



**National Science Foundation**

4201 Wilson Boulevard  
Arlington, Virginia 22230

ATTENTION: Potential Offerors

Subject: Notice Regarding Site Visit(s) for the Antarctic Support Contract (ASC) Competition in Support of the U.S. Antarctic Program (USAP)

Date: September 15, 2008

The National Science Foundation (NSF) will be conducting pre-proposal site visits to the listed locations on the following approximate dates (and/or range of dates):

<u>Site Visit Location</u>	<u>Approximate Timeframe</u>
Raytheon Polar Services Headquarters, Centennial, CO	TBD
Christchurch, New Zealand	Nov 14, 2008
McMurdo & S. Pole Stations, Antarctica and its environs	Nov 17-21, 2008 [Firm dates]
Leased Warehouse Facilities, Punta Arenas, Chile	Dec 10 – 27, 2008
Research Vessel (R/V) LAURENCE M. GOULD	Dec 10 – 27, 2008
R/V NATHANIEL B. PALMER	Dec 10 – 27, 2008
Naval Base Ventura County, Port Hueneme, California	Btw Dec 27, 2008 & Jan 4, 2009

For planning purposes, the site visit to the Raytheon Polar Services Company (RPSC) facilities in Centennial, CO will focus on the information technology support and networking systems, in addition to a walk-through of the facilities. NSF will provide updated information as available.

Interested potential offerors **must** submit a request to attend the site visit(s) by specifying each location that they would like to attend. Currently, there is no limit on the number of attendees (except for the Antarctic site visit to the McMurdo and South Pole Stations – See below). However, a limit on the number of attendees may be instituted based on responses received. All travel costs are the responsibility of the offerors. There also will be costs imposed on attendees for some, if not all site visits.

Specific restrictions and imposed costs apply to the McMurdo Station and South Pole Station site visit. Because of NSF's logistics and scheduling constraints in transporting and billeting industry attendees in Antarctica, no more than 20 individual industry attendees will be allowed to attend. It is requested that potential offerors who have created teams or are contemplating teaming with other companies identify only 2 teaming members for attendance. If offeror interest exceeds the 20-person cap, then NSF will use a random lottery system to select companies (not individuals), who in turn, will identify one person to attend, until the 20 individuals have been selected. All personnel attending the site visits in Antarctica must complete and pass the USAP medical (physical and dental) screening to be eligible for deployment. Current USAP medical screening guidelines are available in the USAP on-line library at [http://www.nsf.gov/about/contracting/rfqs/support\\_ant/index.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/about/contracting/rfqs/support_ant/index.jsp) under "Reading Room, and Video" then "Environmental, Health and Safety". The travel associated with the Antarctic site visit (from Christchurch, New Zealand to McMurdo and South Pole Stations and return trip) will be provided by the Government on a reimbursable basis. Associated costs

(\$10,000 to \$15,000) will be charged per individual attendee (or per person) and will be due in advance of the trip.

Only site visit requests submitted to: [usaprecompete@nsf.gov](mailto:usaprecompete@nsf.gov) will be considered. All requests must be received by 3:00 p.m. (local time) on September 19, 2008. Requests must include the following information for each site visit location the offeror is planning to attend:

1. Site Visit Location;
2. Company name and address;
3. Company point of contact for site visit purposes to include name, phone number and e-mail address; and,
4. Number of attendees for each site visit location.

Site visit details as well as the selection of attendees for the Antarctic (McMurdo Station and South Pole Station) site visit will be issued by NSF not later than October 1, 2008. Details for other site visits will be provided at a later date.

If you have any questions, please send an e-mail to [usaprecompete@nsf.gov](mailto:usaprecompete@nsf.gov).

Sincerely,

  
Karen Millisor  
Contracting Officer

cc: B. Stone, AIL/OPP  
M. Van Woert, OPP