request for Information (RFI). Any suggestions received through this inquiry may be incorporated into a final scope of work that will provide the basis for a future procurement solicitation.

**Background:**

The Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) is contemplating the purchase of Track Inspection Vision System and testing services that will allow visual inspection of the WMATA rail system. Potential vendors who can provide both, or who may only be able to provide testing equipment, or testing services are encouraged to respond to this RFI. WMATA is sending out this RFI to perform a market survey to determine qualified vendors who can meet the requirements as outlined below. WMATA is also interested in learning about alternative products in the market which meet or exceed the stated minimum requirements.

As a minimum, the Vision testing system shall meet the following criteria:

* Must be able to test at speeds of up to 75 mph with high definition imaging quality.
* Shall be able to be outfitted on a rail bound vehicle, either an existing vehicle or a future vehicle to be built.
* Must be able to visually identify specific assets on the roadway in high definition. Assets included but are not limited to fastening systems, joint bars, bolts, studs, masonry roadbed items, ballast and wood and concrete ties.
* Must be able to visually inspect track gauge, the field and top sides of the rail for cracks, corrosion, and rail surface defects inclusive of wear.
* Must be able to visually inspect the third rail and components for alignment, cracks, corrosion, and rail surface defects inclusive of wear.
* If applicable, software must be able to identify specific defects per WMATA’s standards. Defects include but are not limited to broken rails, broken joint bars, and missing, broken, or deteriorated fastening systems.
* Must be able to conduct track and third rail geometry testing.
* Must sync/ read WMATA's train control circuitry and identify exact location of reported data.

As a minimum, the Vision System services shall meet the following criteria:

* Shall provide inspection services for a minimum of 48 weeks per year.
* Shall provide WMATA with a testing program which includes training and written procedures for vision system inspections.
* Shall be able to train WMATA employees on vision system inspection and operations.
* Shall provide a recommendation and explanation on testing frequency of the WMATA rail system.
* Shall be able to provide parts and service for Vision Testing System equipment.
* Shall be knowledgeable of different defects and be able to accurately identify specific defects common on rail transit systems.
* Shall be able to report track data and exceptions to the client within 24 hours, but preferable within 12 hours.
* Shall be able to report data in terms of Route, Track, Specific Linear Location (ex: A Line, Track 1, 325+00), and by GPS coordinates

Interested vendors/manufacturers shall provide information regarding products and services related to delivering, training and operating vision system testing equipment. In addition, interested vendors/manufacturers shall provide a capability statement of their experience in successfully developing and delivering vision system inspection and/or services. The capability statement shall include the name and address of the transit agency or railroad, a brief description of the project, and a contact person’s name and telephone number from the agency.

WMATA will not be responsible for any cost incurred in furnishing this information.

If a solicitation is released, it will be advertised on the Authorities web-site at: <https://www.wmata.com/Business/procurement/solicitations/active-procurement-opportunities.cfm> and the Federal website [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov).

**Objectives of the RFI**

This RFI provides the opportunity for contractors, suppliers, distributors, service-providers, private firms and corporations, etc. to assist WMATA with gathering technical information relative to the procurement and technical specifications for track vision inspection systems and testing services inclusive of analysis support used in track inspection on the WMATA rail system.

Responses to this RFI will not be used to qualify proposers/bidders for future solicitations, nor are they a pre-condition to responding to future RFP’s or IFB’s.

The objectives of this RFI are to:

* Gather information on industry’s capabilities and insights to contractual terms and obligations that would enhance participation in a future solicitation from industry leaders.
* Receive feedback from industry on: the technical specifications for track vision system inspection and/or services; and recommendations for alternative solutions.
* Obtain responses to specific technical inquiries from industry for consideration. Identify opportunities for innovative approaches to improve desired product, obtain industry updates regarding type, certification criterion, availability, maintainability, and local sources.

Please submit technical responses to Alexander Seredich at aseredich@wmata.com no later than June 12, 2018. If you have any questions regarding this RFI, please also forward them to Alexander Seredich at the above email address. He can also be reached at 703-667-2757.