Question Number	Question	Government Response
Amendment 0004		
1	Would you consider NAICS code 541519 with exception 18 which waves the under $30M and 150 employees requirement? Under this NAICS code you can procure the S/W and integration services needed for the response.	The NAICS code will be determined upon completion of Market Intelligence and prior to release of Request for White Papers.
Amendment 0005		
2	Why does the primary focus seem to be on DevSecOps? Is the need for that specialty or for SASE? Section 3 seem to be more around a practice. We have an entire practice, and have provided the answers for how we preform that work with current customers and internally. I just want to confirm that is the focus.	The primary focus is on the architecture and integration of SASE, virtual security containers, and SD-WAN. The Government is also interested in the company's DevSecOps practices.
3	Is the ask for a full solution or is this just for the SASE solution (referenced in section 2 that only includes cloud access and users and device access), showing how it integrates with Zero Trust framework/ SD-WAN?	The ask if for an architecture and integration of SASE, virtual security containers, and SD-WAN in order to realize zero trust concepts.
4	If question 2 is obsolete, do they want a solution that includes SDWAN?	The primary focus is on the architecture and integration of SASE, virtual security containers, and SD-WAN.
5	Are there FedRamp requirements?	The system will be accredited under the RMF process and must be able to get a full ATO for production.
6	Would the government be interested in how we already have multiple sase solutions installed in our Advanced technology center? With results from testing them in a white paper. We also are performing Sase Zero trust testing with the Zscaler, McAfee and appgate Solutions for another DoD agency and have those labs available as well.	Yes
7	We can tie cloud environments into our Advanced technology center, as well as show how we currently operate in a Devsecops manner when it comes to multi cloud. Would there be interest to see labs/POC we have currently running in our Advanced technology center?	Yes
8	How do we price out the Solution? Is it OTA costs or Production costs? Depending which you want, we will need accurate #s of users and devices to help build out aaS offering as another acquisition offer.	Please provide a rough order of magnitude to provide and integrate SASE, virtual security containers, and SD-WAN. Please be specific about how many users and devices this would cover in an OTA, as well as the build out of the architecture and integration of SASE, virtual security containers and SD-WAN in order to satisfy zero trust concepts.
9	Quick question, some of our team seem to think DISA will down select directly from the RFI. I do not think this is accurate. Can you confirm the RFI is for information only and any future down selects would come from another solicitation.	DISA will down-select from RFI responses with invitations to Reverse Industry Day only. The RWP will be open for all to respond.
Amendment 0006		

10	According to the DISA response to our question published today, it seems a decision has been made on the acquisition strategy, Reverse Industry Day, which makes questions 2.1 and 2.3 not applicable any longer.... Is this accurate.... It really seems that the RFI, as written, is not comprehensive enough to support any down selects directly.	The Government is considering the use of an Other Transaction Authority (OTA) for the Prototype, in order to support this unique acquisition. Therefore, RFI Appendix 2.1 through 2.3 remain applicable. However, the Government will make a final determination on the acquisition strategy after RFI responses are received. A down select is not anticipated at the RFI stage.
11	We are in receipt of Ammendment #4 of the Thunderdome (formally SASE) notice #DISA-OTA-R-21-SASE posted on SAM.GOV. Given the changes in the Recommendations section and the addition of the ROM requirement, we are requesting a one-week extension to now submit on 21 June 2021.	Amendment Five which edited Thunderdome RFI Appendix, Sections 3 and 4, extended the RFI response due date, and provided Q&As was published on June 7, 2021.
12	Would DISA kindly provide a sample for us to provide an OTA ROM against including: # of users, # of networks, # of app nodes or Vcpus to protect, # of sites with levels of bandwidth for SDWAN, and number of global locations.	5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small, medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
13	We have received Amendments 4 and 5 to the Thunderdome RFI and reviewed the revised Technical Capability Questions. In light of the technical questions focusing on the company's approach and innovations, rather than a single proposed solution, we do not believe that respondents currently have sufficient information on the Government's requirements to prepare a ROM and accompanying narrative. We request that the Government remove section 6 from the RFI. We recommend that the Government hold the reverse industry day in advance of the presentation of industry solutions so that the solutions can be appropriately tailored to the Government's needs. We suggest incorporating developing an initial solution and ROM as part of the Challenge Based Acquisition process.	Section 6 remains a requirement in the RFI response.
14	Will DISA clarify the actual expectations of the RFI, at present there is a lot of confusion on the concept of down-selecting directly from the RFI (based on the current language that is in the RFI - see excerpt below). Also, is DISA able to provide any information on timelines or phases that would become effective immediately upon a down-select under a Challenge-type solicitation scenario (next steps, etc.)? Additionally, is it possible to clarify the expectations of the ROM, if a basic ROM response based on key cost drivers is provided would this be acceptable or make our response non-compliant for downselect (depending on how a down-select works can impact the way a ROM is formulated)?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
15	Can hyperlinks be included within the response?	yes
16	Are there any specific integrations of existing capabilities that absolutely must be supported?	integration of SD-WAN, SASE commercial solution, and virtual security containers must be included.
17	What is the deployment strategy for the solution: on-premises, off-premises, or hybrid?	The Government will consider all variations of those solutions

18	What is the anticipated volume of concurrent users who need access to the systems or applications, and where do these systems or applications reside?	5,000 users
19	Are there specific bandwidth requirements or constraints for the SD-WAN capabilities?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
20	Can 1 company submit multiple RFI responses?	Yes
21	Can the Response date get extended further out?	The current RFI response due date of June 21, 2021 remains unchanged.
22	Does this effort include voice cybersecurity. Itcwould seem that needs to part of a zero trust architecture.	It includes all TCP based traffic
23	Should the pricing only include the SASE Solution (OEM of our choice), SDWAN solution (OEM of our choice), and the costs of Architecture and implementation services?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
24	Question 3.4 states SD-WAS, should it be SD-WAN instead?	Yes, SD-WAN
25	In section 3.1 of the RFI, Is the Gov't asking for connectivity and data flow between the IL2 to DoDIN, IL 5 to the DoDIN, and IL6 to the DoDIN? Or is the Gov't intent for interested parties to develop and provide a cross domain solution to allow data exchange across IL2, IL5, and IL6 environments?	No need for cross domain at this time.
26	In section 3.2 of the RFI, Would the Government confirm that CI/CD is Continuous Integration and Continuous Delivery? If this is not correct, please provide the correct definition of the acronym?	confirmed
27	Section 3.6 Product Backlog Management lacks sufficient detail on what the Gov't requires. Would the Govt provide additional detail to enable responders to assess the level of effort?	This section revised in amendment 5
28	Section 2.0 & 6.0 of the RFI, Would the Government more clearly define the requirements to be priced in the ROM?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
29	Would the government consider a solution which focuses specifically on recommended architecture of SASE/securing virtual containers while identifying integrations for components such as SD-WAN?	yes
30	In Amendment 5 of the revised Thunderdome RFI, the 'Material/Equipment' bullet references a white paper. Can the government clarify that at this point it is asking for information around a recommended approach and not complete white papers?	Confirmed that the Government is asking for information and a recommended approach. It can be submitted in a whitepaper.
31	Section 6.0 Price - Please clarify reference to "White Paper." Does the government mean the vendor's RFI response?	Yes

32	Section 6.0 Price - Please provide context for sizing (and end locations) of the 2 MVP milestones in order for vendors to provide comparable ROM pricing. 1. How many instantiations/replicas of this service/capability are required (MVP 1&2 vs Enterprise)? 2. What the bandwidth throughput requirement for the service? (MVP 1&2 vs Enterprise)	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
33	Would you accept submissions for partial solutions that could integrate key technologies into an overall SASE framework?	Yes
34	Will Government provide further details regarding the desired scope of MVP #1 and MVP #2? Will that be in the request for white papers (RWP)?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
35	When referencing 'backlog' is this intended to be in the context of agile delivery and referring to capabilities for future sprints or is Government referring to a general backlog of products yet to be provided?	This section was deleted in amendment 5.
36	For the ROM pricing, does the government want pricing for just the first 6 months (MVP1), for the 12 month period (MVP1 + MVP2) or through the end of 2025 (MVP1 + MVP2 + Sustainment)?	Any or all of those options will be fine
37	Does the government have any sizing estimates (compute, storage, users, etc.) for the SASE cloud-based solution?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
38	Can the government provide information regarding relevant Cloud and on-prem applications (# of applications, list of applications, complexity of applications, modernized vs. legacy applications, etc.)?	Not at this time.
39	Does the government have a preference regarding a single CSP, hybrid-cloud, or multiple clouds regarding the solution?	The Government will consider all variations of those solutions
40	Is the government intending to provide as GFE any of the cloud based infrastructure?	No. However, the vendor infrastructure must meet DOD IL5 requirements,
41	If the government provides cloud infrastructure as GFE, what cloud based infrastructure will the government provide?	N/A based on answer 40 to question
42	The RFI mentions NIPR/SIPR net and amendment #5 mentions an ATO requirement. In what timeframe based on MVP(s) deliveries does Government want the solutions accredited?	The ATO must be attained before the conclusion of the prototype
43	Is Government interested in a virtualized multi-stack solution at the edge in MVP-2 and for production?	Yes

44	How many sites are in scope for the SD-WAN Transformation, and in which countries are they located?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
45	Are there particular bandwidth requirements per site, or does the government have site categorization information to provide?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
46	What is the intended connectivity per site (MPLS/Internet/5G/4G/combinations)?	Combination, however the vendor must demonstrate appropriate data protection mechanisms while sessions are in transit.
47	Does the government have particular QoS / CoS requirements?	This will be defined at a later date.
48	Do 3rd parties need secure access to all sites?	The Government is unsure what sites are being referred to.
49	Generally, SASE technology is hosted in an unclassified cloud environment, how does the Govt. envision utilizing SASE technology within a closed SIPR environment?	SASE may be required to initially be on-prem for SIPR until an ATO can be achieved for a SASE SIPR solution in IL6 environment.
50	The Government states a planned procurement of "tools, systems, capabilities"; does the Government anticipate this being a separate procurement or will prime contractors for a potential OTA or ChBA be expected to propose such "tools, systems, capabilities, as part of an OTA or ChBA, provided the Government chooses one of those as an acquisition strategy?	There will NOT be separate OTs for procurement of tools, systems, and capabilities. It should be one integrated system per network (NIPR, SIPR)
51	The Government outlines the importance of integrating with existing DISA systems (ICAM, Comply to Connect, Endpoint, etc.), can the Government provide a list of those existing systems & expectation of integration for phase 1 and phase 2 of the MVP?	The minimum systems Thunderdome must integrate with is ICAM, SASE, SD-WAN, virtual security containers, SIEM. Others are unknown at this time.
52	Would you like us to respond directly to you for the above RFI? Just wanted to see how we could best respond.	Please respond per the guidance provided in the RFI.
53	Company X has received Amendments 4 and 5 to the Thunderdome RFI and reviewed the revised Technical Capability Questions. In light of the technical questions focusing on the company's approach and innovations, rather than a single proposed solution, we do not believe that respondents currently have sufficient information on the Government's requirements to prepare a ROM and accompanying narrative. Company X requests that the Government remove section 6 from the RFI. We recommend that the Government hold the reverse industry day in advance of the presentation of industry solutions so that the solutions can be appropriately tailored to the Government's needs. We suggest incorporating developing an initial solution and ROM as part of the Challenge Based Acquisition proces	Section 6 remains a requirement in the RFI response.

#	Question	Answer
54	In the Amendment 5 Q&A, answer 8 states that DISA will down-select from the RFI responses. Will all companies who submit an RFI response receive an invitation to the Reverse Industry Day? If not, what criteria will DISA use to select the invitees?	Reverse Industry Days are no longer contemplated for this OTA.
55	Can the government provide the size and scope of the MVPs so that all respondents can provide ROMs based on the same information?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
57	Is the government accepting replies from vendors who can provide solution for Mobile Endpoints or is it looking for replies only from vendors that can comply with a complete solution for all edge computing devices?	The government is accepting replies from vendors who can comply with a complete solution for all edge computing devices.
58	Section 6.0 - Can the government provide desired objectives on scaling and performance metrics regarding the network?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time. The solution is expected to scale in production, which is outside of the scope of this RFI.
59	Section 6.0 - Can the government provide guidance as to an acceptable scope of the minimum viable project?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
60	Q&A question 8 - Can the government confirm participation in the RFI is not a requirement to respond to the RFP?	confirmed
61	Section 6.0 - White Paper is mentioned in Section 6, but not previously. Can the government be more specific about what whitepaper they are referring to?	the Government is asking for information and a recommended approach. It can be submitted in a whitepaper.
62	Section 6.0 - Specifically where will the government instantiate and access the proposed MVP. Will the infrastructure to provide this service be physically located at a government facility or third party location?	The SASE solution is a commercial solution that for NIPR will be located at a third party location, but that for SIPR may be located on-prem for the prototype period in one of DISA's data centers. Access will be provided to contractors.
63	Section 6.0 - How will access to the MVP be controlled?	Unknown at this time.
64	Will the government allow for hyperlinks to allow for supplemental information?	Yes
65	Question 3.4 references SD-WAS, is this a typo that should read SD-WAN? Please confirm.	Confirm SD-WAN
66	Are there any specific integrations of existing capabilities that absolutely must be supported?	integration of SD-WAN, SASE commercial solution, and virtual security containers must be included.
67	What is the deployment strategy for the solution: on-premises, off-premises, or hybrid?	The Government will accept RFI responses from all vendors who provide information for on-premise, off-premise, or hybrid solutions
68	What is the anticipated volume of concurrent users who need access to the systems or applications, and where do these systems or applications reside?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.

69	Are there specific bandwidth requirements or constraints for the SD-WAN capabilities?	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
70	I was wondering if I can gain access to the files in Caution-www.sam.gov < Caution-http://www.sam.gov > for the Thunderdome RFI ? I have tried to request in Caution-www.sam.gov < Caution-http://www.sam.gov > but I am still waiting for my Roles assignment.	The RFI and all amendments can also be obtained at Dreamport.tech / Opportunities / DISA Call for White Papers.
71	Would DISA like for the pricing section to be separated from the technical section?	Yes
72	Does the ROM represent the Price/Costs associated with only the R&D development or the solution that will go into production. Our understanding is that the ROM represents the Price/Costs for the R&D period only (i.e. the initial 12-month period pertaining to solution development).	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
73	In the RFI, Section 4. Contractor Participation, it states that the vendors have 4 pages for response to the technical capability questions and then 1 page for additional recommendations. Then after the technical questions in 3.1 through 3.5, the next RFI response section is 4.0 Recommendations with a 4 page limit. Can the government provide clarity that this is the same section referenced as the technical capability response or is this the additional recommendations response and the page count conflicts?	This section has been revised in amendment 6
74	In Section 3.0 Technical Capability Questions, number 3.4 – should the acronym mentioned be SD-WAN versus SD-WAS?	Yes, SD-WAN.
75	In Section 6.0 Price – there are no quantity of devices, user numbers, or size constraints to define the ROM pricing for both OTA and production. Please specify the size and magnitude of the SASE work to be priced. The better defined the more meaningful the ROM will be for the government. Otherwise the pricing comparison is not equivalent among vendors.	ROM expectations: 5,000 users, 2 networks (NIPR & SIPR), up to 25 sites in a 6 month prototype period. Bandwidth would range small medium and large (1, 10,100G). Number of app nodes unknown at this time.
76	For Section 6.0 Price, Last request is for ODC's/Travel expenses, please specify the place of performance by at least city/state/country? If vendor charges consistent with government JTR guidelines will this be sufficient to the government for ODC's/Travel?	United States Yes
77	We respectfully request an additional two week extension for guidance on these questions from the government.	The current RFI response due date of June 21, 2021 remains unchanged.
78	Does DISA expect that the responder must be able to provide and demonstrate an integration between their SASE solution and SDWAN + Zero Trust solutions?	Yes, at the most extent possible
79	One area of the RFI indicates 1 page for the Recommendation and another area indicates 4. Confirm which is correct.	4 pages

80	The nature of the changes incorporated with Amendment 5 of the referenced RFI, including using this response as a down-select for the reverse industry day, significantly alters the response that we anticipate for this request. To enable vendors to provide a more complete and thought out response, would the government consider extending the due date to 7/7/2021?	The current RFI response due date of June 21, 2021 remains unchanged.