



## Description of Intended Sole Source Purchase

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This description of commodities or contractual services intended for purchase from a sole source is posted in accordance with section 287.057(3)(c), Florida Statutes and will remain posted for a period of at least seven (7) business days.

**Commodity or Service Required:** South Florida Rail Corridor Dispatch System

### **Description:**

The South Florida Rail Corridor (SFRC) is the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) owned 72-mile rail corridor that is currently dispatched and maintained by CSX Transportation (CSXT) under contract to FDOT. Current rail traffic includes the Tri-Rail commuter rail service operated by the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA), CSXT freight service, and Amtrak intercity passenger service. CSXT owns and operates the tracks that extend north and south of the SFRC (the "CSXT Territories").

SFRTA will be assuming responsibility for dispatching the SFRC as early as June 2014 with final territory transition occurring no later than December 31, 2014. SFRTA will be procuring a train dispatching system capable of allowing SFRTA dispatchers to control train movements within the SFRC from dispatch desks located in the cities of Pompano Beach and West Palm Beach. SFRTA is also seeking to procure a dispatch system capable of monitoring CSXT and Amtrak trains approaching the SFRC from the CSXT Territories. The dispatch system should also allow CSXT dispatchers to monitor the movement of its trains while they are operating on the SFRC. CSXT has made this "mirrored" monitoring capability a requirement of transferring the dispatch function on the SFRC from CSXT to SFRTA. Therefore, it is essential that the SFRTA and CSXT dispatching systems can monitor train movements on each other's corridor to meet CSXT's requirement and to avoid delays and disruptions of service to Tri-Rail, Amtrak and CSXT trains. CSXT currently uses a dispatch system manufactured by Ansaldo STS USA, Inc., which allows it to monitor train movements between the SFRC and other CSXT Territories. SFRTA is seeking a dispatch system that is capable of providing the same monitoring capability of CSXT Territories as CSXT has for the SFRC.

### **Intended Source:**

Ansaldo STS USA, Inc.

### **Justification for Sole Source Acquisition:**

Ansaldo STS USA, Inc. (Ansaldo) is the current provider of CSXT's dispatch system for South Florida and the dispatch systems for the Central Florida Rail Corridor, which will be used by the SunRail commuter rail service, and CSXT's adjoining territories. The Ansaldo dispatch system will allow SFRTA and CSXT to monitor train movements on each other's corridor, which will enable dispatchers for the two corridors to seamlessly hand off dispatch control of train movements from the dispatch desk for one corridor to the other. This "mirrored" monitoring feature is *only available* through the use of Ansaldo's dispatch product for both dispatch systems. SFRTA is not aware of any third-party vendor that has a dispatch product capable of interfacing with CSXT's Ansaldo dispatch system that would allow the third-party vendor's dispatch product to monitor train movements on CSXT's Territories. Nor is SFRTA aware of any third-party vendor that has a dispatch product that would allow dispatchers using CSXT's Ansaldo system to monitor train movements being tracked by a third-party vendor's dispatch product on the SFRC. Without this interoperability, SFRTA would not be able to meet CSXT's requirement for a "mirrored" system, nor would the dispatch systems on the SFRC and CSXT Territories be able to promote system safety and train movement efficiencies during operations by allowing dispatchers to react to conditions on the adjoining railroads.

Prospective vendors are requested to provide information regarding their ability to supply the commodities or contractual services described. If it is determined in writing by the agency, after reviewing any information received from prospective vendors that the commodities or contractual services are available only from a single source, the agency shall provide notice of its intended decision to enter a single-source purchase contract in the manner specified in s. 120.57(3).