

Vendor Questions on Aberdeen NAS Bid
Updated April 8th 2009

Q: Will the district waive the requirement for a certified check or bid bond?

A: Yes, the district **will consider** bids without a certified check or bid bond. Note that this is a change from the published bid specs. All other bid requirements still stand.

Q: Will the district accept an alternate solution/product for the Aberdeen NAS requested?

A: No, alternate products will be accepted.

Q: Would the district accept a combination SAN/NAS proposal?

A: No

Invitation to Bid

Penn Manor School District

Aberdeen Network Attached Storage Unit (NAS)

April 2009



Newspaper Advertisement

The board of directors of the Penn Manor School District request sealed bids for the following:

Aberdeen Network Attached Storage Unit (NAS)

Sealed bids will be received in the business office of the Penn Manor School District located at 2950 Charlestown Road, Lancaster, PA 17603, until 1:00 P.M. prevailing time on April 29th, 2009. Bids will be opened on April 29th, 2009, at 1:15 P.M. prevailing time. Please note that the mailing address for Penn Manor School District is PO Box 1001, Millersville, PA 17551.

Specifications may be obtained via the internet at the following address:

<http://www.pennmanor.net/rfp>

Hard copies of the specifications WILL NOT be mailed to interested vendors. Phone calls regarding this bid will also not be accepted. Questions about the bid may be directed to the following e-mail address: charlie@pennmanor.net. Responses to bidder questions will be posted to the above site.

The board reserves the right to waive informalities, award bids in the best interest of the school district, and to reject in part or total any or all bids.

Paula Howard

Board Secretary

Advertised on the following dates:

Wednesday, April 8, 2009
Wednesday, April 15, 2009
Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Anticipated bid award date:

Monday, May 4th, 2009

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to solicit bid responses from qualified vendors according to the specifications set forth herein. Penn Manor School District (hereafter referred to as PMSD) desires to include qualified bidders having the necessary products and expertise to satisfy this bid request. No bidder shall be included or excluded from consideration based upon any other criteria. PMSD reserves the right to confer with any and all other clients formerly or currently being serviced by each bidder for the purpose of gaining insight into the performance history of any bidding vendor. PMSD invites offers for the supply of the goods set forth in the attached specifications.

PROCEDURAL SPECIFICATIONS

All bids are to be submitted in opaque, sealed envelopes, plainly identifying the bid and addressed as follows:

"2009 Sealed Bid on Aberdeen Network Attached Storage (NAS)"

a. The bid should be addressed as follows:

Overnight or hand delivery:

Mr. Charlie Reisinger
Technology Director
Penn Manor School District
2950 Charlestown Rd.
Lancaster, PA 17603

Postal mail:

Mr. Charlie Reisinger
Technology Director
Penn Manor School District
P.O. Box 1001
Millersville, PA 17551

b. Please submit two (2) complete copies of all bids, appendices and attachments.

c. Bids must be received by PMSD no later than **1:00 PM, April 29, 2009 prevailing time**. A public bid opening will be held at 1:15 PM prevailing time in the Administrative Conference Room, Manor Middle School, at the above address. Bids received after this date and time will absolutely not be considered.

- All bids must be submitted on the attached form supplied by PMSD. Clarifications and additional information may be submitted by bidders as addenda to the attached forms. All bids shall be submitted subject to the conditions, instructions and specifications listed herein.
- It is the bidder's responsibility to propose items which meet or exceed the original specifications. Final determination in this matter rests solely with representatives of PMSD.

- PMSD shall be permitted a maximum of 45 calendar days from the bid opening date to issue an Acceptance Agreement or purchase order to the selected vendor(s). No bids may be withdrawn prior to that time.
- The successful bidder shall warrant and fully guarantee any and all items offered in this bid proposal for a minimum period of five years beginning with the date that PMSD accepts as final successful installation and training. This warranty shall cover all component replacements and shipping charges for component replacement along with software upgrades.
- PMSD reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or any part thereof and to award the contract in the best interest of PMSD.
- PMSD reserves the right to withdraw this bid request from consideration at any time.
- This project will follow the following timeline:
 - March 30, 2009 – School Board approval to advertise the bid
 - April 8, 2009 – Publish bid advertisement
 - April 15, 2009 – Second week bid advertisement
 - April 22, 2009 - Third week bid advertisement
 - **April 29, 2009 – Sealed bids due at 1:00 P.M. prevailing time**
 - April 29, 2009 – Open sealed bids at 1:15 P.M. prevailing time
 - May 4, 2009 – School board awards bid (anticipated)
 - May 6, 2009 – PMSD issues purchase order or letter of acceptance
 - **June 3, 2009 by 3:00 PM prevailing time** – All equipment received by PMSD
- All correspondence will be conducted electronically. PMSD has created a website specifically for RFP communication: <http://www.pennmanor.net/rfp/>. When a bidder asks a question regarding this project, he/she will do so via electronic mail to charlie@pennmanor.net.
- Answers to bidders questions will be posted on the web site at: <http://www.pennmanor.net/rfp/>. Consequently, all bidders must have Internet access.

GENERAL BID CONDITIONS

Submission of a bid pursuant to this invitation constitutes an offer by the bidder to enter into a contract for the supply of the goods set forth herein and the specifications attached hereto. If a bid is accepted, the contract between the successful bidder and PMSD shall consist of the following:

- a. This Invitation to Bid and the specifications attached hereto and all Addenda.
 - b. The bid submitted by the successful bidder.
 - c. The letter of acceptance from the Board of School Directors to the successful bidder.
- Please be advised that due to the financial exposure to the taxpayers of PMSD, a **bid bond or certified check in the amount of 10% of your highest bid price must be included with this bid**. The bond or certified check will be returned within 30 days after successful completion of the project. Upon failure to comply with the specifications set forth in this bid request, the bond or check will be applied, at PMSD's option, as liquidated damages or on account of PMSD's actual damages. Your bid will not be considered unless a bid bond or certified check in the amount of 10% of your highest bid price is included. The bid bond or certified check of the unsuccessful vendors will be returned within 10 business days of the bid award.
 - All bids submitted must be signed by the bidder or by a duly authorized agent or officer of the bidder on the Bid Letter attached hereto.
 - No rights shall accrue to any person submitting a bid or proposal unless such bid has been accepted and a letter of acceptance finally and completely executed by a duly authorized officer from PMSD.
 - The successful bidder shall not assign the performance of the contract, nor any portion thereof, to others firms without the prior express written consent of PMSD. Such consent will reasonably be extended where appropriate. Although such consent may be granted, it remains the sole responsibility of the successful bidder to ensure that all work is properly performed and that the point of contact for such work and invoicing remains solely with the successful bidder.
 - The bidder does hereby agree that, if awarded the contract under these specifications, the bidder will indemnify and save harmless the PMSD and the PMSD's directors, officers, employees, and agents from any or all costs, claims, and expenses, including reasonable counsel fees rising by reason of, or in conjunction with, any act or omission of bidder. Upon the awarding of the contract to the bidder in accordance with these specifications this agreement of indemnification shall automatically become effective.
 - **Non-Collusion** - All bidders must complete and submit the attached Non-Collusion Affidavit.
 - **Errors in specifications** - If a bidder finds discrepancies or omissions in these specifications or is in doubt as to their meaning, he shall at once notify PMSD, who will post written instructions to all bidders. PMSD will not be responsible for any oral instructions. Should any dispute arise respecting the true meaning of these specifications, the same shall be decided by PMSD and their decision shall be final.
 - **Bid Award** - The Public School Code does not require all purchases by School Districts to be awarded to the lowest bidder in dollars except when kind and quality are the same or equal. PMSD reserves the

right to decide on equality on the basis of its judgment as to suitability, durability, ease or cost of operation or maintenance, etc., even though the articles and/or services selected may not be the lowest in price of those bid. Likewise, the bidder will be judged as to his appropriate technical experience, financial status or adequate equipment to accomplish the work.

- **Standards of Quality** - Bidders must submit bids on the materials according to the quality and style described in the specifications, quoting the price for each quantity specified. When the product of a particular manufacturer is mentioned in describing various items it is for the purpose of denoting the minimum standard of quality and capacity desired. However, bids may be submitted on materials of equal quality, kind or character, (whether or not the term “or equal” is used in the description), but the bidder must state clearly the proper identification or description of the product, with specifications, catalog cuts, other information and samples. The “or equal” information of a substitute product must accompany the bid for the bid to be considered. Bids on articles of inferior quality will not be considered.
- **References** - Bidders will provide a list of at least three client references, preferably from clients in the field of education.
- **Partial Bids** - PMSD will not accept or award partial bids. Vendors must bid on the sum total of all specified NAS equipment and software.
- **Replacement Units** - While the equipment is under warranty, if PMSD reports that the equipment does not function properly, the successful vendor is required to ship overnight the equal replacement of the non-functioning equipment at vendor’s expense. Included with this replacement, vendor shall also provide a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA) and air bill so that PMSD can ship back the non-functioning equipment and the vendor’s expense.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Penn Manor Information Technology Department is requesting proposals for a redundant Network Attached Storage (NAS) system to provide highly available data storage for district file servers and systems. The NAS will be utilized by students, teachers and staff for file backup, as a repository of enterprise system data and for disaster recovery of critical systems. Desktop clients include Windows XP, Vista, Mac OS X and Linux. Two appliances are being requested with the second unit being utilized as mirrored storage for disaster recovery purposes.

SPECIFICATIONS

All equipment must be new. The successful bidder shall warrant the equipment to be new and free from defects in material and workmanship and will, within five years from the date that PMSD accepts as final successful installation, replace any equipment found to be defective and provide software/firmware upgrades as requested and/or required.

For the life of the warranty the successful bidder will, at PMSD's request and the bidder's expense, provide phone and web-based technical support in the proper use, basic care and maintenance of the equipment, in the configuration of the individual items and their integration into the district network system.

Each bidder shall accompany his/her bid with appropriate literature on the items being bid so as to allow the PMSD to be aware of the items being bid, their capabilities, their specifications and the like.

The total bid price shall include all shipping, software and hardware costs. Please note that PMSD is tax exempt.

The equipment shall arrive in new undamaged condition. PMSD reserves the right to inspect or reject any items that are incorrect or damaged. Return shipment on any defective or inaccurate items will be at the bidder's expense.

All bidders **must** bid on the base-bid items: AberNAS855 LX and Linux NAS SFM Mirror Option. Bidders **may** bid on the alternate item: AberNAS885 LX. PMSD intends to purchase one NAS model or the other, but not both models.

Equipment List

Item A – Quantity Two – Base Bid
Aberdeen Systems AberNAS855 LX

8U, 19" Rackmount System – Base Capacity 40 Terebytes, RAID 6 Format
Array Size 40 Terebytes, 40 Bays Hot Swap
40 x 1TB Server Raid Optimized – SATA Drives w/ 32MB Cache
Protocol Support: CIFS, NFS, NCP, HTTP, FTP

Enterprise Class Linux Based NAS
Dual Intel Xeon 5405 at 1333Mhz FSB, Quad-Core w/12MB Cache
2GB Fully Buffered ECC 667 MHZ DDR2 SRAM
24-port & 16-port PCI-E SATA 3Gb/s RAID Controller
1 x Disc-On-Module (DOM)
Quad Intel Gigabit Card – 4x 10/100/1000 ports
Ethernet Load Balancing, Teaming and Failover
1350W 3+1 Redundant Power Supply
Included Rack Rails

Item B – Quantity Two – Base Bid
SO255 Linux NAS SFM Option (NAS-to-NAS Mirroring/Failover)

Item C – Quantity Two – Alternate Bid
Aberdeen Systems AberNAS885 LX

8U, 19” Rackmount System – Base Capacity 50 Terebytes, RAID 6 Format
Array Size 50 Terebytes, 50 Bays Hot Swap
50 x 1TB Server Raid Optimized – SATA Drives w/ 32MB Cache
Protocol Support: CIFS, NFS, NCP, HTTP, FTP
Enterprise Class Linux Based NAS
Dual Intel Xeon 5405 at 1333Mhz FSB, Quad-Core w/12MB Cache
2GB Fully Buffered ECC 667 MHZ DDR2 SRAM
24-port & 16-port PCI-E SATA 3Gb/s RAID Controller
1 x Disc-On-Module (DOM)
Quad Intel Gigabit Card – 4x 10/100/1000 ports
Ethernet Load Balancing, Teaming and Failover
1350W 3+1 Redundant Power Supply
Included Rack Rails

Bid Letter

To the Board of School Directors
Penn Manor School District
P.O. Box 1001
Millersville, PA 17551

We, the undersigned, herewith propose and agree to furnish to the Penn Manor School District of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, any one or all of the items that we have priced, at the prices set opposite each item in this document. This bid is subject to all the terms of the specifications set forth in the attached sheets and we agree to furnish such items in exact accordance with these specifications and at the price stated.

DATE:

NAME AND TITLE:

EMAIL:

COMPANY:

TELEPHONE:

FAX:

ADDRESS:

COMPANY WEBSITE:

SIGNATURE: _____

BIDDER NAME: _____

Aberdeen Network Attached Storage (NAS) as specified above:

Item A – 2 QTY, AberNAS **855LX**: _____

Item B – 2 QTY, SO255 SFM Option: _____

Total Price for Base BID: _____

Alternate:

Item B - 2 QTY, SO255 SFM Option: _____

Item C - 2 QTY, AberNAS **885LX**: _____

Total Price For Alternate BID: _____

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

Instructions for Non-Collusion Affidavit

1. This Non-Collusion Affidavit is material to any contract awarded pursuant to this bid. According to the Pennsylvania Antibid-Rigging Act, 73 P.S., 1611 et seq., governmental agencies may require Non-Collusion Affidavits to be submitted together with bids.
2. This Non-Collusion Affidavit must be executed by the members, officer, or employee of the bidder who makes the final decision on prices and the amount quoted in the bid.
3. Bid rigging and other efforts to restrain competition and the making of false sworn statement in connection with the submission of bids are unlawful and may be subject to criminal prosecution. The person who signs the Affidavit should examine it carefully before signing and assure himself or herself that each statement is true and accurate, making diligent inquiry, as necessary, of all other persons employed by or associated with the bidder with responsibilities for the preparation, approval or submission of this bid.
4. In the case of a bid submitted by a joint venture, each party to the venture must be identified in the bid documents, and an Affidavit must be submitted separately on behalf of each party.
5. The term “complementary bid” as used in the Affidavit has the meaning commonly associated with that term in the bidding process, and includes the knowing submission of bids higher than the bid of another firm, any intentionally high or noncompetitive bid, and any other form of bid submitted for the purpose of giving a false appearance of competition.
6. **Failure to file an Affidavit in compliance with these instructions will result in disqualification of the bid.**

Non-Collusion Affidavit

CONTRACT FOR _____
(List name of item or job you are bidding on)

STATE OF _____

S.S.

COUNTY OF _____:

I state that I am _____ of
(Title)

_____ and that I am
(Name of my firm)

authorized to make this affidavit on behalf of my firm, and its owners, directors, and officers. I am the person responsible in my firm for the price(s) and the amount of this bid.

I state that:

1. The price(s) and amount of this bid have been arrived at independently and without consultation, communication or agreement with any other contractor, bidder or potential bidder.
2. Neither the price(s) nor the amount of this bid, and neither the approximate price(s) nor approximate amount of this bid, have been disclosed to any other firm or person who is a bidder or potential bidder, and they will not be disclosed before bid opening.
3. No attempt has been made or will be made to induce any firm or person to refrain from bidding on this contract, or to submit a bid higher than this bid, or to submit any intentionally high or noncompetitive bid or other form of complementary bid.
4. The bid of my firm is made in good faith and not pursuant to any agreement or discussion with, or inducement from, any firm or person to submit a complementary or other noncompetitive bid.
5. _____, its affiliates,
(Name of my firm)

subsidiaries, officers, directors and employees are not currently under investigation by any governmental agency and have not in the last three years been convicted or found liable for any act prohibited by State or Federal law in

any jurisdiction, involving conspiracy or collusion with respect to bidding on any public contract, except as follows:

I state that _____ understands
(Name of my firm)

and acknowledges that the above representations are material and important, and will be relied on by Penn Manor School District in awarding the contract(s) for which this bid is submitted. I understand and my firm understands that any misstatement in this affidavit is and shall be treated as fraudulent concealment from Penn Manor School District of the true facts relating to the submission of bids for this contract.

- 6. A statement above that a person or firm has been so convicted or found liable does not prohibit the Penn Manor School District from accepting a bid from or awarding a contract to such bidder, but may be a ground for consideration by the Penn Manor School District on the question whether the District should decline to award a contract to the bidder on the basis of a lack of responsibility.

Signature

Title

Firm

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED
BEFORE ME THIS _____
DAY OF _____,
20____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

MY COMMISSION EXPIRES: