

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

**PROCUREMENT DEPARTMENT
4 WORLD TRADE CENTER
150 GREENWICH ST. 21ST FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007**

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

**TITLE: AIRPORT WEATHER MONITORING AND FORECASTING AT PORT
AUTHORITY AIRPORTS**

NUMBER: 58464

SUBMIT RESPONSE BEFORE THE DUE DATE AND TIME TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS

QUESTIONS DUE DATE: AUGUST 22, 2019 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

RESPONSE DUE DATE: SEPTEMBER 3, 2019 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

**CONTACT NAME: MARGARET D'EMIC
PHONE NUMBER: 212-435-4609
EMAIL ADDRESS: mdemic@panynj.gov**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	GENERAL INFORMATION: THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY	3
2.	OVERVIEW	3
3.	GOALS AND OBJECTIVES	4
4.	RFI RESPONSE FORMAT	5
5.	SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION	6
6.	QUESTIONS	6
7.	CONFERENCE	6
8.	EVALUATION AND TESTING OF TECHNOLOGY	6
9.	GENERAL	7
	ATTACHMENT A - AGREEMENT ON TERMS OF DISCUSSION	8
	ATTACHMENT B - RESPONDENT REFERENCE FORM	9

1. GENERAL INFORMATION: THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (the “Port Authority” or the “Authority”) is an agency of the States of New York and New Jersey, created and existing by virtue of the Compact of April 30, 1921, made by and between the two States, and thereafter consented to by the Congress of the United States. It is charged with providing transportation, terminals and other facilities of trade and commerce within the Port District. The Port District comprises an area of about 1,500 square miles in both States, centering about New York Harbor. The Port District includes the Cities of New York and Yonkers in the State of New York, and the cities of Newark, Jersey City, Bayonne, Hoboken and Elizabeth in the State of New Jersey, and over 200 other municipalities, including all or part of seventeen (17) counties, in the two States. For background with respect to The Port Authority, see www.panynj.gov. Additionally, an electronic version of the Authority’s most recent Annual Report is available at <http://www.panynj.gov/corporate-information/annual-reports.html>.

John F. Kennedy International Airport (“JFK”) has been recognized for decades as the premier U.S. gateway for passengers and cargo. It is the busiest airport in the New York metropolitan area, and among the busiest in North America and the world. About 37,000 people are employed at JFK. JFK contributes to approximately \$37.7 billion in economic activity to the New York-New Jersey metropolitan region, generating about 256,000 total jobs and \$13.4 billion in annual wages.

2. OVERVIEW

The Port Authority is responsible for the management and/or operation of five major airports within the New York/New Jersey area: John F. Kennedy International Airport, Newark Liberty International Airport, LaGuardia Airport, Teterboro Airport and Stewart International Airport. The Port Authority currently uses in-pavement sensors and a web-based dashboard to monitor the impact of and support decision-making related of adverse weather on runway conditions.

The Port Authority is seeking information from firms that supply systems for providing weather information in and around the vicinity of airports. At a later date, the Port Authority may decide to evaluate different forms and applications of this technology, which may include on-site testing and evaluation of selected technologies at Port Authority airports.

The findings from this Request for Information (“RFI”) will potentially be used in guiding the design of a future Bid Specification or Request for Proposal (“RFP”) or other procurement solution. However, by issuing this RFI, the Authority is not committing to any particular course of action.

The Port Authority will not preclude firms or organizations who do not respond to this RFI, nor will it preclude firms or organizations who do respond to this RFI, from participating in any possible future procurements related to providing weather information systems.

3. GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Our goal is to refine the Port Authority's understanding of available technologies and emerging best practices that support operational decision-making by sensing, monitoring and forecasting weather conditions in and around the vicinity of airport aeronautical operations areas, including the runways and taxiways. We wish to learn about solutions that sense, monitor and forecast airport weather conditions, including but not limited to, supportive decision-making software and/or interfaces and necessary infrastructure. Specifically, the Port Authority is requesting that Respondents answer the following questions and provide the requested information:

- a. Provide a summary and background information on all your company's airport weather information solution offerings including necessary related hardware components, if any.
- b. Provide a reference list for existing current installations (US and Foreign). Use Attachment B attached hereto to convey information about the references.
- c. Indicate if your solution is approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA).
- d. Provide a list of your company's industry partners, if any (e.g. airlines, aircraft manufacturers, weather or technology providers).
- e. Provide an overview of a typical deployment for your solution including, but not limited to, hardware and infrastructure installation, cloud components, and server requirements.
- f. Are there any limitations on number of users and/or concurrent sessions of your solution?
- g. Can your solution monitor various locations simultaneously?
- h. Does your solution provide notifications (customized and/or generic)? If so, to whom can notifications be sent?
- i. How does your solution provide users with notifications (e.g. text, email, phone call or hardware component)?
- j. Does your solution provide hyperlocal weather information? If so, what is the effective geographic distance (e.g., within .25 miles)?
- k. Does your solution provide and/or store historical weather and weather trend data?
- l. If available, please demonstrate your solution's relative accuracy of forecast vs. actual conditions.
- m. Does your solution provide in-house expert meteorological support such as an on-call meteorologist?

- n. Please describe your solution's ability to interface with other applications (e.g. API interface, export functions).
- o. Please provide an overview of the solution's application-user interface and any dashboard functionality.
- p. Does your solution provide lightning detection? If so, does this require installation of additional hardware?
- q. Does your solution provide severe weather monitoring?
- r. Is your solution able to monitor pavement conditions such as pavement temperature and surface condition (e.g. wet, dry, contaminated)?
- s. Does pavement monitoring require installation of additional hardware? If so, please describe a typical installation.
- t. From your company's perspective, what is the most significant advancement in airport weather monitoring and forecasting in the past thirty-six (36) months?

4. RFI RESPONSE FORMAT

The Respondent is requested to organize the response as follows:

- A.** Cover page, including vendor's name and RFI number/title.
- B.** Letter of Transmittal containing:
 - 1. Company name, address, Federal Employer Identification Number, and company website URL.
 - 2. Contact information, including name, title, email, telephone and fax numbers, of the individual who shall act as the Respondent's contact with the Authority for further information requests and future solicitations. In addition, at any time after the opening of the RFI submittals, the Port Authority may request additional information relating to the Respondent's qualifications and will use this individual as the point of contact for these queries.
 - 3. A brief description of the company and the services it provides.
- C.** Executive Summary
 - 1. Response to all items listed in the section entitled "Goals and Objectives", above.

2. List any additional services and benefits that the vendor can offer that are above and beyond those specified in this RFI.

D. Attachments, including any work samples, product cut sheets, and/or other relevant information that the vendor believes to be beneficial to include as part of the RFI response.

E. A signed copy of the Agreement on Terms of Discussion attached hereto as Attachment A.

5. SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION

The Respondent shall submit two (2) hard copies, tabbed by section, and eight (8) indexed electronic (on USB drive) copies of its response to this RFI. The response must be submitted to The Port Authority of NY&NJ, Attention: Bid Custodian, Procurement Department, 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 21st Floor, New York, NY 10007.

6. QUESTIONS

All communications concerning this RFI should be directed to the Contract Specialist listed on the cover page. All questions regarding this RFI should be submitted by email to the Contract Specialist at the email address listed on, and by the due date and time set forth on, the cover page. The Contract Specialist is authorized only to direct the attention of prospective Respondents to various portions of this RFI so that they may read and interpret the portions themselves.

Neither the Contract Specialist nor any other employee of the Port Authority is authorized to interpret the provisions of this RFI or give additional information as to its requirements. If interpretation or other information is required, it will be communicated to Respondents by written addenda and such writing shall form a part of this RFI.

7. CONFERENCE

At any time after the receipt of responses, the Respondent may be asked to attend an informal discussion conference with staff of the Authority regarding further clarification of the response and/or additional information. To facilitate the free flow and exchange of ideas and information, it is our intent to meet with Respondents separately. The Authority will communicate the date, time and place of the conference, if held.

8. EVALUATION AND TESTING OF TECHNOLOGY

The Authority may desire to conduct operational testing and evaluation of selected Respondents' technologies identified as a part of this RFI. The duration of any such testing will not be longer than ninety (90) days. The Authority will select Respondents to participate in testing at its own discretion. The Respondent's willingness to participate in operational testing and evaluation is not a pre-requisite for participation in this RFI.

9. GENERAL

- a. The Port Authority reserves the right to request further information from any Respondent to this RFI.
- b. The Port Authority may consult any reference familiar with the Respondent regarding its current or prior operations and projects, financial resources, reputation, performance, or other matters. Submission of a Response shall constitute permission by the Respondent for the Port Authority to make such inquiries and authorization to third parties to respond thereto.
- c. Neither the information submitted from your organization, nor the submission of your response to the RFI and any documents or other information supplied by you, nor any correspondence, discussions, meetings or other communications between your organization and the Port Authority, shall impose any obligation on the Port Authority. The Port Authority shall have no obligation to any Respondent. Costs of participation or information preparation by Respondents to the RFI are not compensable.

ATTACHMENT A

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION NO. 58464

AGREEMENT ON TERMS OF DISCUSSION

The Port Authority’s receipt or discussion of any information (including information contained in any proposal, vendor qualification(s), ideas, models, drawings, or other material communicated or exhibited by us or on our behalf) shall not impose any obligations whatsoever on the Port Authority or entitle us to any compensation therefor (except to the extent specifically provided in such written agreement, if any, as may be entered into between the Port Authority and us). Any such information given to the Port Authority before, with or after this Agreement on Terms of Discussion (“Agreement”), either orally or in writing, is not given in confidence. Such information may be used, or disclosed to others, for any purpose at any time without obligation or compensation and without liability of any kind whatsoever. Any statement which is inconsistent with this Agreement, whether made as part of or in connection with this Agreement, shall be void and of no effect. This Agreement is not intended, however, to grant to the Port Authority rights to any matter, which is the subject of valid existing or potential letters patent.

Any information (including information contained in any proposal, vendor qualification(s), ideas, models, drawings, or other material communicated or exhibited by us or on our behalf) provided in connection with this procurement is subject to the provisions of the Port Authority Public Records Access Policy adopted by the Port Authority’s Board of Commissioners, which may be found on the Port Authority website at: <http://corpinfo.panynj.gov/documents/Access-to-Port-Authority-Public-Records/>. The foregoing applies to any information, whether or not given at the invitation of the Authority.

(Company)

(Signature)

(Title)

(Date)

ORIGINAL AND PHOTOCOPIES OF THIS PAGE ONLY. DO NOT RETYPE.

ATTACHMENT B - RESPONDENT REFERENCE FORM

Use additional sheets as necessary.

Name of Respondent: _____

Include the following information for each reference:

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Phone and Email Address of Contact: _____

Contract date(s): _____

Contract cost: _____

Description of work:

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Phone and Email Address of Contact: _____

Contract date(s): _____

Contract cost: _____

Description of Work:

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Name and Title: _____

Phone and Email Address of Contact: _____

Contract date (s): _____

Contract cost: _____

Description of work: _____