

TIPS VENDOR AGREEMENT

TIPS RFP 230504 Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services

The following Vendor Agreement (“Agreement”) creates a legal agreement between The Interlocal Purchasing System (“TIPS”), a government purchasing cooperative and Department of Texas Region 8 Education Service Center and (INSERT ENTITY NAME):

Minntek Solutions, Inc.

(ENTER ENTITY NAME]

its owners, agents, subsidiaries, and affiliates (together, “Vendor”) (individually, “Party”, and collectively the “Parties”) and this agreement shall exclusively govern the contractual relationship (“Agreement”) between the Parties.

TIPS, a governmental entity and a national purchasing cooperative seeks to provide a valuable and necessary solution to public entities and qualifying non-profits by performing the public procurement solicitation process and awarding compliant contracts to qualified vendors. Then, where the law of a customer’s jurisdiction allows, instead of public entities and qualifying non-profits expending time, money, and resources on the extensive public procurement process, the use of TIPS allows public entities to quickly select and purchase their preferred products or services from qualified, competitively evaluated vendors through cooperative purchasing.

1. **Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to identify the terms and conditions of the relationship between TIPS and Vendor. Public entities and qualifying non-profits that properly join or utilize TIPS (“TIPS Members”) may elect to “piggyback” off of TIPS’ procurements and agreements where the laws of their jurisdiction allow. TIPS Members are not contractual parties to this Agreement although terms and conditions of this Agreement may ensure benefits to TIPS Members.
2. **Authority.** The Parties agree that the signatories below are individual authorized to enter into this Agreement on behalf of their entity and that they are acting under due and proper authority under applicable law.
3. **Definitions.**
 - a. **TIPS Pricing:** The specific pricing, discounts, and other pricing terms and incentives which Vendor submitted and TIPS approved for each respective TIPS Contract awarded to Vendor and all permissible, subsequent pricing updates submitted by Vendor and accepted by TIPS, if any.
 - b. **Authorized Reseller:** A reseller or dealer authorized and added by a Vendor through their online TIPS Vendor Portal to make TIPS sales according to the terms and conditions herein.
4. **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement resulted from TIPS posting a “TIPS Solicitation” (RFP, RCSP, RFQ, or other) and Vendor submitting a proposal in response to that posted TIPS Solicitation for evaluation and award. The Parties agree that this Agreement consists of the provisions set forth herein and: (1) The TIPS solicitation document resulting in this Agreement; (2) Any addenda or clarifications issued in relation to the TIPS solicitation; (3) All solicitation information provided to Vendor by TIPS through the TIPS eBid System; (3) Vendor’s entire proposal response to the TIPS solicitation including all accepted required attachments, acknowledged notices and certifications, accepted negotiated terms, pricing, accepted responses to questions, and accepted written clarifications of Vendor’s proposal, and; any properly included attachments to this Agreement. All documentation and information listed is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth herein verbatim. In the event of conflict between the terms herein and one of the incorporated documents the terms and conditions herein shall control.
5. **Vendor’s Specific Warranties, Terms, and License Agreements.** Because TIPS serves public entities and non-profits throughout the nation all of which are subject to specific laws and policies of their jurisdiction, as a matter of standard practice, TIPS does not typically accept a Vendor’s specific “Sale Terms” (warranties, license agreements, master agreements, terms and conditions, etc.) on behalf of all TIPS Members. TIPS may permit Vendor to attach those to this Agreement to display to interested customers what terms may apply to their Supplemental Agreement with Vendor (if submitted by Vendor for that purpose). However, unless this term of the Agreement is negotiated and modified to state otherwise, those specific Sale Terms are not accepted by TIPS on behalf of all TIPS Members and each Member may choose whether to accept, negotiate, or reject those specific Sale Terms, which must be reflected in a separate agreement between Vendor and the Member in order to be effective.
6. **Vendor Identity and Contact Information.** It is Vendor’s sole responsibility to ensure that all identifying vendor information (name, EIN, d/b/a’s, etc.) and contact information is updated and current at all times within the TIPS eBid System and the TIPS Vendor Portal. It is Vendor’s sole responsibility to confirm that all e-correspondence issued from tips-usa.com, ionwave.net, and tipsconstruction.com

to Vendor's contacts are received and are not blocked by firewall or other technology security. Failure to permit receipt of correspondence from these domains and failure to keep vendor identity and contact information current at all times during the life of the contract may cause loss of TIPS Sales, accumulating TIPS fees, missed rebid opportunities, lapse of TIPS Contract(s), and unnecessary collection or legal actions against Vendor. It is no defense to any of the foregoing or any breach of this Agreement that Vendor was not receiving TIPS' electronic communications issued by TIPS to Vendor's listed contacts.

7. **Initiation of TIPS Sales.** When a public entity initiates a purchase with Vendor, if the Member inquires verbally or in writing whether Vendor holds a TIPS Contract, it is the duty of the Vendor to verify whether the Member is seeking a TIPS purchase. Once verified, Vendor must include the TIPS Contract Number on all purchase communications and sales documents exchanged with the TIPS Member.
8. **TIPS Sales and Supplemental Agreements.** The terms of the specific TIPS order, including but not limited to: shipping, freight, insurance, delivery, fees, bonding, cost, delivery expectations and location, returns, refunds, terms, conditions, cancellations, order assistance, etc., shall be controlled by the purchase agreement (Purchase Order, Contract, Invoice, etc.) (hereinafter "Supplemental Agreement") entered into between the TIPS Member Customer and Vendor only. TIPS is not a party to any Supplemental Agreement. All Supplemental Agreements shall include Vendor's Name, as known to TIPS, and TIPS Contract Name and Number. Vendor accepts and understands that TIPS is not a legal party to TIPS Sales and Vendor is solely responsible for identifying fraud, mistakes, unacceptable terms, or misrepresentations for the specific order prior to accepting. Vendor agrees that any order issued from a customer to Vendor, even when processed through TIPS, constitutes a legal contract between the customer and Vendor only. When Vendor accepts or fulfills an order, even when processed through TIPS, Vendor is representing that Vendor has carefully reviewed the order for legality, authenticity, and accuracy and TIPS shall not be liable or responsible for the same. In the event of a conflict between the terms of this TIPS Vendor Agreement and those contained in any Supplemental Agreement, the provisions set forth herein shall control unless otherwise agreed to and authorized by the Parties in writing within the Supplemental Agreement.
9. **Right of Refusal.** Vendor has the right not to sell to a TIPS Member under the awarded agreement at Vendor's discretion unless otherwise required by law.
10. **Reporting TIPS Sales.** Vendor must report all TIPS Sales to TIPS. If a TIPS sale is initiated by Vendor receiving a TIPS Member's purchase order from TIPS directly, Vendor may consider that specific TIPS Sale reported. Otherwise, with the exception of TIPS Automated Vendors, who have signed an exclusive agreement with TIPS regarding reporting, all TIPS Sales must be reported to TIPS by either: (1) Emailing the purchase order or similar purchase document (with Vendor's Name, as known to TIPS, and the TIPS Contract Name and Number included) to TIPS at tipspo@tips-usa.com with "Confirmation Only" in the subject line of the email within three business days of Vendor's acceptance of the order, or; (2) Within 3 business days of the order being accepted by Vendor, Vendor must login to the TIPS Vendor Portal and successfully self-report all necessary sale information within the Vendor Portal and confirm that it shows up accurately on your current Vendor Portal statement. No other method of reporting is acceptable unless agreed to by the Parties in writing. Failure to report all sales pursuant to this provision may result in immediate cancellation of Vendor's TIPS Contract(s) for cause at TIPS' sole discretion. Please refer to the TIPS [Accounting FAQ's](#) for more information about reporting sales and if you have further questions, contact the Accounting Team at accounting@tips-usa.com.
11. **TIPS Administration Fees.** The collection of administrative fees by TIPS, a government entity, for performance of these procurement services is required pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 791.011 et. seq. The administration fee ("TIPS Administration Fee") is the amount legally owed by Vendor to TIPS for TIPS Sales made by Vendor. The TIPS Administration Fee amount is typically a set percentage of the amount paid by the TIPS Member for each TIPS Sale, less shipping cost, bond cost, and taxes if applicable and identifiable, which is legally due to TIPS, but the exact TIPS Administration Fee for this Contract is published in the corresponding solicitation and is incorporated herein by reference. TIPS Administration Fees are due to TIPS immediately upon Vendor's receipt of payment, including partial payment, for a TIPS Sale. The TIPS Administration Fee is assessed on the amount paid by the TIPS Member, not on the Vendor's cost or on the amount for which the Vendor sold the item to a dealer or Authorized Reseller. Upon receipt of payment for a TIPS Sale, including partial payment (which renders TIPS Administration Fees immediately due), Vendor shall issue to TIPS the corresponding TIPS Administration Fee payment as soon as possible but not later than thirty-one calendar days following Vendor's receipt of payment. Vendor shall pay TIPS via check unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties in writing. Vendor shall include clear documentation with the issued payment dictating to which sale(s) the amount should be applied. Vendor may create a payment report within their TIPS Vendor Portal which is the preferred documentation dictating to which TIPS Sale(s) the amount should be applied. Failure to pay all TIPS Administration Fees pursuant to this provision may result in immediate cancellation of Vendor's TIPS Contract(s) for cause at TIPS' sole discretion as well as the initiation of collection and legal actions by TIPS against Vendor to the extent permitted by law. Any overpayment of participation fees to TIPS by Vendor will be refunded to the Vendor within ninety (90) days of receipt of notification if TIPS receives written notification of the overpayment not later than the expiration of six (6) months from the date of overpayment and TIPS determines that the amount was not legally due to TIPS pursuant to this agreement and applicable law. Any notification of overpayment received by TIPS after the expiration of six (6) months from the date that TIPS received the payment will render the overpayment non-refundable. Region 8 ESC and TIPS reserve the right to extend the

six (6) month deadline if approved by the Region 8 ESC Board of Directors. TIPS reserves all rights under the law to collect TIPS Administration Fees due to TIPS pursuant to this Agreement.

- 12. Term of the Agreement.** This Agreement with TIPS is for approximately five years with a one-year, consecutive option for renewal as described herein. Renewal options are not automatic and shall only be effective if offered by TIPS at its sole discretion. If TIPS offers a renewal option, the Vendor will be notified via email issued to Vendor's then-listed Primary Contact. The renewal option shall be deemed accepted by Vendor unless Vendor notifies TIPS of its objection to the renewal option in writing and confirms receipt by TIPS.

Actual Effective Date: Agreement is effective upon signature by authorized representatives of both Parties. The Effective Date does not affect the "Term Calculation Start Date."

Term Calculation Start Date: To keep the contract term consistent for all vendors awarded under a single TIPS contract, Vendor shall calculate the foregoing term as starting on the last day of the month that "Award Notifications" are anticipated as published in the Solicitation, regardless of the actual Effective Date.

Example of Term Calculation Start Date: If the anticipated "Award Date" published in the Solicitation is May 22, 2023, but extended negotiations delay award until June 27, 2023 (Actual Effective Date), the Term Calculation Start Date shall be May 31, 2023 in this example.

Contract Expiration Date: To keep the contract term consistent for all vendors awarded under a single TIPS contract, the term expiration date shall be five-years from the Term Calculation Start Date.

Example of Contract Expiration Date: If the anticipated "Award Date" published in the Solicitation is May 22, 2023, but extended negotiations delay award until June 27, 2023 (Actual Effective Date), the Term Calculation Start Date shall be May 31, 2023 and the Contract Expiration Date of the resulting initial "five-year" term, (which is subject to an extension(s)) will be May 31, 2028 in this example.

Option(s) for Renewal: Any option(s) for renewal shall begin on the Contract Expiration Date, or the date of the expiration of the prior renewal term where applicable, and continue for the duration specified for the renewal option herein.

Example of Option(s) for Renewal: In this example, if TIPS offers a one-year renewal and the Contract Expiration Date is May 31, 2028, then the one-year renewal is effective from May 31, 2028 to May 31, 2029.

TIPS may offer to extend Vendor Agreements to the fullest extent the TIPS Solicitation resulting in this Agreement permits.

- 13. TIPS Pricing.** Vendor agrees and understands that for each TIPS Contract that it holds, Vendor submitted, agreed to, and received TIPS' approval for specific pricing, discounts, and other pricing terms and incentives which make up Vendor's TIPS Pricing for that TIPS Contract ("TIPS Pricing"). Vendor confirms that Vendor will not add the TIPS Administration Fee as a charge or line-item in a TIPS Sale. Vendor hereby certifies that Vendor shall only offer goods and services through this TIPS Contract if those goods and services are included in or added to Vendor's TIPS Pricing and approved by TIPS. TIPS reserves the right to review Vendor's pricing update requests as specifically as line-item by line-item to determine compliance. However, Vendor contractually agrees that all submitted pricing updates shall be within the original terms of the Vendor's TIPS Pricing (scope, proposed discounts, price increase limitations, and other pricing terms and incentives originally proposed by Vendor) such that TIPS may accept Vendors price increase requests as submitted without additional vetting at TIPS discretion. Any pricing quoted by Vendor to a TIPS Member or on a TIPS Quote shall never exceed Vendor's TIPS Pricing for any good or service offered through TIPS. TIPS Pricing price increases and modifications, if permitted, will be honored according to the terms of the solicitation and Vendor's proposal, incorporated herein by reference.

- 14. Indemnification of TIPS.** VENDOR AGREES TO INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND DEFEND TIPS, TIPS MEMBERS, TIPS OFFICERS, TIPS EMPLOYEES, TIPS DIRECTORS, AND TIPS TRUSTEES (THE "TIPS INDEMNITEES") FROM AND AGAINST ALL CLAIMS AND SUITS BY THIRD-PARTIES FOR DAMAGES, INJURIES TO PERSONS (INCLUDING DEATH), PROPERTY DAMAGES, LOSSES, EXPENSES, FEES, INCLUDING COURT COSTS, ATTORNEY'S FEES, AND EXPERT FEES, ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO VENDOR'S PERFORMANCE UNDER THIS AGREEMENT (INCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE OF VENDOR'S OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AUTHORIZED RESELLERS, SUBCONTRACTORS, LICENSEES, OR INVITEES), REGARDLESS OF THE NATURE OF THE CAUSE OF ACTION, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION CAUSES OF ACTION BASED UPON COMMON, CONSTITUTIONAL, OR STATUTORY LAW OR BASED IN WHOLE OR IN PART UPON ALLEGATIONS OF NEGLIGENT OR INTENTIONAL ACTS OR OMISSIONS ON THE PART OF VENDOR, ITS OFFICERS, EMPLOYEES, AGENTS, AUTHORIZED RESELLERS, SUBCONTRACTORS, LICENSEES, OR INVITEES. NO LIMITATION OF LIABILITY FOR DAMAGES FOR PERSONAL INJURY OR PROPERTY DAMAGE ARE PERMITTED OR AGREED TO BY TIPS. APART FROM THIS INDEMNIFICATION PROVISION REQUIRING INDEMNIFICATION OF THE TIPS INDEMNITEES'

ATTORNEY'S FEES AS SET FORTH ABOVE, RECOVERY OF ATTORNEYS' FEES BY THE PREVAILING PARTY IS AUTHORIZED ONLY IF AUTHORIZED BY TEX. EDUC. CODE § 44.032(F).

- 15. Indemnification and Assumption of Risk – Vendor Data.** VENDOR AGREES THAT IT IS VOLUNTARILY PROVIDING DATA (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO: VENDOR INFORMATION, VENDOR DOCUMENTATION, VENDOR'S PROPOSALS, VENDOR PRICING SUBMITTED OR PROVIDED TO TIPS, TIPS CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, TIPS CORRESPONDENCE, VENDOR LOGOS AND IMAGES, VENDOR'S CONTACT INFORMATION, VENDOR'S BROCHURES AND COMMERCIAL INFORMATION, VENDOR'S FINANCIAL INFORMATION, VENDOR'S CERTIFICATIONS, AND ANY OTHER VENDOR INFORMATION OR DOCUMENTATION, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION SOFTWARE AND SOURCE CODE UTILIZED BY VENDOR, SUBMITTED TO TIPS BY VENDOR AND ITS AGENTS) ("VENDOR DATA") TO TIPS. FOR THE SAKE OF CLARITY, AND WITHOUT LIMITING THE BREADTH OF THE INDEMNITY OBLIGATIONS IN SECTION 14 ABOVE, VENDOR AGREES TO PROTECT, INDEMNIFY, AND HOLD THE TIPS INDEMNITEES HARMLESS FROM AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL LOSSES, CLAIMS, ACTIONS, DEMANDS, ALLEGATIONS, SUITS, JUDGMENTS, COSTS, EXPENSES, FEES, INCLUDING COURT COSTS, ATTORNEY'S FEES, AND EXPERT FEES AND ALL OTHER LIABILITY OF ANY NATURE WHATSOEVER ARISING OUT OF OR RELATING TO: (I) ANY UNAUTHORIZED, NEGLIGENT OR WRONGFUL USE OF, OR CYBER DATA BREACH INCIDENT AND VIRUSES OR OTHER CORRUPTING AGENTS INVOLVING, VENDOR'S DATA, PRICING, AND INFORMATION, COMPUTERS, OR OTHER HARDWARE OR SOFTWARE SYSTEMS, AND; (II) ALLEGATIONS OR CLAIMS THAT ANY VENDOR DATA INFRINGES ON THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS OF A THIRD-PARTY OR VENDOR.
- 16. Procedures Related to Indemnification.** In the event that an indemnity obligation arises, Vendor shall pay all amounts set forth in Section 14 and 15 above (including any settlements) and – if it has accepted its indemnity obligation without qualification – control the legal defense to such claim or cause of action, including without limitation attorney selection, strategy, discovery, trial, appeal, and settlement, and TIPS shall, at Vendor's cost and expense (with respect to reasonable out of pocket costs and expenses incurred by TIPS which shall be reimbursed to TIPS by Vendor), provide all commercially reasonable assistance requested by Vendor. In controlling any defense, Vendor shall ensure that all assertions of governmental immunity and all applicable pleas and defenses shall be promptly asserted.
- 17. Indemnity for Underlying Sales and Supplemental Agreements.** Vendor shall be solely responsible for any customer claims or any disputes arising out of TIPS Sales or any Supplemental Agreement as if sold in the open-market. The Parties agree that TIPS shall not be liable for any claims arising out of Vendor's TIPS Sales or Supplemental Agreements, including but not limited to: allegations of product defect or insufficiency, allegations of service defect or insufficiency, allegations regarding delivery defect or insufficiency, allegations of fraud or misrepresentation, allegations regarding pricing or amounts owed for TIPS sales, and/or allegations regarding payment, over-payment, under-payment, or non-payment for TIPS Sales. Payment/Drafting, overpayment/over-drafting, under-payment/under-drafting, or non-payment for TIPS Sales between customer and Vendor and inspections, rejections, or acceptance of such purchases shall be the exclusive respective obligations of Vendor/Customer, and disputes shall be handled in accordance with the terms of the underlying Supplemental Agreement(s) entered into between Vendor and Customer. Vendor acknowledges that TIPS is not a dealer, subcontractor, agent, or reseller of Vendor's goods and services and shall not be responsible for any claims arising out of alleged insufficiencies or defects in Vendor's goods and services, should any arise.
- 18. Confidentiality of Vendor Data.** Vendor understands and agrees that by signing this Agreement, all Vendor Data is hereby released to TIPS, TIPS Members, and TIPS third-party administrators to effectuate Vendor's TIPS Contract except as provided for herein. The Parties agree that Vendor Data is accessible by all TIPS Members as if submitted directly to that TIPS Member Customer for purchase consideration. If Vendor otherwise considers any portion of Vendor's Data to be confidential and not subject to public disclosure pursuant to Chapter 552 Texas Gov't Code (the "Public Information Act") or other law(s) and orders, Vendor must have identified the claimed confidential materials through proper execution of the Confidentiality Claim Form which is required to be submitted as part of Vendor's proposal resulting in this Agreement and incorporated by reference. The Confidentiality Claim Form included in Vendor's proposal and incorporated herein by reference is the sole indicator of whether Vendor considers any Vendor Data confidential in the event TIPS receives a Public Information Request. If TIPS receives a request, any responsive documentation not deemed confidential by you in this manner will be automatically released. For Vendor Data deemed confidential by you in this manner, TIPS will follow procedures of controlling statute(s) regarding any claim of confidentiality and shall not be liable for any release of information required by law, including Attorney General determination and opinion. In the event that TIPS receives a written request for information pursuant to the Public Information Act that affects Vendor's interest in any information or data furnished to TIPS by Vendor, and TIPS requests an opinion from the Attorney General, Vendor may, at its own option and expense, prepare comments and submit information directly to the Attorney General stating why the requested information is exempt from disclosure pursuant to the requirements of the Public Information Act. Vendor is solely responsible for submitting the memorandum brief and information to the Attorney General within the time period prescribed by the Public Information Act. Notwithstanding any other information provided in this solicitation or Vendor designation of certain Vendor Data as confidential or proprietary, Vendor's acceptance of this TIPS Vendor Agreement constitutes Vendor's consent to the disclosure of Vendor's Data, including any information deemed confidential or proprietary, to TIPS Members or as ordered by a Court or government agency, including without limitation the Texas Attorney General. Vendor agrees

that TIPS shall not be responsible or liable for any use or distribution of information or documentation by TIPS Members or as required by law.

- 19. Vendor's Authorized Resellers.** TIPS recognizes that many vendors operate in the open market through the use of resellers or dealers. For that reason, TIPS permits Vendor to authorize Authorized Resellers within its Vendor Portal and make TIPS Sales through the Authorized Reseller(s). Once authorized by Vendor in the Vendor Portal, the Authorized Reseller(s) may make TIPS sales to TIPS Members. However, all purchase documents must include: (1) Authorized Reseller's Name; (2) Vendor's Name, as known to TIPS, and; (3) Vendor's TIPS Contract Name and Number under which it is making the TIPS Sale. Either Vendor or Reseller may report the sale pursuant to the terms herein. However, Vendor agrees that it is legally responsible for all reporting and fee payment as described herein for TIPS Sales made by Authorized Resellers. The TIPS Administration Fee is assessed on the amount paid by the TIPS Member, not on the Vendor's cost or on the amount for which the Vendor sold the item to a dealer or Authorized Reseller. The Parties intend that Vendor shall be responsible and liable for TIPS Sales made by Vendor's Authorized Resellers. Vendor agrees that it is voluntarily authorizing this Authorized Reseller and in doing so, Vendor agrees that it is doing so at its own risk and agrees to protect, indemnify, and hold TIPS harmless in accordance with Sections 14-17 above related to Authorized Reseller TIPS Sales made pursuant to this Agreement or purporting to be made pursuant to this Agreement that may be asserted against Vendor whether rightfully brought or otherwise. The Parties further agree that it is no defense to Vendor's breach of this Agreement that an Authorized Reseller caused Vendor of breach this Agreement.
- 20. Circumvention of TIPS Sales.** When a public entity initiates a purchase with Vendor, if the Member inquires verbally or in writing whether Vendor holds a TIPS Contract, it is the duty of the Vendor to verify whether the Member is seeking a TIPS purchase. Any request for quote, customer communication, or customer purchase initiated through or referencing a TIPS Contract shall be completed through TIPS pursuant to this Agreement. Any encouragement or participation by Vendor in circumventing a TIPS sale being completed may result in immediate termination of Vendor's TIPS Contract(s) for cause as well as preclusion from future TIPS opportunities at TIPS sole discretion.
- 21. State of Texas Franchise Tax.** By signature hereon, Vendor hereby certifies that Vendor is not currently delinquent in the payment of any franchise taxes owed to the State of Texas under Chapter 171 of the Texas Tax Code.
- 22. Termination.**
- A) Termination for Convenience. TIPS may, by written notice to Vendor, terminate this Agreement for convenience, in whole or in part, at any time by giving thirty (30) days' written notice to Vendor of such termination, and specifying the effective date thereof.
 - B) Termination for Cause. If Vendor fails to materially perform pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, TIPS shall provide written notice to Vendor specifying the default. If Vendor does not cure such default within thirty (30) days, TIPS may terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, for cause. If TIPS terminates this Agreement for cause, and it is later determined that the termination for cause was wrongful, the termination shall automatically be converted to and treated as a termination for convenience.
 - C) Vendor's Termination. If TIPS fails to materially perform pursuant to the terms of this Agreement, Vendor shall provide written notice to TIPS specifying the default ("Notice of Default"). If TIPS does not cure such default within thirty (30) days, Vendor may terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, for cause. If Vendor terminates this Agreement for cause, and it is later determined that the termination for cause was wrongful, the termination shall automatically be converted to and treated as a termination for convenience.
 - D) Upon termination, all TIPS Sale orders previously accepted by Vendor shall be fulfilled and Vendor shall be paid for all TIPS Sales executed pursuant to the applicable terms. All TIPS Sale orders presented to Vendor but not fulfilled by Vendor, prior to the actual termination of this agreement shall be honored at the option of the TIPS Member. TIPS shall submit to Vendor an invoice for any outstanding TIPS Administration Fees and approved expenses and Vendor shall pay such fees and expenses within 30 calendar days of receipt of such valid TIPS invoice. Vendor acknowledges and agrees that continued participation in TIPS is subject to TIPS' sole discretion and that any Vendor may be removed from the TIPS program at any time with or without cause. This termination clause does not affect TIPS Sales Supplemental Agreements pursuant to this term regarding termination and the Survival Clause term.
 - E) Vendor hereby waives any and all claims for damages, including, but not limited, to consequential damages or lost profits, that might arise from TIPS' act of terminating this Agreement.

- 23. Survival Clause.** It is the intent of the Parties that this Agreement and procurement method applies to any TIPS Sale made during the life of this Agreement even if made on or near the Contract Expiration Date as defined herein. Thus, all TIPS Sales, including but not limited to: leases, service agreements, license agreements, open purchase orders, warranties, and contracts, even if they extend months or years past the TIPS Contract Expiration Date, shall survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement subject to the terms and conditions of the Supplemental Agreement between Customer and Vendor or unless otherwise specified herein.
- 24. Audit Rights.** Due to transparency statutes and public accountability requirements of TIPS and TIPS Members, Vendor shall at their sole expense, maintain documentation of all TIPS Sales for a period of three years from the time of the TIPS Sale. In order to ensure and confirm compliance with this agreement, TIPS shall have authority to conduct audits of Vendor's TIPS Pricing or TIPS Sales with thirty-days' notice unless the audit is ordered by a Court Order or by a Government Agency with authority to do so without said notice. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that TIPS is made aware of any pricing being offered to eligible entities that is materially inconsistent with Vendor's TIPS Pricing, TIPS shall have the ability to conduct the audit internally or may engage a third-party auditing firm to investigate any possible non-compliant conduct or may terminate the Agreement according to the terms of this Agreement. In the event of an audit, the requested materials shall be reasonably provided in the time, format, and at the location acceptable to TIPS. TIPS agrees not to perform a random audit the TIPS transaction documentation more than once per calendar year, but reserves the right to audit for just cause or as required by any governmental agency or court with regulatory authority over TIPS or the TIPS Member. These audit rights shall survive termination of this Agreement for a period of one (1) year from the effective date of termination.
- 25. Conflicts of Interest.** The Parties confirm that they have not offered, given, or accepted, nor intend to give at any time hereafter any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discount, trip, favor, service to the other in connection with this Agreement. Vendor affirms that, to the best of Vendor's knowledge, this Agreement has been arrived at independently, and is awarded without collusion with anyone to obtain information or gain any favoritism that would in any way limit competition or give an unfair advantage over other vendors in the award of this Agreement. Vendor agrees that it has disclosed any necessary affiliations with Region 8 Education Service Center and the TIPS Department, if any, through the Conflict of Interest attachment provided in the solicitation resulting in this Agreement.
- 26. Volume of TIPS Sales.** Nothing in this Agreement or any TIPS communication may be construed as a guarantee that TIPS or TIPS Members will submit any TIPS orders to Vendor at any time.
- 27. Compliance with the Law.** The Parties agree to comply fully with all applicable federal, state, and local statutes, ordinances, rules, and regulations applicable to their entity in connection with the programs contemplated under this Agreement.
- 28. Severability.** If any term(s) or provision(s) of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, void, or unenforceable, then such term(s) or provision(s) shall be deemed restated to reflect the original intention of the Parties as nearly as possible in accordance with applicable law and the remainder of this Agreement, and the remainder of the provisions of this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and shall in no way be affected, impaired or invalidated, unless such holding causes the obligations of the Parties hereto to be impossible to perform or shall render the terms of this Agreement to be inconsistent with the intent of the Parties hereto.
- 29. Force Majeure.** If by reason of Force Majeure, either party hereto shall be rendered unable wholly or in part to carry out its obligations under this Agreement through no fault of its own then such party shall give notice and full particulars of Force Majeure in writing to the other party within a reasonable time after occurrence of the event or cause relied upon. Upon delivering such notice, the obligation of the affected party, so far as it is affected by such Force Majeure as described, shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability then claimed but for no longer period, and such party shall endeavor to remove or overcome such inability with all reasonable dispatch. In the event that Vendor's obligations are suspended by reason of Force Majeure, all TIPS Sales accepted prior to the Force Majeure event shall be the legal responsibility of Vendor and the terms of the TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement shall control Vendor's failure to fulfill for a Force Majeure event.
- 30. Immunity.** Vendor agrees that nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign or government immunity; nor constitute or be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to Region 8 Education Service Center or its TIPS Department. The failure to enforce, or any delay in the enforcement of, any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to Region 8 Education Service Center or its TIPS Department under this Agreement or under applicable law shall not constitute a waiver of such privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities or be considered as a basis for estoppel.
- 31. Insurance Requirements.** Vendor agrees to maintain the following minimum insurance requirements for the duration of this Agreement. All policies held by Vendor to adhere to this term shall be written by a carrier with a financial size category of VII and at least a rating of "A-" by A.M. Best Key Rating Guide. The coverages and limits are to be considered minimum requirements and in

no way limit the liability of the Vendor(s). Any immunity available to TIPS or TIPS Members shall not be used as a defense by the contractor's insurance policy. Only deductibles applicable to property damage are acceptable, unless proof of retention funds to cover said deductibles is provided. "Claims made" policies will not be accepted. Vendor's required minimum coverage shall not be suspended, voided, cancelled, non-renewed or reduced in coverage or in limits unless replaced by a policy that provides the minimum required coverage except after thirty (30) days prior written notice by certified mail, return receipt requested has been given to TIPS or the TIPS Member if a project or pending delivery of an order is ongoing. Upon request, certified copies of all insurance policies shall be furnished to the TIPS or the TIPS Member. Vendor agrees that when Vendor or its subcontractors are liable for any damages or claims, Vendor's policy, shall be primary over any other valid and collectible insurance carried by the Member or TIPS.

General Liability: \$1,000,000 each Occurrence/Aggregate
Automobile Liability: \$300,000 Includes owned, hired & non-owned
Workers' Compensation: Statutory limits for the jurisdiction in which the Vendor performs under this Agreement. If Vendor performs in multiple jurisdictions, Vendor shall maintain the statutory limits for the jurisdiction with the greatest dollar policy limit requirement.
Umbrella Liability: \$1,000,000 each Occurrence/Aggregate

32. **Waiver.** No waiver of any single breach or multiple breaches of any provision of this Agreement shall be construed to be a waiver of any breach of any other provision. No delay in acting regarding any breach of any provision shall be construed to be a waiver of such breach.
33. **Binding Agreement.** This Agreement shall be binding and inure to the benefit of the Parties hereto and their respective heirs, legal successors, and assigns.
34. **Headings.** The paragraph headings contained in this Agreement are included solely for convenience of reference and shall not in any way affect the meaning or interpretation of any of the provisions of this Agreement.
35. **Choice of Law and Venue.** This Agreement shall be governed by, construed, and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. Any proceeding, claim, action, or alternative dispute resolution arising out of or relating to this Agreement or involving TIPS shall be brought in a State Court of competent jurisdiction in Camp County, Texas, or if Federal Court is legally required, a Federal Court of competent jurisdiction in the Eastern District of Texas, and each of the Parties irrevocably submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of said court in any such proceeding, waives any objection it may now or hereafter have to venue or to convenience of forum, agrees that all claims in respect of the proceeding shall be heard and determined only in any such court, and agrees not to bring any proceeding arising out of or relating to this procurement process or any contract resulting from or and contemplated transaction in any other court. The Parties agree that either or both of them may file a copy of this paragraph with any court as written evidence of the knowing, voluntary and freely bargained for agreement between the Parties irrevocably to waive any objections to venue or to convenience of forum.
36. **Relationship of the Parties.** Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed to make one Party an agent of the other Party nor shall either party have any authority to bind the other in any respect, unless expressly authorized by the other party in writing. The Parties are independent contractors and nothing in this Agreement creates a relationship of employment, trust, agency or partnership between them.
37. **Assignment.** No assignment of this Agreement or of any duty or obligation of performance hereunder, shall be made in whole or in part by a Party hereto without the prior written consent of the other Party. Written consent of TIPS shall not be unreasonably withheld.
38. **Minimum Condition and Warranty Requirements for TIPS Sales.** All goods quoted or sold through a TIPS Sale shall be new unless clearly stated otherwise in writing. All new goods and services shall include the applicable manufacturers minimum standard warranty unless otherwise agreed to in the Supplemental Agreement.
39. **Minimum Customer Support Requirements for TIPS Sales.** Vendor shall provide timely and commercially reasonable support for TIPS Sales or as agreed to in the applicable Supplemental Agreement.
40. **Minimum Shipping Requirements for TIPS Sales.** Vendor shall ship, deliver, or provide ordered goods and services within a commercially reasonable time after acceptance of the order. If a delay in delivery is anticipated, Vendor shall notify the TIPS Member as to why delivery is delayed and provide an updated estimated time for completion. The TIPS Member may cancel the order if the delay is not commercially acceptable or not consistent with the Supplemental Agreement applicable to the order.
41. **Minimum Vendor License Requirements.** Vendor shall maintain, in current status, all federal, state, and local licenses, bonds and permits required for the operation of the business conducted by Vendor. Vendor shall remain fully informed of and in compliance with

all ordinances and regulations pertaining to the lawful provision of goods or services under the TIPS Agreement. TIPS and TIPS Members reserve the right to stop work and/or cancel a TIPS Sale or terminate this or any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement involving Vendor if Vendor's license(s) required to perform under this Agreement or under the specific TIPS Sale have expired, lapsed, are suspended or terminated subject to a 30-day cure period unless prohibited by applicable statute or regulation.

42. Minimum Vendor Legal Requirements. Vendor shall remain aware of and comply with this Agreement and all local, state, and federal laws governing the sale of products/services offered by Vendor under this contract. Such applicable laws, ordinances, and policies must be complied with even if not specified herein.

43. Minimum Site Requirements for TIPS Sales (*when applicable to TIPS Sale*).

Cleanup: When performing work on site at a TIPS Member's property, Vendor shall clean up and remove all debris and rubbish resulting from their work as required or directed by the TIPS Member or as agreed by the parties. Upon completion of work, the premises shall be left in good repair and an orderly, neat, clean and unobstructed condition.

Preparation: Vendor shall not begin a project for which a TIPS Member has not prepared the site, unless Vendor does the preparation work at no cost, or until TIPS Member includes the cost of site preparation in the TIPS Sale Site preparation includes, but is not limited to: moving furniture, installing wiring for networks or power, and similar pre-installation requirements.

Registered Sex Offender Restrictions: For work to be performed at schools, Vendor agrees that no employee of Vendor or a subcontractor who has been adjudicated to be a registered sex offender will perform work at any time when students are, or reasonably expected to be, present unless otherwise agreed by the TIPS Member. Vendor agrees that a violation of this condition shall be considered a material breach and may result in the cancellation of the TIPS Sale at the TIPS Member's discretion. Vendor must identify any additional costs associated with compliance of this term. If no costs are specified, compliance with this term will be provided at no additional charge.

Safety Measures: Vendor shall take all reasonable precautions for the safety of employees on the worksite, and shall erect and properly maintain all necessary safeguards for protection of workers and the public. Vendor shall post warning signs against all hazards created by the operation and work in progress. Proper precautions shall be taken pursuant to state law and standard practices to protect workers, general public and existing structures from injury or damage.

Smoking: Persons working under Agreement shall adhere to the TIPS Member's or local smoking statutes, codes, ordinances, and policies.

44. Payment for TIPS Sales. TIPS Members may make payments for TIPS Sales directly to Vendor, Vendor's Authorized Reseller, or as otherwise agreed to in the applicable Supplemental Agreement after receipt of the invoice and in compliance with applicable payment statutes. Regardless of how payment is issued or received for a TIPS Sale, Vendor is responsible for all reporting and TIPS Administration Fee payment requirements as stated herein.

45. Marketing. Vendor agrees to allow TIPS to use their name and logo within the TIPS website, database, marketing materials, and advertisements unless Vendor negotiates this term to include a specific acceptable-use directive. Any use of TIPS' name and logo or any form of publicity, inclusive of press release, regarding this Agreement by Vendor must have prior approval from TIPS which will not be unreasonably withheld. Request may be made by email to tips@tips-usa.com. For marketing efforts directed to TIPS Members, Vendor must request and execute a separate Joint Marketing Disclaimer, at marketing@tips-usa.com, before TIPS can release contact information for TIPS Member entities for the purpose of marketing your TIPS contract(s). Vendor must adhere to strict Marketing Requirements once a disclaimer is executed. The Joint Marketing Disclaimer is a supplemental agreement specific to joint marketing efforts and has no effect on the terms of the TIPS Vendor Agreement. Vendor agrees that any images, photos, writing, audio, clip art, music, or any other intellectual property ("Property") or Vendor Data utilized, provided, or approved by Vendor during the course of the joint marketing efforts are either the exclusive property of Vendor, or Vendor has all necessary rights, license, and permissions to utilize said Property in the joint marketing efforts. Vendor agrees that they shall indemnify and hold harmless TIPS and its employees, officers, agents, representatives, contractors, assignees, designees, and TIPS Members from any and all claims, damages, and judgments involving infringement of patent, copyright, trade secrets, trade or services marks, and any other intellectual or intangible property rights and/or claims arising from the Vendor's (including Vendor's officers', employees', agents', Authorized Resellers', subcontractors', licensees', or invitees') unauthorized use or distribution of Vendor Data and Property.

46. Tax Exempt Status of TIPS Members. Most TIPS Members are tax exempt entities and the laws and regulations applicable to the specific TIPS Member customer shall control.

- 47. Automatic Renewal Limitation for TIPS Sales.** No TIPS Sale may incorporate an automatic renewal clause that exceeds month to month terms with which the TIPS Member must comply. All renewal terms incorporated into a TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement shall only be valid and enforceable when Vendor received written confirmation of acceptance of the renewal term from the TIPS Member for the specific renewal term. The purpose of this clause is to avoid a TIPS Member inadvertently renewing an Agreement during a period in which the governing body of the TIPS Member has not properly appropriated and budgeted the funds to satisfy the Agreement renewal. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing an "Automatic Renewal" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.
- 48. Choice of Law Limitation for TIPS Sales.** Vendor agrees that if any "Choice of Law" provision is included in any TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must provide that the "Choice of Law" applicable to the TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and TIPS Member shall be the state where the TIPS Member operates unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Choice of Law" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.
- 49. Venue Limitation for TIPS Sales.** Vendor agrees that if any "Venue" provision is included in any TIPS Sale Agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must provide that the "Venue" for any litigation or alternative dispute resolution shall be in the state and county where the TIPS Member operates unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Venue" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.
- 50. Indemnity Limitation for TIPS Sales.** Texas and other jurisdictions restrict the ability of governmental entities to indemnify others. Vendor agrees that if any "Indemnity" provision which requires the TIPS Member to indemnify Vendor is included in any TIPS sales agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must either be stricken or qualified by including that such indemnity is only permitted, "to the extent permitted by the laws and constitution of [TIPS Member's State]" unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing an "Indemnity" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.
- 51. Arbitration Limitation for TIPS Sales.** Vendor agrees that if any "Arbitration" provision is included in any TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause may not require that the arbitration is mandatory or binding. Vendor agrees that if any "Arbitration" provision is included in any TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause provides for only voluntary and non-binding arbitration unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Arbitration" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

In Witness Whereof, the parties hereto, each acting under due and proper authority, have signed this Agreement.

TIPS VENDOR AGREEMENT SIGNATURE FORM

TIPS RFP 230504 Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services

Vendor Name: Minntek Solutions, Inc.

Vendor Address: 13433 Fenway Blvd Cir N Suite 120

City: Hugo State: MN Zip Code: 55038

Vendor Authorized Signatory Name: Bill Rogers

Vendor Authorized Signatory Title: President

Vendor Authorized Signatory Phone: 651-203-8102

Vendor Authorized Signatory Email: billr@minntek.com

Vendor Authorized Signature:  Date: 5/24/2023

(The following is for TIPS completion only)

TIPS Authorized Signatory Name: Dr. Fitts

TIPS Authorized Signatory Title: Executive Director

TIPS Authorized Signature:  Date: 7/10/2023



230504

**Minntek Solutions, Inc.
Supplier Response**

Event Information

Number: 230504

Title: Information Technology, Equipment, Software, and Services

Type: Request for Proposal

Issue Date: 5/4/2023

Deadline: 5/25/2023 03:00 PM (CT)

Notes: This is a solicitation issued by The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), a department of Texas Region 8 Education Service Center. It is an Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity ("IDIQ") solicitation. It will result in contracts that provide, through adoption/"piggyback" an indefinite quantity of supplies/services, during a fixed period of time, to TIPS public entity and qualifying non-profit "TIPS Members" throughout the nation. Thus, there is no specific project or scope of work to review. Rather this solicitation is issued as a prospective award for utilization when any TIPS Member needs the goods or services offered during the life of the agreement.

THIS IS NOT A REPLACEMENT CONTRACT. IF YOU CURRENTLY HOLD ANY TIPS CONTRACT TITLED "TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS, PRODUCTS, AND SERVICES", THERE IS NO NEED TO RESPOND HEREIN UNLESS YOU WISH TO MANAGE MULTIPLE TIPS CONTRACTS THAT HAVE THE SAME TERMS AND COVER THE SAME OFFERINGS. IF YOU HOLD A TIPS CONTRACT WITH A TITLE OTHER THAN "TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS, PRODUCTS, AND SERVICES", WHICH COVERS ALL OF YOUR TECHNOLOGY OFFERINGS AND YOU ARE SATISFIED WITH IT, THERE IS NO NEED TO RESPOND TO THIS SOLICITATION UNLESS YOU PREFER TO HOLD BOTH CONTRACTS.

Contact Information

Address: Region 8 Education Service Center
4845 US Highway 271 North
Pittsburg, TX 75686
Phone: +1 (866) 839-8477
Email: bids@tips-usa.com

Minntek Solutions, Inc. Information

Contact: Bill Rogers
Address: 13433 Fenway Blvd Cir N Suite 120
Hugo, MN 55038
Phone: (651) 203-8102
Email: billr@minntek.com
Web Address: www.minntek.com

By submitting your response, you certify that you are authorized to represent and bind your company.

Bill Rogers
Signature

billr@minntek.com
Email

Submitted at 5/25/2023 09:22:58 AM (CT)

Requested Attachments

Pricing Form 1

RFP 230504 Pricing Form 1.xlsx

Pricing Form 1 must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed as instructed, and uploaded to this location.

Alternate or Supplemental Pricing Documents

230504 Supplemental Pricing Document.docx

Optional. If when completing Pricing Form 1 & Pricing Form 2 you direct TIPS to view additional, alternate, or supplemental pricing documentation, you may upload that documentation.

Vendor Agreement

230504 Vendor Agreement.pdf

The Vendor Agreement must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, Vendor Name placed in the line provided at the top, and uploaded to this location. If Vendor has proposed deviations to the Vendor Agreement, Vendor may assert so in the Attribute Questions and those shall be addressed during evaluation.

Reference Form

230504 Reference Form.xlsx

The Reference Form must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed, and uploaded to this location. The Reference Form must be uploaded in Excel format.

Required Confidentiality Claim Form

230504 Confidentiality Claim Form.pdf

The Required Confidentiality Claim Form must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed, and uploaded to this location. This is the only way for Vendor to assert confidentiality of any information submitted.

Conflict of Interest Questionnaire - Form CIQ

No response

Do not upload this form unless you have a reportable conflict with TIPS. There is an Attribute entitled "Conflict of Interest Questionnaire Requirement" immediately followed by an Attribute entitled "Conflict of Interest Questionnaire Requirement – Form CIQ – Continued." Properly respond to those Attributes and only upload this form if applicable/instructed. If upload is required based on your response to those Attributes, the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire – Form CIQ must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed, and uploaded at this location.

Vendor's Warranties, Terms, and Conditions (Supplemental Vendor Information Only)

No response

Optional. If Vendor would like to display any standard warranties, terms, or conditions which are often applicable to their offerings for TIPS and TIPS Member Customer consideration, Vendor may upload those at this location. These supplemental documents shall not be considered part of the TIPS Contract. Rather, they are Vendor Supplemental Information for marketing and informational purposes only.

Supplemental Vendor Information (Supplemental Vendor Information Only)

Hitachi DataSheets.pdf

Optional. If Vendor would like to display or include any brochures, promotional documents, marketing materials, or other Vendor Information for TIPS and TIPS Member Customer consideration, Vendor may upload those at this location.

These supplemental documents shall not be considered part of the TIPS Contract. Rather, they are Vendor Supplemental Information for marketing and informational purposes only.

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities - Standard Form - LLL

No response

Do not upload this form unless Vendor has reportable lobbying activities. There are Attributes entitled, "2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment – Continued." Properly respond to those Attributes and only upload this form if applicable/instructed. If upload is required based on your response to those Attributes, the Disclosure of Lobbying Activities – Standard Form - LLL must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed, and uploaded to this location.

Current Form W-9

W-9 Signed.pdf

Vendor must upload their current IRS Tax Form W-9. The legal name, EIN, and d/b/a's listed should match the information provided herein exactly. This form will be utilized by TIPS to properly identify your entity.

Certificates & Licenses (Supplemental Vendor Information Only)

No response

Optional. If Vendor would like to display any applicable certificates or licenses (including HUB certificates) for TIPS and TIPS Member Customer consideration, Vendor may upload those at this location. These supplemental documents shall not be considered part of the TIPS Contract. Rather, they are Vendor Supplemental Information for marketing and informational purposes only.

Pricing Form 2

RFP 230504 Pricing Form 2.xlsx

Pricing Form 2 must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed as instructed, and uploaded to this location.

Vendor Logo (Supplemental Vendor Information Only)

Color PNG.png

Optional. If Vendor desires that their logo be displayed on their public TIPS profile for TIPS and TIPS Member viewing, Vendor may upload that logo at this location. These supplemental documents shall not be considered part of the TIPS Contract. Rather, they are Vendor Supplemental Information for marketing and informational purposes only.

Vendor Agreement Signature Form

230504 Vendor Agreement Signature Form.pdf

The Vendor Agreement Signature Form must be downloaded from the "Attachments" section of the IonWave eBid System, reviewed, properly completed, and uploaded to this location. If Vendor has proposed deviations to the Vendor Agreement, Vendor may leave the signature line of this page blank and assert so in the Attribute Questions and those shall be addressed during evaluation.

Bid Attributes

1	<p>Disadvantaged/Minority/Women Business & Federal HUBZone</p> <p>Some participating public entities are required to seek Disadvantaged/Minority/Women Business & Federal HUBZone ("D/M/WBE/Federal HUBZone") vendors. Does Vendor certify that their entity is a D/M/WBE/Federal HUBZone vendor?</p> <p>If you respond "Yes," you must upload current certification proof in the appropriate "Response Attachments" location.</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">NO</div>
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2 Historically Underutilized Business (HUB)

Some participating public entities are required to seek Historically Underutilized Business (HUB) vendors as defined by the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Statewide HUB Program. Does Vendor certify that their entity is a HUB vendor?

If you respond "Yes," you must upload current certification proof in the appropriate "Response Attachments" location.

No

3 National Coverage

Can the Vendor provide its proposed goods and services to all 50 US States?

Yes

4 States Served

If Vendor answered "No" to the question entitled "National Coverage," please list all states where vendor can provide the goods and services proposed directly below. Your response may dictate which potential TIPS Member customers consider purchasing your offerings.

No response

5 Description of Vendor Entity and Vendor's Goods & Services

If awarded, this description of Vendor and Vendor's goods and services will appear on the TIPS website for customer/public viewing.

Minntek Solutions specializes in providing innovative and customized technology solutions to businesses, state, local and education customers. From hardware to software and support services, we provide a full range of technology solutions that help our customers succeed in today's ever-evolving business landscape. Our manufacturing partners include: Hitachi Vantara, IBM, HPE, Exagrid, Veeam, VMWare, Extreme Networks, Palo Alto, Fortinet, and others.

6 Primary Contact Name

Please identify the individual who will be primarily responsible for all TIPS matters and inquiries for the duration of the contract.

Bill Rogers

7 Primary Contact Title

Primary Contact Title

President

8 Primary Contact Email

Please enter a valid email address that will definitely reach the Primary Contact.

billr@minntek.com

9 Primary Contact Phone

Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477).

Please provide the accurate and current phone number where the individual who will be primarily responsible for all TIPS matters and inquiries for the duration of the contract can be reached directly.

6512038102

10	Primary Contact Fax Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477). <input type="text" value="No response"/>
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11	Primary Contact Mobile Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477). <input type="text" value="No response"/>
-----------	--

12	Secondary Contact Name Please identify the individual who will be secondarily responsible for all TIPS matters and inquiries for the duration of the contract. <input type="text" value="Mark Mulroy"/>
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13	Secondary Contact Title Secondary Contact Title <input type="text" value="Reigional Director"/>
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14	Secondary Contact Email Please enter a valid email address that will definitely reach the Secondary Contact. <input type="text" value="markm@minntek.com"/>
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15	Secondary Contact Phone Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477). Please provide the accurate and current phone number where the individual who will be secondarily responsible for all TIPS matters and inquiries for the duration of the contract can be reached directly. <input type="text" value="2106433434"/>
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16	Secondary Contact Fax Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477). <input type="text" value="No response"/>
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17	Secondary Contact Mobile Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477). <input type="text" value="No response"/>
-----------	--

18 Administration Fee Contact Name
Please identify the individual who will be responsible for all payment, accounting, and other matters related to Vendor's TIPS Administration Fee due to TIPS for the duration of the contract.

19 Administration Fee Contact Email
Please enter a valid email address that will definitely reach the Administration Fee Contact.

20 Administration Fee Contact Phone
Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477).

21 Purchase Order and Sales Contact Name
Please identify the individual who will be responsible for receiving and processing purchase orders and sales under the TIPS Contract.

22 Purchase Order and Sales Contact Email
Please enter a valid email address that will definitely reach the Purchase Order and Sales Contact.

23 Purchase Order and Sales Contact Phone
Numbers only, no symbols or spaces (Ex. 8668398477). The system will auto-populate your entry with commas once submitted which is appropriate and expected (Ex. 8,668,398,477).

24 Company Website
Company Website (Format - www.company.com)

25 Entity D/B/A's and Assumed Names
You must confirm that you are responding to this solicitation under your legal entity name. Go now to your Supplier Profile in this eBid System and confirm that your profile reflects your "Legal Name" as it is listed on your W9.

In this question, please identify all of your entity's assumed names and D/B/A's. Please note that you will be identified publicly by the Legal Name under which you respond to this solicitation unless you organize otherwise with TIPS after award.

26 Primary Address
Primary Address

2 7	Primary Address City
	Primary Address City <input type="text" value="Hugo"/>

2 8	Primary Address State
	Primary Address State (2 Digit Abbreviation) <input type="text" value="Minnesota"/>

2 9	Primary Address Zip
	Primary Address Zip <input type="text" value="55038"/>

3 0	Search Words Identifying Vendor
	Please list all search words and phrases to be included in the TIPS database related to your entity. Do not list words which are not associated with the bid category/scope (See bid title for general scope). This will help users find you through the TIPS website search function. You may include product names, manufacturers, specialized services, and other words associated with the scope of this solicitation. <input type="text" value="Veeam, Brocade, Private Cloud, Converged, SAN, Hyperconverged, Hyper-Converged, NAS, Network Attached Storage, Hybrid Cloud, Hybrid-Cloud, Storage Area Network, Pure Storage, Dell Storage, HPE, HPE Storage, Nimble, Alletra, Powerstore, Hitachi, Hitachi Vantara, VSP, Object Storage, Palo Alto, Fortinet, VXrail, SAN Storage, VDI, IBM, Commvault, Veritas, Cohesity, Exagrid, Arista, Extreme Networking, Aruba, VM 20/20, VMware"/>

3 1	Certification of Vendor Residency (Required by the State of Texas)
	Does Vendor's parent company or majority owner: (A) have its principal place of business in Texas; or (B) employ at least 500 persons in Texas? Texas Education Code Section 44.031 requires that this information be considered in evaluation for certain contracts. However, Vendor response does not affect points, scoring, or potential award. <input type="text" value="No"/>

3 2	Vendor's Principal Place of Business (City)
	In what city is Vendor's principal place of business located? <input type="text" value="Hugo"/>

3 3	Vendor's Principal Place of Business (State)
	In what state is Vendor's principal place of business located? <input type="text" value="MN"/>

3 4	Vendor's Years in Business
	How many years has the business submitting this proposal been operating in its current capacity and field of work? <input type="text" value="26"/>

3
5 **Certification Regarding Entire TIPS Agreement**

Vendor agrees that, if awarded, Vendor's final TIPS Contract will consist of the provisions set forth in the finalized TIPS Vendor Agreement, Vendor's responses to these attribute questions, and: (1) The TIPS solicitation document resulting in this Agreement; (2) Any addenda or clarifications issued in relation to the TIPS solicitation; (3) All solicitation information provided to Vendor by TIPS through the TIPS eBid System; (3) Vendor's entire proposal response to the TIPS solicitation including all accepted required attachments, acknowledged notices and certifications, accepted negotiated terms, accepted pricing, accepted responses to questions, and accepted written clarifications of Vendor's proposal, and; any properly included attachments to the TIPS Contract.

Does Vendor agree?

3
6 **Minimum Percentage Discount Offered to TIPS Members on all Goods and Services (READ CAREFULLY)**

Please read thoroughly and carefully as an error on your response can render your contract award unusable.

TIPS Members often turn to TIPS Contracts for ease of use and to receive discounted pricing.

What is the minimum percentage discount that you can offer TIPS Members off of all goods and service pricing (whether offered through Pricing Form 1, Pricing Form 2, or in another accepted format) that you offer? Only limited goods/services specifically identified and excluded from this discount in Vendor's original proposal may be excluded from this discount.

Vendor must respond with a percentage from 0%-100%. The percentage discount that you input below will be applied to your "Catalog Pricing", as defined in the solicitation, for all TIPS Sales made during the life of the contract. You cannot alter this percentage discount once the solicitation legally closes. You will always be required to discount every TIPS Sale by the percentage included below with the exception of limited goods/services specifically identified and excluded from this discount in Vendor's original proposal. If you add goods or services to your "Catalog Pricing" during the life of the contract, you will be required to sell those new items with this discount applied.

Example: In this example, you enter a 10% minimum percentage discount below. In year-one of your TIPS Contract, your published "Catalog Pricing" (website/store/published pricing) for "Tablet A" is \$100 and for "Tablet Set-Up Service" is \$100. In this example, you must sell those items under the TIPS Contract at the proposed 10% discounted price of: "Tablet A" - \$90, "Tablet Set-Up Service" - \$90. In year two of your TIPS Contract, you update your "Catalog Pricing" with the market. You add "Tablet B" to your "Catalog Pricing" for \$200 and have increased the price of "Tablet A" to \$110 and the price of "Tablet Set-Up Service" to \$110. In this example, after the "Catalog Pricing" update, you must still sell those items under the TIPS Contract at the proposed 10% discounted price of: "Tablet A" - \$99, "Tablet Set-Up Service" - \$99, and "Tablet B" - \$180.00.

With the exception of limited goods/services specifically identified and excluded from this discount in Vendor's original proposal, if you cannot honor the discount on all goods and items now included or which may be added in the future with certainty, then you should offer a lesser discount percentage below.

What is the minimum percentage discount that you can offer TIPS Members off of all goods and service pricing (whether offered through Pricing Form 1, Pricing Form 2, or in another accepted format) that you offer?

37 Honoring Vendor's Minimum Percentage Discount

Vendor is asked in these Attribute Questions to provide a Minimum Percentage Discount offered to TIPS Members on all goods and services sold under the TIPS Contract. Points will be assigned for your response and scoring of your proposal will be affected. A "YES" answer will be awarded the maximum 10 points and a "NO" answer will be awarded 0 points.

Does Vendor agree to honor the Minimum Percentage Discount off of their TIPS "Catalog Pricing" that Vendor proposed for all TIPS Sales made for the duration of the TIPS Contract?

38 Volume and Additional Discounts

In addition to the Minimum Percentage Discount proposed herein, does Vendor ever expect and intend to offer additional, greater, or volume discounts to TIPS Members?

Point(s) may be assigned for your response in the category of "Pricing" during scoring and evaluation.

39 "Catalog Pricing" and Pricing Requirements

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

In this solicitation and resulting contract, "Catalog Pricing" shall be defined as:

"The then available list of goods or services, in the most current listing regardless of date, that takes the form of a catalog, price list, price schedule, shelf-price or other viewable format that:

- A. is regularly maintained by the manufacturer or Vendor of an item; and
- B. is either published or otherwise available for review by TIPS or a customer during the purchase process;
- C. to which the Minimum Percentage Discount proposed by the proposing Vendor may be applied.

If awarded on this TIPS Contract, for the duration of the contract, Vendor agrees to provide, upon request, their then current "Catalog Pricing." Or, in limited circumstances where Vendor has proposed the Percentage Mark-Up method of pricing in this proposal, proof of Vendor's "cost" may be accepted by TIPS in place of catalog pricing.

4 **EXCEPTIONS & DEVIATIONS TO TIPS STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

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Vendor agrees that, if awarded, Vendor's final TIPS Contract will consist of the provisions set forth in the finalized TIPS Vendor Agreement, Vendor's responses to these attribute questions, and: (1) The TIPS solicitation document resulting in this Agreement; (2) Any addenda or clarifications issued in relation to the TIPS solicitation; (3) All solicitation information provided to Vendor by TIPS through the TIPS eBid System; (3) Vendor's entire proposal response to the TIPS solicitation including all accepted required attachments, acknowledged notices and certifications, accepted negotiated terms, accepted pricing, accepted responses to questions, and accepted written clarifications of Vendor's proposal, and; any properly included attachments to the TIPS Contract. In the event of conflict between the terms of the finalized Vendor Agreement and one of the incorporated documents the terms and conditions which are in the best interest of governmental/qualifying non-profit TIPS Members shall control at TIPS sole discretion.

If Vendor responds, "No, Vendor does not agree" to this Attribute, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration. This is the only proper way to submit proposed deviations for TIPS consideration. TIPS reserves the right to accept, decline, or modify Vendor's requested negotiated terms. For this reason, answering "No, Vendor does not agree" may ultimately delay or prevent award.

Does Vendor agree with TIPS standard terms and conditions as presented in the TIPS solicitation document (RFP, RCSP, RFQ, or other) and the TIPS Vendor Agreement document?

4 **TIPS Sales Reporting Requirements**

1

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

By submitting this proposal, Vendor certifies that Vendor will properly report all TIPS sales. With the exception of TIPS Automated Vendors, who have signed an exclusive agreement with TIPS regarding reporting, all TIPS Sales must be reported to TIPS by either:

(1) Emailing the purchase order or similar purchase document (with Vendor's Name, as known to TIPS, and the TIPS Contract Name and Number included) to TIPS at tipspo@tips-usa.com with "Confirmation Only" in the subject line of the email within three business days of Vendor's acceptance of the order, or;

(2) Within 3 business days of the order being accepted by Vendor, Vendor must login to the TIPS Vendor Portal and successfully self-report all necessary sale information within the Vendor Portal and confirm that it shows up accurately on your current Vendor Portal statement.

No other method of reporting is acceptable unless agreed to by the Parties in writing. Failure to report all sales pursuant to this provision may result in immediate cancellation of Vendor's TIPS Contract(s) for cause at TIPS' sole discretion.

4
2 **TIPS Administration Fee Requirement and Acknowledgment**

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

The collection of fees by TIPS, a government entity, for performance of these procurement services is required pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 791.011 et. seq. The TIPS Administration Fee is the amount legally owed by Vendor to TIPS for TIPS Sales made by Vendor. The TIPS Administration Fee amount is typically a set percentage of each TIPS Sale legally due to TIPS, but the exact TIPS Administration Fee for this Contract is published in the corresponding RFP or RCSP document. TIPS Administration Fees are due to TIPS immediately upon Vendor's receipt of payment, including partial payment, for a TIPS Sale.

By submitting a proposal, Vendor agrees that it has read, understands, and agrees to the published TIPS Administration Fee amount, calculation, and payment requirements. By submitting a proposal Vendor further confirms that all TIPS Pricing includes the TIPS Administration Fee and Vendor will not show adding the TIPS Administration Fee as a charge or line-item in any TIPS Sale.

4
3 **TIPS Member Access to Vendor Proposal & Documentation**

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

Notwithstanding any other information provided in this solicitation or Vendor designation of certain documentation as confidential or proprietary, Vendor's submission of this proposal constitutes Vendor's express consent to the disclosure of Vendor's comprehensive proposal, including any information deemed confidential or proprietary, **to TIPS Members**. The proposing Vendor agrees that TIPS shall not be responsible or liable for any use or distribution of information or documentation to TIPS Members or by TIPS Members. By submitting this proposal, Vendor certifies the foregoing.

4
4 **Non-Collusive Bidding Certificate**

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

By submission of this proposal, the Vendor certifies that:

- 1) This proposal has been independently arrived at without collusion with any other entity, bidder, or with any competitor;
- 2) This proposal has not been knowingly disclosed and will not be knowingly disclosed, prior to the opening of bids, or proposals for this project, to any other bidder, competitor or potential competitor;
- 3) No attempt has been or will be made to induce any other person, partnership or corporation to modify, submit, or not to submit a bid or proposal; and
- 4) The person signing this bid or proposal certifies that they are duly authorized to execute this proposal/contract on behalf of Vendor and they have fully informed themselves regarding the accuracy of the statements contained in this certification, and under the penalties being applicable to the bidder as well as to the person signing in its behalf;

4 **Antitrust Certification Statements (Tex. Government Code § 2155.005)**

5 **This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.**

By submission of this bid or proposal, Vendor certifies under penalty of perjury of the laws of the State of Texas that:

(1) I am duly authorized to execute this proposal/contract on my own behalf or on behalf of the company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual (Vendor) identified herein;

(2) In connection with this proposal, neither I nor any representative of Vendor has violated any provision of the Texas Free Enterprise and Antitrust Act, Tex. Bus. & Comm. Code Chapter 15;

(3) In connection with this proposal, neither I nor any representative of the Vendor has violated any federal antitrust law;

(4) Neither I nor any representative of Vendor has directly or indirectly communicated any of the contents of this bid to a competitor of the Company or any other company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual engaged in the same line of business as the Company.

4 **Limitation on Out-of-State Litigation - Texas Business and Commerce Code § 272**

6 **This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.**

Texas Business and Commerce Code § 272 prohibits a construction contract, or an agreement collateral to or affecting the construction contract, from containing a provision making the contract or agreement, or any conflict arising under the contract or agreement, subject to another state's law, litigation in the courts of another state, or arbitration in another state. If included in Texas construction contracts, such provisions are voidable by a party obligated by the contract or agreement to perform the work.

By submission of this proposal, Vendor acknowledges this law and ***if Vendor enters into a construction contract with a Texas TIPS Member*** under this procurement, Vendor certifies compliance.

4 **Required Confidentiality Claim Form**

7 **This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.**

TIPS provides the required TIPS Confidentiality Claim Form in the "Attachments" section of this solicitation. Vendor must execute this form by either signing and waiving any confidentiality claim, or designating portions of Vendor's proposal confidential. If Vendor considers any portion of Vendor's proposal to be confidential and not subject to public disclosure pursuant to Chapter 552 Texas Gov't Code or other law(s) and orders, Vendor must have identified the claimed confidential materials through proper execution of the Confidentiality Claim Form.

If TIPS receives a public information act or similar request, any responsive documentation not deemed confidential by you in this manner will be automatically released. For Vendor documents deemed confidential by you in this manner, TIPS will follow procedures of controlling statute(s) regarding any claim of confidentiality and shall not be liable for any release of information required by law, including Attorney General determination and opinion.

Notwithstanding any other Vendor designation of Vendor's proposal as confidential or proprietary, Vendor's submission of this proposal constitutes Vendor's agreement that proper execution of the required TIPS Confidentiality Claim Form is the only way to assert any portion of Vendor's proposal as confidential.

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Non-Discrimination Statement and Certification

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law, all U.S. Departments, including but not limited to the USDA, USDE, FEMA, are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by federal funds (not all bases apply to all programs).

Vendor certifies that Vendor will comply with applicable Non-Discrimination and Equal Opportunity provisions set forth in TIPS Member Customers' policies and other regulations at the local, state, and federal levels of governments.

Yes, I certify (Yes)

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Limitation of Vendor Indemnification and Similar Clauses

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

TIPS, a department of Region 8 Education Service Center, a political subdivision, and local government entity of the State of Texas, is prohibited from indemnifying third-parties (pursuant to the Article 3, Section 52 of the Texas Constitution) except as otherwise specifically provided for by law or as ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction. Article 3, Section 52 of the Texas Constitution states that "no debt shall be created by or on behalf of the State ... " and the Texas Attorney General has opined that a contractually imposed obligation of indemnity creates a "debt" in the constitutional sense. Tex. Att'y Gen. Op. No. MW-475 (1982). Thus, contract clauses which require TIPS to indemnify Vendor, pay liquidated damages, pay attorney's fees, waive Vendor's liability, or waive any applicable statute of limitations must be deleted or qualified with "to the extent permitted by the Constitution and Laws of the State of Texas."

Does Vendor agree?

Yes, I Agree (Yes)

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Alternative Dispute Resolution Limitations

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

TIPS, a department of Region 8 Education Service Center, a political subdivision, and local government entity of the State of Texas, does not agree to binding arbitration as a remedy to dispute and no such provision shall be permitted in this Agreement with TIPS. Vendor agrees that any claim arising out of or related to this Agreement, except those specifically and expressly waived or negotiated within this Agreement, may be subject to non-binding mediation at the request of either party to be conducted by a mutually agreed upon mediator as prerequisite to the filing of any lawsuit arising out of or related to this Agreement. Mediation shall be held in either Camp or Titus County, Texas. Agreements reached in mediation will be subject to the approval by the Region 8 ESC's Board of Directors, authorized signature of the Parties if approved by the Board of Directors, and, once approved by the Board of Directors and properly signed, shall thereafter be enforceable as provided by the laws of the State of Texas.

Does Vendor agree?

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1 **No Waiver of TIPS Immunity**

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

Vendor agrees that nothing in this Agreement shall be construed as a waiver of sovereign or government immunity; nor constitute or be construed as a waiver of any of the privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to Region 8 Education Service Center or its TIPS Department. The failure to enforce, or any delay in the enforcement, of any privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities available to Region 8 Education Service Center or its TIPS Department under this Agreement or under applicable law shall not constitute a waiver of such privileges, rights, defenses, remedies, or immunities or be considered as a basis for estoppel.

Does Vendor agree?

Yes, Vendor agrees (Yes)

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2 **Payment Terms and Funding Out Clause**

This is a requirement of the TIPS Contract and is non-negotiable.

Vendor agrees that TIPS and TIPS Members shall not be liable for interest or late-payment fees on past-due balances at a rate higher than permitted by the laws or regulations of the jurisdiction of the TIPS Member.

Funding-Out Clause: Vendor agrees to abide by the applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to Texas Local Government Code § 271.903, or any other statutory or regulatory limitation of the jurisdiction of any TIPS Member, which requires that contracts approved by TIPS or a TIPS Member are subject to the budgeting and appropriation of currently available funds by the entity or its governing body.

Does Vendor agree?

Yes, Vendor agrees (Yes)

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3 **Certification Regarding Prohibition of Certain Terrorist Organizations (Tex. Gov. Code 2270)**

Vendor certifies that Vendor is not a company identified on the Texas Comptroller's list of companies known to have contracts with, or provide supplies or services to, a foreign organization designated as a Foreign Terrorist Organization by the U.S. Secretary of State.

Does Vendor certify?

Yes

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4 **Certification Regarding Prohibition of Boycotting Israel (Tex. Gov. Code 2271)**

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has ten (10) or more full-time employees; and (c) this Agreement or any agreement with a TIPS Member under this procurement has value of \$100,000 or more, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required. Vendor certifies, where applicable, that neither the Vendor, nor any affiliate, subsidiary, or parent company of Vendor, if any, boycotts Israel, and Vendor agrees that Vendor and Vendor Companies will not boycott Israel during the term of this Agreement. For purposes of this Agreement, the term "boycott" shall mean and include refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with Israel, or with a person or entity doing business in Israel or in an Israeli-controlled territory but does not include an action made for ordinary business purposes.

When applicable, does Vendor certify?

Yes

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Certification Regarding Prohibition of Contracts with Certain Foreign-Owned Companies (Tex. Gov. Code 2274)

Certain public entities are prohibited from entering into a contract or other agreement relating to critical infrastructure that would grant Vendor direct or remote access to or control of critical infrastructure in this state, excluding access specifically allowed by a customer for product warranty and support purposes.

Vendor certifies that neither it nor its parent company nor any affiliate of Vendor or its parent company, is (1) owned by or the majority of stock or other ownership interest of the company is held or controlled by individuals who are citizens of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country; (2) a company or other entity, including governmental entity, that is owned or controlled by citizens of or is directly controlled by the government of China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country; or (3) headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country.

For purposes of this certification, "critical infrastructure" means "a communication infrastructure system, cybersecurity system, electric grid, hazardous waste treatment system, or water treatment facility." Vendor certifies that Vendor will not grant direct or remote access to or control of critical infrastructure, except for product warranty and support purposes, to prohibited individuals, companies, or entities, including governmental entities, owned, controlled, or headquartered in China, Iran, North Korea, Russia, or a designated country, as determined by the Governor.

When applicable, does Vendor certify?

Yes

**5 Certification Regarding Prohibition of Discrimination Against Firearm and Ammunition Industries (Tex.
6 Gov. Code 2274)**

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has at least ten (10) full-time employees; and (c) this Agreement or any Supplemental Agreement with certain public entities have a value of at least \$100,000 that is paid wholly or partly from public funds; (d) the Agreement is not excepted under Tex. Gov. Code 2274 and (e) the purchasing public entity has determined that Vendor is not a sole-source provider or the purchasing public entity has not received any bids from a company that is able to provide this written verification, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required.

Vendor certifies that Vendor, or association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company, including a wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary parent company, or affiliate of these entities or associations, that exists to make a profit, does not have a practice, policy, guidance, or directive that discriminates against a firearm entity or firearm trade association and will not discriminate during the term of this contract against a firearm entity or firearm trade association.

For purposes of this Agreement, “discriminate against a firearm entity or firearm trade association” shall mean, with respect to the entity or association, to: “(1) refuse to engage in the trade of any goods or services with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; (2) refrain from continuing an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association; or (3) terminate an existing business relationship with the entity or association based solely on its status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.”

“Discrimination against a firearm entity or firearm trade association” does not include: “(1) the established policies of a merchant, retail seller, or platform that restrict or prohibit the listing or selling of ammunition, firearms, or firearm accessories; and (2) a company’s refusal to engage in the trade of any goods or services, decision to refrain from continuing an existing business relationship, or decision to terminate an existing business relationship to comply with federal, state, or local law, policy, or regulations or a directive by a regulatory agency, or for any traditional business reason that is specific to the customer or potential customer and not based solely on an entity’s or association’s status as a firearm entity or firearm trade association.”

When applicable, does Vendor certify?

Yes

Certification Regarding Termination of Contract for Non-Compliance (Tex. Gov. Code 552.374)

If Vendor is not a governmental body and (a) this Agreement or any Supplemental Agreement with a public entity has a stated expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by certain public entities; or (b) this Agreement or any Supplemental Agreement results in the expenditure of at least \$1 million in public funds for the purchase of goods or services by certain public entities in their fiscal year, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required.

As required by Tex. Gov. Code 552.374, the following statement is included in the RFP and the Agreement (unless the Agreement is (1) related to the purchase or underwriting of a public security; (2) is or may be used as collateral on a loan; or (3) proceeds from which are used to pay debt service of a public security of loan): "The requirements of Subchapter J, Chapter 552, Government Code, may apply to this solicitation and Agreement and the Vendor agrees that this Agreement and any applicable Supplemental Agreement can be terminated if Vendor knowingly or intentionally fails to comply with a requirement of that subchapter."

Pursuant to Chapter 552 of the Texas Government Code, Vendor certifies that Vendor shall: (1) preserve all contracting information related to this Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to TIPS or the purchasing TIPS Member for the duration of the Agreement; (2) promptly provide to TIPS or the purchasing TIPS Member any contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of Vendor on request of TIPS or the purchasing TIPS Member; and (3) on completion of the Agreement, either (a) provide at no cost to TIPS or the purchasing TIPS Member all contracting information related to the Agreement that is in the custody or possession of Vendor, or (b) preserve the contracting information related to the Agreement as provided by the records retention requirements applicable to TIPS or the purchasing TIPS Member.

When applicable, does Vendor certify?

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Certification Regarding Prohibition of Boycotting Certain Energy Companies (Tex. Gov. Code 2274)

If (a) Vendor is not a sole proprietorship; (b) Vendor has ten (10) or more full-time employees; and (c) this Agreement or any Supplemental Agreement with certain public entities has a value of \$100,000 or more that is to be paid wholly or partly from public funds, the following certification shall apply; otherwise, this certification is not required.

Vendor certifies that Vendor, or any wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, parent company, or affiliate of these entities or business associations, if any, do not boycott energy companies and will not boycott energy companies during the term of the Agreement or any applicable Supplemental Agreement.

For purposes of this certification the term "company" shall mean an organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or limited liability company, that exists to make a profit.

The term "boycott energy company" shall mean "without an ordinary business purpose, refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations with a company because the company (a) engages in the exploration, production, utilization, transportation, sale, or manufacturing of fossil fuel-based energy and does not commit or pledge to meet environmental standards beyond applicable federal and state law, or (b) does business with a company described by paragraph (a)." (See Tex. Gov. Code 809.001).

When applicable, does Vendor certify?

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Felony Conviction Notice - Texas Education Code 44.034

Texas Education Code, Section 44.034, Notification of Criminal History, Subsection (a), states, "a person or business entity that enters into a contract with a school district must give advance notice to the district if the person or an owner or operator of the business entity has been convicted of a felony. The notice must include a general description of the conduct resulting in the conviction of a felony."

Subsection (b) states, "a school district may terminate a contract with a person or business entity if the district determines that the person or business entity failed to give notice as required by Subsection (a) or misrepresented the conduct resulting in the conviction. The district must compensate the person or business entity for services performed before the termination of the contract."

Subsection (c) states, "This section does not apply to a publicly held corporation."

Vendor certifies one of the following:

- A. My firm is a publicly held corporation; therefore, this reporting requirement is not applicable, or;
- B. My firm is not owned nor operated by anyone who has been convicted of a felony, or;
- C. My firm is owned or operated by the following individual(s) who has/have been convicted of a felony.

If Vendor responds with Option (C), Vendor is required to provide information in the next attribute.

60 Felony Conviction Notice - Texas Education Code 44.034 - Continued

If Vendor selected Option (C) in the previous attribute, Vendor must provide the following information herein:

1. Name of Felon(s)
2. The Felon(s) title/role in Vendor's entity, and
3. Details of Felon(s) Conviction(s).

61 Conflict of Interest Questionnaire Requirement

Vendor agrees that it has looked up, read, and understood the current version of Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 which generally requires disclosures of conflicts of interests by Vendor hereunder if Vendor:

- (1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of our local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
- (2) has given a local government officer of our local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
- (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of our local governmental entity.
- (4) Any other financial, commercial, or familial relationship with our local government that may warrant reporting under this statute.

Does Vendor certify that it has NO reportable conflict of interest?

62 Conflict of Interest Questionnaire Requirement - Form CIQ - Continued

If you responded "No, Vendor does not certify - VENDOR HAS CONFLICT" to the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire question above, you are required by law to fully execute and upload the form attachment entitled "Conflict of Interest Questionnaire - Form CIQ." If you accurately claimed no conflict above, you may disregard the form attachment entitled "Conflict of Interest Questionnaire - Form CIQ."

Have you uploaded this form if applicable?

63 Upload of Current W-9 Required

Vendors are required by TIPS to upload a current, accurate W-9 Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Tax Form for your entity. This form will be utilized by TIPS to properly identify your entity.

You must confirm that you are responding to this solicitation under your legal entity name. Go now to your Supplier Profile in this eBid System and confirm that your profile reflects your "Legal Name" as it is listed on your W9.

64 Regulatory Good Standing Certification

Does Vendor certify that its entity is in good standing with all government entities and agencies, whether local, state, or federal, that regulate any aspect of Vendor's field of work or business operations?

If Vendor selects "No", Vendor must provide explanation on the following attribute question.

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5 **Regulatory Good Standing Certification - Explanation - Continued**

If Vendor responded to the prior attribute that "No", Vendor is not in good standing, Vendor must provide an explanation of that lack of good standing here for TIPS consideration.

No response

6
6 **Instructions Only - Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion**
Instructions for Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion

1. By answering yes to the next Attribute question below, the vendor and prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out herein in accordance with these instructions.

2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and / or debarment.

3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to which this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

4. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participants," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal" and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.

5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this form that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.

6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this form that it will include this clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transaction" without modification in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.

8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the federal government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and / or debarment.

6 **Suspension or Debarment Certification**

7

Read the instructions in the attribute above and then answer the following accurately.

Vendor certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.

Does Vendor certify?

6 **Vendor Certification of Criminal History - Texas Education Code Chapter 22**

8

Texas Education Code Chapter 22 requires entities that contract with school districts to provide services to obtain criminal history record information regarding covered employees. Contractors must certify to the district that they have complied. Covered employees with disqualifying criminal histories are prohibited from serving at a school district pursuant to this law.

DEFINITIONS

Covered employees: Employees of a contractor or subcontractor who have or will have continuing duties related to the service to be performed at the District and have or will have direct contact with students. The District will be the final arbiter of what constitutes direct contact with students.

Disqualifying criminal history: Any conviction or other criminal history information designated by the District, or one of the following offenses, if at the time of the offense, the victim was under 18 or enrolled in a public school: (a) a felony offense under Title 5, Texas Penal Code; (b) an offense for which a defendant is required to register as a sex offender under Chapter 62, Texas Code of Criminal Procedure; or (c) an equivalent offense under federal law or the laws of another state.

Vendor certifies:

NONE (Section A): None of the employees of Vendor and any subcontractors are covered employees, as defined above. If this box is checked, I further certify that Contractor has taken precautions or imposed conditions to ensure that the employees of Vendor and any subcontractor will not become covered employees. Contractor will maintain these precautions or conditions throughout the time the contracted services are provided under this procurement.

OR

SOME (Section B): Some or all of the employees of Vendor and any subcontractor are covered employees. If this box is checked, I further certify that: (1) Vendor has obtained all required criminal history record information regarding its covered employees. None of the covered employees has a disqualifying criminal history; (2) If Vendor receives information that a covered employee subsequently has a reported criminal history, Vendor will immediately remove the covered employee from contract duties and notify the purchasing entity in writing within 3 business days; (3) Upon request, Vendor will provide the purchasing entity with the name and any other requested information of covered employees so that the purchasing entity may obtain criminal history record information on the covered employees; (4) If the purchasing entity objects to the assignment of a covered employee on the basis of the covered employee's criminal history record information, Vendor agrees to discontinue using that covered employee to provide services at the purchasing entity.

Which option does Vendor certify?

69 Certification Regarding "Choice of Law" Terms with TIPS Members

Vendor agrees that if any "Choice of Law" provision is included in any sales agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must provide that the "Choice of Law" applicable to the sales agreement/contract between Vendor and TIPS Member shall be the state where the TIPS Member operates unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Choice of Law" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

If Vendor disagrees, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration.

Does Vendor agree?

70 Certification Regarding "Venue" Terms with TIPS Members

Vendor agrees that if any "Venue" provision is included in any sales agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must provide that the "Venue" for any litigation or alternative dispute resolution is shall be in the state and county where the TIPS Member operates unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Venue" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

If Vendor disagrees, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration.

Does Vendor agree?

71 Certification Regarding "Automatic Renewal" Terms with TIPS Members

Vendor agrees that no TIPS Sale may incorporate an "Automatic Renewal" clause that exceeds month to month terms with which the TIPS Member must comply. All renewal terms incorporated into a TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement shall only be valid and enforceable when Vendor received written confirmation of acceptance of the renewal term from the TIPS Member for the specific renewal term. The purpose of this clause is to avoid a TIPS Member inadvertently renewing a Supplemental Agreement during a period in which the governing body of the TIPS Member has not properly appropriated and budgeted the funds to satisfy the Agreement renewal. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing an "Automatic Renewal" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

If Vendor disagrees, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration.

Does Vendor agree?

**7
2 Certification Regarding "Indemnity" Terms with TIPS Members**

Texas and other jurisdictions restrict the ability of governmental entities to indemnify others. Vendor agrees that if any "Indemnity" provision which requires the TIPS Member to indemnify Vendor is included in any sales agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause must either be stricken or qualified by including that such indemnity is only permitted, "to the extent permitted by the laws and constitution of [TIPS Member's State]" unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing an "Indemnity" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

If Vendor disagrees, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration.

Does Vendor agree?

**7
3 Certification Regarding "Arbitration" Terms with TIPS Members**

Vendor agrees that if any "Arbitration" provision is included in any TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause may **not** require that the arbitration is mandatory or binding. Vendor agrees that if any "Arbitration" provision is included in any TIPS Sale agreement/contract between Vendor and a TIPS Member, that clause provides for only voluntary and non-binding arbitration unless the TIPS Member expressly agrees otherwise. Any TIPS Sale Supplemental Agreement containing a "Arbitration" clause that conflicts with these terms is rendered void and unenforceable.

If Vendor disagrees, after this solicitation legally closes and TIPS begins evaluating Vendor's file, TIPS will provide Vendor with a draft Word Document version of the Vendor Agreement and will be instructed to include all requested negotiations as redline edits for TIPS consideration.

Does Vendor agree?

**7
4 2 CFR PART 200 AND FEDERAL CONTRACT PROVISIONS EXPLANATION**

TIPS and TIPS Members will sometimes seek to make purchases with federal funds. In accordance with 2 C.F.R. Part 200 of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (sometimes referred to as "EDGAR"), Vendor's response to the following questions labeled "2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision" will indicate Vendor's willingness and ability to comply with certain requirements which may be applicable to TIPS purchases paid for with federal funds, if accepted by Vendor.

Your responses to the following questions labeled "2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision" will dictate whether TIPS can list this awarded contract as viable to be considered for a federal fund purchase. **Failure to certify all requirements labeled "2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision" will mean that your contract is listed as not viable for the receipt of federal funds. However, it will not prevent award.**

If you do enter into a TIPS Sale when you are accepting federal funds, the contract between you and the TIPS Member will likely require these same certifications.

7 5 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Vendor Willingness to Accept Federal Funds

This certification is not required by federal law. However, TIPS Members are public entities and qualifying non-profits which often receive federal funding and grants (ESSER, CARES Act, EDGAR, etc.) **Accepting such funds often requires additional required certifications and responsibilities for Vendor.** The following attribute questions include these required certifications. Your response to this questions, the following certifications, and other factors will determine whether your contract award will be deemed as eligible for federal fund expenditures by TIPS Members.

If awarded, is Vendor willing to accept payment for goods and services offered under this contract paid for by a TIPS Member with federal funds?

7 6 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Contracts

Contracts for more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000 (2 CFR § 200.320), which is the inflation adjusted amount determined by the Civilian Agency Acquisition Council and the Defense Acquisition Regulations Council (Councils) as authorized by 41 U.S.C. 1908, must address administrative, contractual, or legal remedies in instances where contractors violate or breach contract terms, and provide for such sanctions and penalties as appropriate.

Notice: Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members reserve all rights and privileges under the applicable laws and regulations with respect to this procurement in the event of breach of contract by either party.

Does vendor agree?

7 7 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Termination

Termination for cause and for convenience by the grantee or subgrantee including the manner by which it will be effected and the basis for settlement. (All contracts in excess of \$10,000)

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members reserve the right to terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 resulting from this procurement process for cause after giving the vendor an appropriate opportunity and up to 30 days, to cure the causal breach of terms and conditions. ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members reserve the right to terminate any agreement in excess of \$10,000 resulting from this procurement process for convenience with 30 days notice in writing to the awarded vendor. The Vendor would be compensated for work performed and goods procured as of the termination date if for convenience of the ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members. Any award under this procurement process is not exclusive and the ESC Region 8 and TIPS reserves the right to purchase goods and services from other vendors when it is in the best interest of the ESC Region 8 and TIPS.

Does vendor agree?

7 **2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Clean Air Act**

8

Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q.) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387), as amended—Contracts and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$150,000 must contain a provision that requires the non-Federal award to agree to comply with all applicable standards, orders or regulations issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q) and the Federal Water Pollution Control Act as amended (33 U.S.C. 1251-1387). Violations must be reported to the Federal awarding agency and the Regional Office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Pursuant to the Clean Air Act, et al above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members require that the proposer certify that during the term of an award by the ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members resulting from this procurement process the vendor agrees to comply with all of the above regulations, including all of the terms listed and referenced therein.

Does vendor agree?

7 **2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment**

9

Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352)—Contractors that apply or bid for an award exceeding \$100,000 must file the required certification. Each tier certifies to the tier above that it will not and has not used Federal appropriated funds to pay any person or organization for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a member of Congress in connection with obtaining any Federal contract, grant or any other award covered by 31 U.S.C. 1352. Each tier must also disclose any lobbying with non-Federal funds that takes place in connection with obtaining any Federal award. Such disclosures are forwarded from tier to tier up to the non-Federal award.

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members require the proposer certify that during the term and during the life of any contract with ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members resulting from this procurement process the vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352).

Does Vendor agree?

8 0 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment - Continued

Applicable to Grants, Subgrants, Cooperative Agreements, and Contracts Exceeding \$100,000 in Federal Funds

Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction and is imposed by the Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment (31 U.S.C. 1352). This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of a Federal contract, the making of a Federal grant, the making of a Federal loan, the entering into a cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all covered subawards exceeding \$100,000 in Federal funds at all appropriate tiers and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

Does Vendor certify that it has NOT lobbied as described herein?

8 1 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment - Continued

If you answered "No, Vendor does not certify - Lobbying to Report" to the above attribute question, you must download, read, execute, and upload the attachment entitled "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities - Standard Form - LLL", as instructed, to report the lobbying activities you performed or paid others to perform.

8 2 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Federal Rule

Compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)), section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR part 15). (Contracts, subcontracts, and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$100,000)

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members requires the proposer certify that in performance of the contracts, subcontracts, and subgrants of amounts in excess of \$250,000, the vendor will be in compliance with all applicable standards, orders, or requirements issued under section 306 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)), section 508 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 11738, and Environmental Protection Agency regulations (40 CFR part 15).

Does vendor certify compliance?

8 **2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Procurement of Recovered Materials**

3

A non-Federal entity that is a state agency or agency of a political subdivision of a state and its contractors must comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The requirements of Section 6002 include: (1) procuring only items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR part 247 that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable, consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition, where the purchase price of the item exceeds \$10,000 or the value of the quantity acquired during the preceding fiscal year exceeded \$10,000; (2) procuring solid waste management services in a manner that maximizes energy and resource recovery; and establishing an affirmative procurement program for procurement of recovered materials identified in the EPA guidelines.

Does vendor certify that it is in compliance with these provisions?

8 **2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Rights to Inventions**

4

If the Federal award meets the definition of “funding agreement” under 37 CFR §401.2 (a) and the recipient or subrecipient wishes to enter into a contract with a small business firm or nonprofit organization regarding the substitution of parties, assignment or performance of experimental, developmental, or research work under that “funding agreement,” the recipient or subrecipient must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR Part 401, “Rights to Inventions Made by Nonprofit Organizations and Small Business Firms Under Government Grants, Contracts and Cooperative Agreements,” and any implementing regulations issued by the awarding agency.

Pursuant to the above, when the foregoing applies to ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, Vendor certifies that during the term of an award resulting from this procurement process, Vendor agrees to comply with all applicable requirements as referenced in the Federal rule above.

Does vendor certify?

2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Domestic Preferences for Procurements and Compliance with Buy America Provisions

As appropriate and to the extent consistent with law, TIPS Member Customers, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award, may provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products). Vendor agrees that the requirements of this section will be included in all subawards including all contracts and purchase orders for work or products under this award, to the greatest extent practicable under a Federal award. For purposes of 2 CFR Part 200.322, "Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States. Moreover, for purposes of 2 CFR Part 200.322, "Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum, plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe, aggregates such as concrete, glass, including optical fiber, and lumber.

Vendor certifies that it is in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Buy America Act. Purchases made in accordance with the Buy America Act must still follow the applicable procurement rules calling for free and open competition. For purposes of 2 CFR Part 200.322,

"Produced in the United States" means, for iron and steel products, that all manufacturing processes, from the initial melting stage through the application of coatings, occurred in the United States.

"Manufactured products" means items and construction materials composed in whole or in part of non-ferrous metals such as aluminum; plastics and polymer-based products such as polyvinyl chloride pipe; aggregates such as concrete; glass, including optical fiber; and lumber.

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, Vendor certifies that to the greatest extent practicable Vendor will provide a preference for the purchase, acquisition, or use of goods, products, or materials produced in the United States (including but not limited to iron, aluminum, steel, cement, and other manufactured products).

Does Vendor Certify?

8 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Ban on Foreign Telecommunications

ESC 8 and TIPS Members are prohibited from obligating or expending Federal financial assistance, to include loan or grant funds, to: (1) procure or obtain, (2) extend or renew a contract to procure or obtain, or (3) enter into a contract (or extend or renew a contract) to procure or obtain, equipment, services, or systems that use "covered telecommunications" equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system. "Covered telecommunications" equipment is telecommunications equipment produced by Huawei Technologies Company or ZTE Corporation (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities), and physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure and other national security purposes, and video surveillance and telecommunications equipment produced by Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, or Dahua Technology Company (or any subsidiary or affiliate of such entities) for the purpose of public safety, security of government facilities, physical security surveillance of critical infrastructure, and other national security purposes detailed in 2 CFR § 200.216.

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, Vendor certifies that Vendor will not purchase equipment, services, or systems that use "covered telecommunications", as defined by 2 CFR §200.216 equipment or services as a substantial or essential component of any system, or as critical technology as part of any system.

Does vendor certify?

8 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Contract Cost & Price

For contracts more than the simplified acquisition threshold currently set at \$250,000, a TIPS Member may, in very rare circumstances, be required to negotiate profit as a separate element of the price pursuant to 2 C.F.R. 200.324(b). Under those circumstances, Vendor agrees to provide information and negotiate with the TIPS Member regarding profit as a separate element of the price. However, Vendor certifies that the total price charged by the Vendor shall not exceed the Vendor's TIPS pricing and pricing terms proposed.

Does Vendor certify?

8 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Equal Employment Opportunity

Except as otherwise provided under 41 CFR Part 60, all contracts that meet the definition of "federally assisted construction contract" in 41 CFR Part 60-1.3 must include the equal opportunity clause provided under 41 CFR 60-1.4(b), in accordance with Executive Order 11246, "Equal Employment Opportunity" (30 FR 12319, 12935, 3 CFR Part, 1964-1965 Comp., p. 339), as amended by Executive Order 11375, "Amending Executive Order 11246 Relating to Equal Employment Opportunity," and implementing regulations at 41 CFR part 60, "Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, Equal Employment Opportunity, Department of Labor."

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members on any federally assisted construction contract, the equal opportunity clause is incorporated by reference here.

Does Vendor Certify?

8 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Davis Bacon Act Compliance

Texas Statute requires compliance with Davis-Bacon Act, as amended (40 U.S.C. 3141-3148). When required by Federal program legislation, all prime construction contracts in excess of \$2,000 awarded by non-Federal entities must include a provision for compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 3141-3144, and 3146- 3148) as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5, "Labor Standards Provisions Applicable to Contracts Covering Federally Financed and Assisted Construction"). In accordance with the statute, contractors must be required to pay wages to laborers and mechanics at a rate not less than the prevailing wages specified in a wage determination made by the Secretary of Labor. In addition, contractors must be required to pay wages not less than once a week. The non- Federal entity must place a copy of the current prevailing wage determination issued by the Department of Labor in each solicitation. The decision to award a contract or subcontract must be conditioned upon the acceptance of the wage determination. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency. The contracts must also include a provision for compliance with the Copeland "Anti-Kickback" Act (40 U.S.C. 3145), as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 3, "Contractors and Subcontractors on Public Building or Public Work Financed in Whole or in Part by Loans or Grants from the United States"). The Act provides that each contractor or subrecipient must be prohibited from inducing, by any means, any person employed in the construction, completion, or repair of public work, to give up any part of the compensation to which he or she is otherwise entitled. The non-Federal entity must report all suspected or reported violations to the Federal awarding agency.

Pursuant to state and federal requirements, Vendor certifies that it will be in compliance with all applicable Davis-Bacon Act provisions if/when applicable.

Does Vendor certify?

9 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards

Where applicable, all contracts awarded by ESC 8 and TIPS Members in excess of \$100,000 that involve the employment of mechanics or laborers must include a provision for compliance with 40 U.S.C. 3702 and 3704, as supplemented by Department of Labor regulations (29 CFR Part 5). Under 40 U.S.C. 3702 of the Act, each contractor must be required to compute the wages of every mechanic and laborer on the basis of a standard work week of 40 hours. Work in excess of the standard work week is permissible provided that the worker is compensated at a rate of not less than one and a half times the basic rate of pay for all hours worked in excess of 40 hours in the work week. The requirements of 40 U.S.C. 3704 are applicable to construction work and provide that no laborer or mechanic must be required to work in surroundings or under working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous or dangerous. These requirements do not apply to the purchases of supplies or materials or articles ordinarily available on the open market, or contracts for transportation or transmission of intelligence.

Pursuant to the above, when federal funds are expended by ESC Region 8 and TIPS Members, Vendor certifies that during the term of an award for all contracts resulting from this procurement process, Vendor will be in compliance with all applicable provisions of the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act.

Does Vendor certify?

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2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - FEMA Fund Certification & Certification of Access to Records

If and when Vendor accepts a TIPS purchase paid for in full or part with FEMA funds, Vendor certifies that:

(1) Vendor agrees to provide the TIPS Member, the FEMA Administrator, the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their authorized representatives access to and rights to reproduce any books, documents, papers, and records of the Contractor which are directly pertinent to this contract, or any contract resulting from this procurement, for the purposes of making audits, examinations, excerpts, and transcriptions. This right also includes timely and reasonable access to Vendor's personnel for the purpose of interview and discussion relating to such documents. Vendor agrees to provide the FEMA Administrator or an authorized representatives access to construction or other work sites pertaining to the work being completed under the contract. Vendor acknowledges and agrees that no language in this contract or the contract with the TIPS Member is intended to prohibit audits or internal reviews by the FEMA Administrator or the Comptroller General of the United States.

(2) The Vendor shall not use the Department of Homeland Security's seal(s), logos, crests, or reproductions of flags or likenesses of DHS agency officials without specific FEMA pre-approval.

(3) The Vendor will comply with all applicable Federal law, regulations, executive orders, FEMA policies, procedures, and directives.

(4) The Federal Government is not a party to this contract and is not subject to any obligations or liabilities to the non-Federal entity, contractor, or any other party pertaining to any matter resulting from the contract.

(5) The Vendor acknowledges that 31 U.S.C. Chap. 38 (Administrative Remedies for False Claims and Statements) applies to the Vendor's actions pertaining to this contract.

Does Vendor certify?

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2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Certification of Compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act

When appropriate and to the extent consistent with the law, Vendor certifies that it will comply with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (42 U.S.C. 6321 et seq; 49 C.F.R. Part 18) and any state mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in applicable state energy conservation plans issued in compliance with the Act.

Does Vendor certify?

9 3 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Certification of Compliance with Never Contract with the Enemy

Where applicable, all contracts awarded by ESC 8 and TIPS Members in excess of \$50,000.00, within the period of performance, and which are performed outside of the United States, including U.S. territories, are subject to the regulations implementing Never Contract with the Enemy in 2 CFR part 183. Per 2 CFR part 183, in the situation specified, ESC 8 and TIPS Members shall terminate any contract or agreement resulting from this procurement which violates the Never Contract with the Enemy regulation in 2 CFR part 183, including if Vendor is actively opposing the United States or coalition forces involved in a contingency operation in which members of the the Armed Forces are actively engaged in hostilities. Vendor certifies that it is neither an excluded entity under the System for Award Management (SAM) nor Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System (FAPIS) for any contract terminated due to Never Contract with the Enemy as a Termination for Material Failure to Comply.

Does Vendor certify?

9 4 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Certification of Compliance with EPA Regulations

For contracts resulting from this procurement, in excess of \$100,000.00 and paid for with federal funds, Vendor certifies that Vendor will comply with all applicable standards, orders, regulations, and/or requirements issued pursuant to the Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1857(h)), Section 508 of the Clean Water Act, as amended (33 U.S.C. 1368), Executive Order 117389 and Environmental Protection Agency Regulation, 40 CFR Part 15.

Does Vendor certify?

9 5 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Record Retention Requirements

For contracts resulting from this procurement, paid for by ESC 8 or TIPS Members with federal funds, Vendor certifies that Vendor will comply with the record retention requirements detailed in 2 CFR § 200.334. Vendor certifies that Vendor will retain all records as required by 2 CFR § 200.334 for a period of three years after final expenditure or financial reports, as applicable, and all other pending matters are closed.

Does Vendor certify?

9 6 2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - Subcontracting and Affirmative Steps for Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms.

Do you ever anticipate the possibility of subcontracting any of your work under this award if you are successful?

If you respond "Yes", you must respond to the following attribute question accurately. If you respond "No", you may skip the following attribute question.

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2 CFR Part 200 or Federal Provision - If "Yes" Response to Above Attribute - Continued - Subcontracting and Affirmative Steps for Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms.

Only respond to this question if you responded "Yes" to the attribute question directly above. Skip this question if you responded "No" to the attribute question directly above.

Does Vendor certify that it will follow the following affirmative steps? Federal Regulation 2 CFR §200.321 Contracting with small and minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms. (a)The non-Federal entity must take all necessary affirmative steps to assure that minority businesses, women's business enterprises, and labor surplus area firms are used when possible.

(b) Affirmative steps must include:

- (1) Placing qualified small and minority businesses and women's business enterprises on solicitation lists;
- (2) Assuring that small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises are solicited whenever they are potential sources;
- (3) Dividing total requirements, when economically feasible, into smaller tasks or quantities to permit maximum participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- (4) Establishing delivery schedules, where the requirement permits, which encourage participation by small and minority businesses, and women's business enterprises;
- (5) Using the services and assistance, as appropriate, of such organizations as the Small Business Administration and the Minority Business Development Agency of the Department of Commerce ; and
- (6) Requiring the prime contractor, if subcontracts are to be let, to take the affirmative steps listed in paragraphs(1) through (5) of this section.

Does Vendor certify?

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT & BINDING CORPORATE AUTHORITY

By submitting this proposal, the individual(s) submitting on behalf of the Vendor certify that they are authorized by Vendor to complete and submit this proposal on behalf of Vendor and that this proposal was duly submitted on behalf of Vendor by authority of its governing body, if any, and within the scope of its corporate powers.

Vendor further certifies that it has read, examined, and understands all portions of this solicitation including but not limited to all attribute questions, attachments, solicitation documents, bid notes, and the Vendor Agreement(s). Vendor certifies that, if necessary, Vendor has consulted with counsel in understanding all portions of this solicitation.

TIPS 230504 Information Technology Equipment, Software, and Services	Minntek Solutions, Inc.
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TIPS REFERENCE FORM

All requested information must be typed and uploaded in Excel format. Do not handwrite or upload in any format other than Excel. Emails provided must be current and active. Do not include TIPS/Region 8 employees as a reference. The entities that you provide must be paying customers, not affiliates/partners/manufacturers/resellers, etc.



You must provide below at least three (3) references from three different entity customers, preferably government or non-profit entities, who have purchased goods or services from your vendor entity within the last three years.

Customer Entity Name	Customer Contact Name	Valid Contact Email	Valid Contact Phone
Example: ABC University	Director John Doe	jdoe@abcuniverisity.edu	800-111- 2222
North East Independent School District	Edgar Zamora - Interim Director	ezamor6@neisd.net	210-356-8881
North East Independent School District	Josh Klein	jklein2@neisd.net	210-356-8893
County of Montgomery PA	CIO Anthony Olivieri	anthony.olivieri@montgomerycountypa.gov	610-292-6896
Neiman Marcus	Joe Baugh	joe_baugh@neimanmarcus.com	817-659-8723
Neiman Marcus	Todd Wright	todd_wright@neimanmarcus.com	214-415-4773
Neiman Marcus	Carl Geenley	carl.greenley@neimanmarcus.com	214-562-4096

TIPS CONTRACT 230504

REQUIRED CONFIDENTIALITY CLAIM FORM

(VENDOR MUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING VENDOR INFORMATION)

Vendor Entity Name: Minntek Solutions, Inc.

Vendor Authorized Signatory Name: Bill Rogers

Vendor Authorized Signatory Title: President

Vendor Authorized Signatory Email: billr@minntek.com

Vendor Address: 13433 Fenway Blvd Cir N, Suite 120

City: Hugo State: MN Zip Code: 55038

Vendor agrees that it is voluntarily providing its data (including but not limited to: Vendor information, Vendor documentation, Vendor's proposal, Vendor pricing submitted or provided to TIPS, TIPS contract documents, TIPS correspondence, Vendor logos and images, Vendor's contact information, Vendor's brochures and commercial information, Vendor's financial information, Vendor's certifications, and any other Vendor information or documentation submitted to TIPS by Vendor and its agents) (Hereinafter, "Vendor Data") to TIPS. Vendor understands and agrees that TIPS is a government entity subject to public information laws including but not limited to Texas Government Code (TGC) Chapter 552. Vendor agrees that regardless of confidentiality designations herein, Vendor's submission of a proposal constitutes Vendor's consent to the disclosure and release of Vendor's Data and comprehensive proposal, including any information deemed confidential or proprietary herein, to and by TIPS Members.

Notwithstanding the foregoing permissible release to TIPS Members, if Vendor considers any portion of Vendor's proposal to be otherwise confidential and not subject to public disclosure pursuant to public information laws, including but not limited to TGC Chapter 552, Vendor must properly execute *Option 1 only* below, attach to this PDF all documents and information that Vendor deems confidential, and upload the consolidated documentation. Regardless of the Option selected below, this form must be completed and uploaded to the "Response Attachments" section of the eBid System entitled "Required Confidentiality Claim Form." Execution and submission of this form is the sole indicator of whether Vendor considers any Vendor Data confidential in the event TIPS receives a request, a Public Information Request, or subpoena. If TIPS receives a request, any responsive documentation not deemed confidential by you through proper execution of Option 1 of this form will be automatically released. For information deemed confidential by you through proper execution of Option 1 of this form, TIPS will follow procedures of controlling statute(s) regarding withholding that documentation and shall not be liable for any release of information required by law, including Attorney General opinion or court order.

(VENDOR MUST COMPLETE ONE OF THE TWO OPTIONS AND UPLOAD IN THE EBID SYSTEM)

OPTION 1 – DESIGNATING CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS – YES, VENDOR HAS ATTACHED CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS

(Confirm each bullet point and sign below)

- Vendor claims some Vendor Data confidential to the extent permitted by TGC Chapter 552 and other applicable law.
- Vendor attached to this PDF all potentially confidential Vendor Data and listed the number of attached pages below.
- Vendor's authorized signatory has signed below and shall upload this document in the proper location in the eBid System.
- Vendor agrees that TIPS shall not be liable for any release of confidential information required by law.

Number of pages attached deemed confidential: _____

Authorized Signature: _____

OPTION 2 – WAIVER OF CONFIDENTIALITY – NO, VENDOR HAS NOT ATTACHED CONFIDENTIAL MATERIALS

(Confirm each bullet point and sign below)

By signing for Option 2 below, Vendor expressly waives any confidentiality claim for all Vendor Data submitted in relation to this proposal and resulting contract. Vendor confirms that TIPS may freely release Vendor Data submitted in relation to this proposal or resulting contract to any requestor. Vendor agrees that TIPS shall not be responsible or liable for any use or distribution of Vendor Data by TIPS or TIPS Members.

- Vendor's authorized signatory has signed below and shall upload this document in the proper location in the eBid System.

▪ Vendor agrees that TIPS shall not be liable for any release of confidential information required by law.

Authorized Signature: 

VENDOR SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

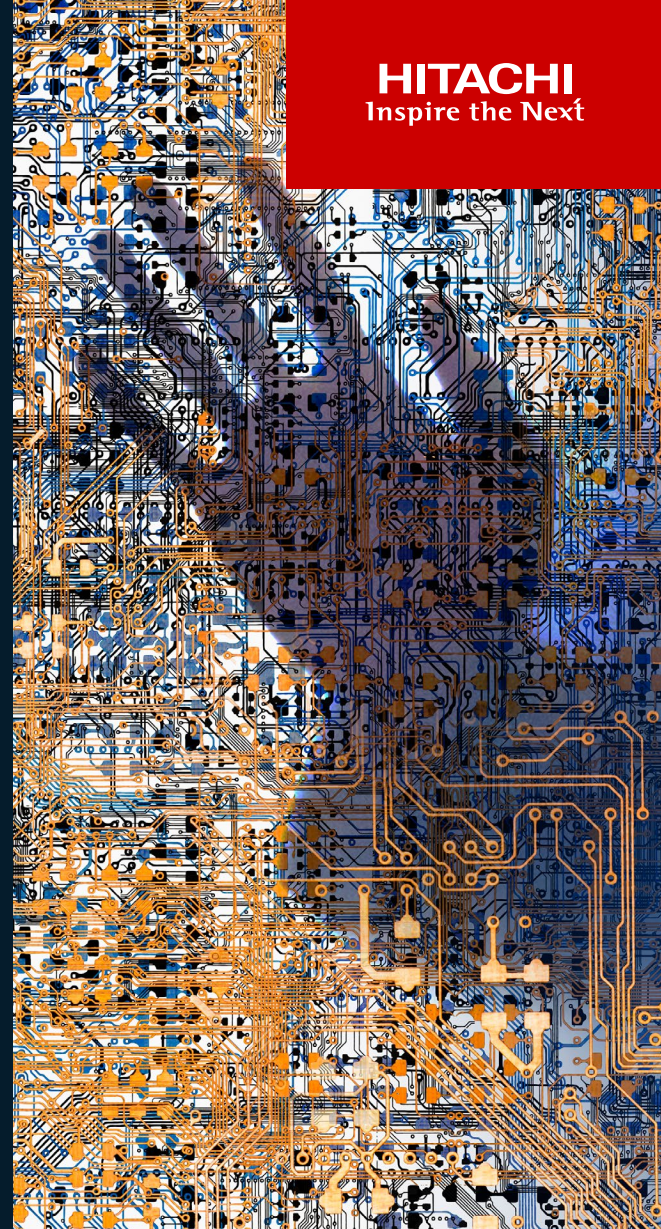
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Blazing Fast Object Storage Meets Best- in-class Data Protection

Comprehensive Protection
for Modern Workloads with
Limitless Scale

OVERVIEW

As enterprises evolve faster than ever before, traditional data protection solutions struggle to keep up. Workloads are rapidly being moved to cloud-native, SaaS, and containerized apps, while data attacks like ransomware and malware are common events. Legacy appliances aren't agile enough to meet these challenges – their technology lags and their inflexible architectures can't scale to meet performance and capacity demands.





Protect Your Data - Wherever it is - Without Compromise

Many vendors aspire to offer modern data protection solutions with low operational cost but fail upon closer inspection. Backup appliances can offer low-cost entry points to entice new customers, but those savings evaporate quickly when it comes time to scale. Multi-tier solutions that leverage tape for archival require substantial management overhead and longer recovery SLAs that factor in the time needed to locate and transport the corresponding media. Cloud storage is an enticing alternative for some, but often legal/compliance requirements prevent organizations from storing their datasets there. Additionally, the storage costs and network egress fees incurred during data recovery can add up very quickly and offset the perceived cost benefits of cloud storage.

Together Hitachi and Commvault deliver a best-in-class solution for data protection

This validated reference design brings together Hitachi Data Protection Suite (HDPS), powered by Commvault, and Hitachi Content Platform for Cloud Scale (HCP for Cloud Scale). Combining these two technologies results in a highly scalable, flexible, and resilient cloud ready data protection platform to meet your most stringent performance requirements – with a single interface that breaks down those silos and natively manages all of your data, with the same SLAs, from one spot.

“

I like the ways Commvault and Hitachi are working together on hybrid cloud, so I invited them in for testing. This is medical data with strict SLAs so it's critical any system we use is reliable and performs well. We increased restore performance and simplified data management. We can expand in minutes now instead of days and have better ways to protect our data as threats increase.

Bernard Lam
Systems Architect,
HealthPartners

”

Simplify Data Protection with Scale and Speed

Data protection is considered a security function. In this context, data is treated as a valuable corporate asset that needs to be protected. This protection spans areas like viruses, ransomware, user mistakes, environmental failures, or natural disasters. The most important aspect of this protection is the ability to recover data fast, accurately, and with ease.

Simplify Management

Comprehensive data protection from a single console without connectors or 3rd party rebranded software to navigate. All storage federated and easily managed by the HCP software technology.

An integrated solution that offers greater operational efficiency, simplifying your daily management tasks.

Complete Ransomware Protection

A highly secure framework limits access to backup data while AI-based anomaly detection alerts and remediates when an attack is suspected. Air-gapped copies and WORM/Object locking controls work together to ensure recoverability.

Keep your organization from being disrupted by bad actors and malicious threats. Air-gapped copies mean you're always minutes away from recovery.

Support Modern and Legacy Workloads

Native integration and broad ecosystem support ensure your entire environment is protected.

From databases and hypervisors to emerging technologies like containers and cloud-native services. Hitachi provides unparalleled capabilities so you can manage all your data from a single interface.

Even cloud-native and SaaS apps need to be protected. Eliminate siloed data protection and do it all from a single console.

Scale for Capacity, Scale to Meet RTOs

Microservices-based design with granular scalability for services – performance, scale, compute, or storage. Capacity can be scaled inexpensively and easily with HCP Cloud Scale's ability to federate data across any S3 Storage Service.

Predictable, linear scalability to confidently meet aggressive terabyte-per-hour (TB/h) objectives. Simply add nodes to shrink backup windows and improve RTOs.

Automate SLA-based Data Protection

Define SLA-based policies to simplify backups and automatically keep your workloads and data secure. Advanced dashboards and alerting capabilities make sure you're always aware of the status of your backups.

Automation simplifies how you configure data protection policies across your environment and ensures that no workloads are left unprotected.

Reduce Hardware Complexity and Cost

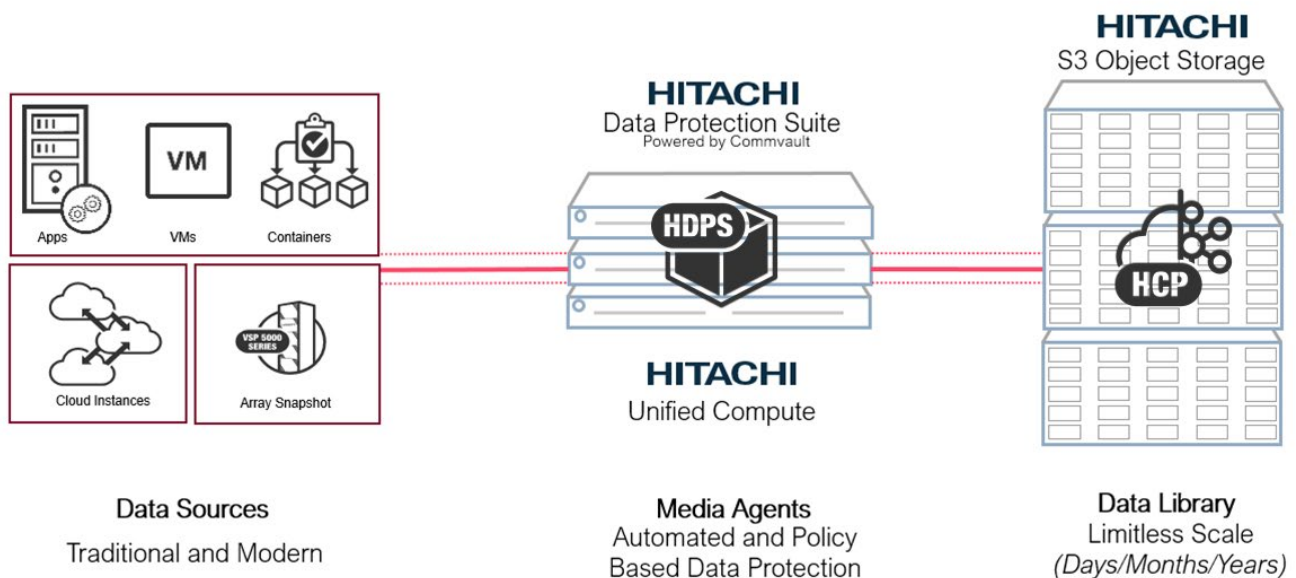
HCP Cloud Scale eliminates the need for multiple tiers of storage libraries. Object storage has shaped data protection architectures to no longer require multiple tiers of backup repositories while improving performance, scale, and efficiency.

Enjoy the flexibility and cost-efficiency that a software-based cloud storage solution offers. Avoid storage lock-in and the need to manage both backup appliances and tape.

Scale to Meet Today's Data Protection Challenges

At a time when organizations face significant challenges in how they manage and protect their data across physical, virtual, and cloud environments, one thing is clear – old-school solutions built on legacy hardware no longer meet the demands of modern data protection. Massive data sprawl, mounting threats like ransomware and malware, and emerging technologies like containers and cloud demonstrate the need for a data protection solution that is agile, flexible, and rooted in innovation.

By combining HCP for Cloud Scale and HDPS, scalability and reliability are taken to a completely new level. The flexibility of deployment and ease of scale (for both performance and capacity) allow you to be in complete control of your backup infrastructure and define your SLAs accordingly. Industry-leading backup and recovery capabilities allow you to easily manage data and workloads across on-premises, hybrid, and public cloud environments, giving you the tools necessary to keep your enterprise data secure and recoverable.



Scale-out Data Protection with Hitachi Content Platform for Cloud Scale and Hitachi Data Protection Suite

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OB-006-A MCoE April 2021

IS YOUR DATA CENTER WORKING FOR YOU?

Check out Hitachi VSP 5000, the World's Fastest NVMe Flash Array

- **Workload diversity** – Support all workloads from container to mainframe.
- **Flexible scale** – Right-size capacity and service levels.
- **Mix NVMe and SAS** – Optimize workload cost and performance.
- **Unlock value** – Powerful virtualization adds capability to legacy systems.
- **Grow with needs** – Scale up from 2 to 6 nodes, scale from 3.8TB to 69TB.
- **Future-ready** – Non-disruptive, data-in-place migration.

A game-changing foundation for modern enterprise infrastructure

featuring

Average
40%
reduction in storage TCO

Best-in-class performance, resiliency and
100%
Data Availability Guaranteed

Up to
90%
faster provisioning

Up to
60%
more efficient data storage

Up to
70%
reduction in storage management tasks

Reduced from
30 to 8
number of manual steps for managing storage

42%
data reduction performance improvement



VSP 5000

The world's fastest NVMe flash storage array is the foundation for a modern, enterprise-class infrastructure.

2x
faster than Dell PowerMax

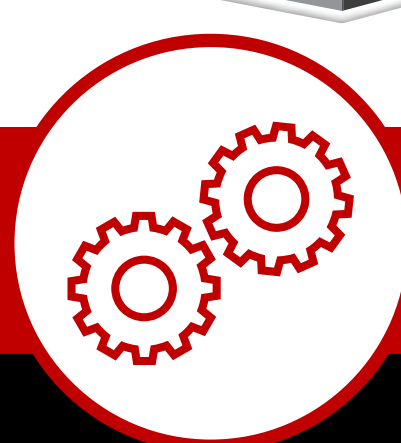
1.8x
faster than IBM FlashSystem

- Best-in-class 39µs latency, 33 million IOPS, and it scales to a massive 69 petabytes.
- **No-impact Smart Deduplication:** 4:1 effective capacity, guaranteed "sight unseen" with deduplication and compression.
- All-new design optimized for the NVMe's massive parallelism, the VSP 5000 series allows an unprecedented level of application performance and availability.



All new scale-out architecture delivers best-in-class performance and resiliency.

Hitachi Ops Center



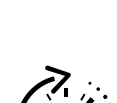
AI/ML-enhanced management accelerates automation and improves IT operational efficiencies

- **Ops Center Administrator** simplifies management to easily align storage resources to your business needs.
- **Ops Center Analyzer** produces new insights to improve services levels, resource planning and troubleshooting on the full data path.
- **Ops Center Automator** orchestrates data center resource provisioning to speed delivery and reduce risks.
- **Ops Center Protector** automates enterprise copy data management to ensure your data is protected.



Hitachi Storage Virtualization Operating System RF (SVOS RF) for VSP Storage

Superior NVMe and sas flash performance engages customers faster, leverages cloud and simplifies storage operations for improved ROI



100% data availability guarantee¹



Comprehensive security



Simplified management



24/7 application availability



The industry's most resilient flash-optimized OS

Ready to transform your data center with the new standard in enterprise storage?

CONTACT US

DATASHEET

Hitachi Content Platform Gateway for Cloud File Services

Modernize file services by replacing traditional file servers with cloud storage gateways and object storage. Simplify management, reduce cost and improve data access without changing user or application behavior.

The Cloud File Gateway

Organizations struggle with the cost and complexity of file services in the data center, at remote and branch offices and on user devices. This results in over- or under-provisioning of storage resources, long backup times, compliance issues and escalating costs. While attractive at first, public cloud-based solutions pose potential cost and compliance issues. Hitachi Content Platform Gateway (HCP Gateway) lets you retain visibility and control over data while simplifying and controlling the cost of file services. All data from remote and branch offices flows to the data center, where it can be tracked, managed and governed properly, even if part of that life cycle means sending a copy to public clouds. By automatically syncing files to the data center, HCP Gateway offers more reliable data protection than traditional backup technologies at sites where IT staff and skills are limited such as remote and branch offices.

File-based data accounts for more than 80% of capacity demand in a typical IT infrastructure. Traditional infrastructure requires the labor-intensive management of file servers, NAS and data protection appliances, and software. These efforts support activities like data protection and recovery, performance management, migrations and capacity planning,

making traditional file services very costly to maintain.

A modern, cloud-based approach to file services is much more efficient and easier to manage. HCP Gateway gives you a private or hybrid cloud solution to address the shortcomings of traditional NAS and file server deployments. This solution enables users and applications to read and write data as they always have and copies all files to Hitachi Content Platform (HCP), where they are efficiently stored, well protected and properly governed (see Figure 1).

HCP Gateway presents the traditional CIFS share or NFS protocols to users and applications using virtual file systems (see Table 1). The virtual file systems are not integrated with the host operating system; hence, things like stubs, links, DFS or junction points are not used, and, therefore, operating system limitations (for example, file count or size of file system) are not imposed. Users and applications will continue to view the file system directory structure to which they are accustomed, but now the content can be stored where appropriate for the business. This means that with HCP Gateway handling the translation, the front-end access protocol can be different from the back-end storage protocol, without any updates to client or application access.

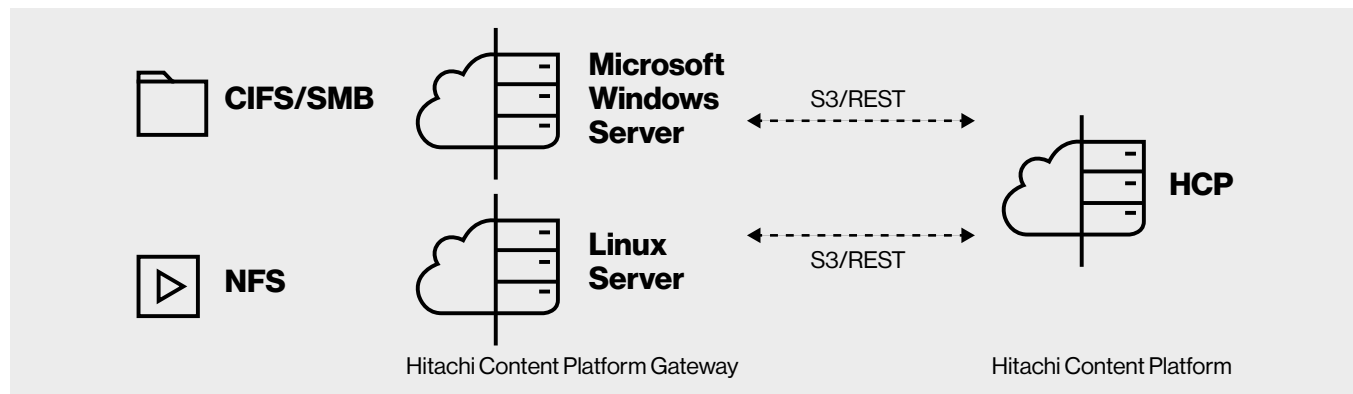


Figure 1. HCP Gateway lets you meet compliance requirements by using HCP object storage data governance capabilities.

Supported Operating Systems	Supported Virtual Machine Hosts
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NFS only – Linux, Debian Server 10.x • CIFS only – Microsoft Windows Server 2019 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VMware ESXI • Microsoft Hyper-V

Table 1. HCP Gateway Specifications

HCP Gateway enables you to meet compliance requirements for “write once, read many” (WORM), retention, legal hold and data disposition. It also helps you deliver a more secure, flexible and efficient approach to long-term archiving needs using HCP object storage.

HCP is one of the most trusted data storage compliance and data governance offerings in the market, with over 2,500 customers and 5,000 systems in operation. It is the core of a broad DataOps for governance solution that not only achieves compliance, but also goes far beyond by helping to protect data, share information, simplify management and reduce costs. Some key attributes of HCP include:

- **Retention.** WORM functionality is employed to set a specific file retention period. The retention period can be extended but not shortened. Retention can be set on an object by object basis or by selecting related retention policies. Once the retention period has been met, files can be deleted from the system.
- **Data destruction.** Files can be deleted upon expiration of the retention period, but cannot be deleted when a retention policy is in effect. HCP incorporates a “digital shredding” feature that overwrites deleted files with a random pattern, a technique that complies with the United States Department of Defense (DOD) specification 5520.22-M. These actions can be performed on individual objects or a policy can be assigned to automatically govern the deletion of content. All delete actions are logged and the logs can be extracted with the auditing mechanisms in HCP.
- **Authenticity.** A digital signature for each incoming file is created utilizing any one of the following hashing algorithms to ensure data integrity: MD5, SHA-1, SHA-256, SHA-384 or SHA-512. The system periodically computes the digital signature and compares it with the original value stored when the file was first archived, ensuring data integrity.

- **Encryption.** All data is automatically encrypted using the NSA-approved AES encryption algorithm before being written to disk. On reads, the data is decrypted and presented back to the requestor in its original format. The encryption and decryption operations are transparent to users and applications. The encryption key is generated at system installation time and stored internally, eliminating the need for external key management schemes. The encryption key is broken into a number of pieces and distributed among the nodes in the system, ensuring that if a disk or a node were stolen, the data would be unreadable.
- **Access controls and auditing.** Administrative access can be restricted to individual IP addresses or a range of allowable addresses. Each access gateway has its own security mechanisms. In addition, all ports not needed for the interfaces are protected by an embedded firewall. The HCP logs significant events, such as object deletion so that these actions can be audited.
- **Data protection.** By combining versioning of data with WORM functionality, content integrity checks, data authenticity, replication, erasure coding and a host of other technologies, Hitachi Content Platform eliminates the need for traditional tape-based backups, greatly reducing the cost and complexity of file services.
- **Discovery.** Hitachi Content Intelligence provides full content and metadata search and indexing that enables rapid location of documents related to keywords, file properties and custom metadata. Content Intelligence can also be used to create pipelines and workflows that automatically identify, classify and assign data management policies to files based on their metadata and content to ensure proper governance of your data.

These capabilities and much, much more make HCP with the HCP Gateway a more elegant and future-ready solution for providing file services in your organization.

Watch Now

Transforming from traditional to modern file services has many benefits and is not as complicated as you might think. See why: [Watch a lightboard overview of the Hitachi Content Platform portfolio.](#)

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HV-CBE-DS-HCP- Gateway for Cloud File Services-6Oct22-B



DATASHEET

Modernize IT With Full-Stack Hyperconverged Infrastructure

Simplify your data center and accelerate hybrid cloud benefits with Hitachi Unified Compute Platform HC family of all-NVMe, all-flash and hybrid solutions. Compute, storage, virtualization and high availability are combined into a simple, scalable and reliable enterprise-grade hyperconverged infrastructure.

Next-Generation Hyperconverged Solutions

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform HC (UCP HC), in collaboration with Intel Select Solutions program, offers a scalable, simple and reliable hyperconverged platform to modernize data center and edge computing. The integrated UCP HC appliance meets collective needs of business applications, databases, analytics, virtual desktops, remote and branch office (ROBO) and cloud hosting solutions. It offers industry-leading policy-based management and data protection solutions to help organizations deliver agile and efficient IT services to meet strategic goals (see sidebar).

Agile

- Accelerate time to production by up to 80% with automated provisioning.
- Experience three times faster apps with all-NVMe flash storage.
- Deliver excellent performance with industry-leading software-defined storage embedded in VMware vSphere hypervisor kernel.
- Automate operations with policies to accelerate service provisioning.
- Accelerate high-performance processing applications with a next-generation graphics processing unit (GPU) enabled UCP HC.

Resilient

- Continuing legendary Hitachi reliability, UCP HC delivers a robust foundation to run your important applications with aggressive recovery point and recovery time objective (RPO and RTO) requirements.
- Protect apps in a remote data center with rapid recoverability. Minimize the impact of site failure with five-minute RPO using vSphere host-based replication.

Important Features

- Hypervisor-embedded, software-defined storage.
- High-performance, all-NVMe solutions.
- Build hybrid cloud with VMware Cloud Foundation.
- Interoperability with external storage.
- Unified management of hyperconverged infrastructure (HCI) and external SAN.
- Up to seven times storage reduction.
- Automated over-the-air firmware upgrade.
- Enhanced deep learning and AI with Nvidia GPUs.
- Single support for entire HCI appliance.
- Validated reference architecture for key use cases, including configurations verified as Intel Select Solutions.

- [Hitachi Unified Compute Platform Advisor](#) (UCP Advisor) provides deep visibility into your physical and virtual stack and allows firmware upgrades in a nondisruptive manner. UCP Advisor's built-in remote monitoring software proactively monitors for potential issues and resolves them, before they impact operations.
- Hitachi's reliable one-stop support for the entire appliance provides a zero-worry experience to organizations using UCP HC.

Cloud Efficient

- UCP HC leverages Intel Xeon Scalable processor CPU and inexpensive storage, integrated with VMware vSphere and vSAN to reduce the total cost of ownership.
- High VM density supports a mix of applications, eliminating the need for storage sprawl.
- Advanced policy-based management engine ensures provisioning of the right storage services on the fly, with accurate quality of service (QoS) per VM.
- Manage UCP HC and traditional external storage systems with a common management framework, protecting investments in SAN storage.

HITACHI UNIFIED COMPUTE PLATFORM HC FAMILY SPECIFICATIONS

Product	UCP HC V124N	UCP HC V225G	UCP HC V220F	UCP HC V120F	UCP HC V120	UCP HC V220	UCP HC V124N G2	UCP HC V120F G2	UCP HC V224N G2
Configuration	All NVMe Flash	All-flash, general purpose (GP) GPU enabled	All-Flash	All-flash (Intel Select Solutions* verified)	Hybrid	Hybrid	All-NVMe flash SFF form factor	SSD flash SFF form factor	All-NVMe Flash SFF Form Factor
Form Factor	1 unit (U), 1 node	2U, 1 Node	2U, 1 node	1U, 1 node	1U, 1 node	2U, 1 Node	1U, 1 node	1U, 1 node	2U, 1 node
Processor	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4GHz, 100W), Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90GHz, 150W),	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4GHz, 100W), Intel Xeon Gold 6256 (12 cores, 3.60GHz, 205W),	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4GHz, 100W),	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4GHz, 100W),	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4GHz, 100W),	Intel Xeon Silver 4210R (10 cores, 2.4 GHz, 100W) Intel Xeon Gold 6256 (12 cores, 3.60 GHz, 205W)	Intel Xeon Silver 4310 (12c, 2.1GHz, 120W) Intel Xeon Gold 4320 (26C, 2.2GHz, 185W)	Intel Xeon Silver 4310 (12c, 2.1GHz, 120W) Intel Xeon Gold 4320 (26C, 2.2GHz, 185W)	Intel Xeon Silver 4310 (12c, 2.1GHz, 120W) Intel Xeon Gold 4320 (26C, 2.2GHz, 185W)
	Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40GHz, 165W), or Intel Xeon Platinum 8276L (28 cores, 2.20GHz, 165W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90GHz, 150W), Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40GHz, 165W),	Intel Xeon Gold 6256 (12 cores, 3.60GHz, 205W), Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90GHz, 150W),	Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90GHz, 150W), Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40GHz, 165W), or	Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90GHz, 150W), Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40GHz, 165W), or	Intel Xeon Gold 6226R (16 cores, 2.90 GHz, 150W) Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40 GHz, 165W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6342 (24C, 2.8GHz, 230W) Intel Xeon Gold 6348 (28C, 2.6GHz, 235W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6342 (24C, 2.8GHz, 230W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6342 (24C, 2.8GHz, 230W)
		Intel Xeon Gold 6242R (20 cores, 3.10GHz, 205W), or Intel Xeon Gold 6248R (24 cores, 3.00GHz, 205W) Nvidia options: one or four GP GPU Nvidia Tesla M10, Nvidia Tesla P40, Nvidia Tesla V100 (16GB or 32GB), or Nvidia Turing T4 Tensor Core	Intel Xeon Gold 6240R (24 cores, 2.40GHz, 165W), Intel Xeon Gold 6242R (20 cores, 3.10GHz, 205W), or Intel Xeon Gold 6248R (24 cores, 3.00GHz, 205W)	Intel Xeon Platinum 8276L (28 cores, 2.20GHz, 165W)	Intel Xeon Platinum 8276L (28 cores, 2.20GHz, 165W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6242R (20 cores, 3.10 GHz, 205W) Intel Xeon Gold 6248R (24 cores, 3.00 GHz, 205W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6338 (32C, 2.0GHz, 205W) Intel Xeon Platinum 8368 (38C, 2.4GHz, 270W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6348 (28C, 2.6GHz, 235W) Intel Xeon Gold 6338 (32C, 2.0GHz, 205W) Intel Xeon Platinum 8368 (38C, 2.4GHz, 270W)	Intel Xeon Gold 6348 (28C, 2.6GHz, 235W) Intel Xeon Gold 6338 (32C, 2.0GHz, 205W) Intel Xeon Platinum 8368 (38C, 2.4GHz, 270W)

Modernize IT With Full-Stack Hyperconverged Infrastructure

Product	UCP HC V124N	UCP HC V225G	UCP HC V220F	UCP HC V120F	UCP HC V120	UCP HC V220	UCP HC V124N G2	UCP HC V120F G2	UCP HC V224N G2
Minimum Initial Order	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)	2 node (minimum 4 nodes for Intel Select Solutions*)
Node Increment	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node	1Node

*For more details on Intel Select Solutions, visit <https://www.intel.com/content/www/us/en/architecture-and-technology/intel-select-solutions-overview.html>



WE ARE HITACHI VANTARA

Hitachi Vantara solves digital challenges by guiding you from what's now to what's next. Our unmatched industrial and digital capabilities benefit both business and society.

Case Study →

Read the Dis-Chem
Hyperspeeds Performance
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HV-CBE-DS-Modernize-IT-With-Full-Stack-Hyperconverged-Infrastructure-23May22-B

The system software for Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) N file and Hitachi NAS Platform (HNAS) gateways delivers a comprehensive, simplified storage solution.

DATASHEET

NAS System Software: Industry Leading Performance and Scalability

Enterprise-Class NAS with Advanced Cloud Integration

The software included with our VSP N series and HNAS models provides capabilities that enable policy-based migration of data between low latency local flash and remote elastic clouds (both public and private) for your unstructured data. Information management, storage, sharing, backup, and retrieval have been improved for even the largest data sets with new features to support continuous availability across data centers upholding the reliability of Hitachi for storage solutions.

Our intelligent cloud tiering transparently migrates data between local and external, public and private cloud tiers using a policy-based business rules engine that continue to drive capacity efficiency and lower total cost of ownership by leveraging cost-effective cloud capacity to store stale or less active data, while providing local transparent access for users and applications. In addition, our NAS object-based replication provides a fast and efficient means to replicate data over wide area networks, improving RTOs and facilitating simple failover and fallback operations.

The universal migrator feature enables seamless online migration of network file system (NFS) volumes to reduce downtime when migrating from legacy platforms. The cluster namespace feature creates a unified directory structure across storage pools and controllers. Multiple file systems appear under a common root, and both SMB and NFS clients obtain global access via any controller. EVS server farm migration enables tenant mobility across namespace and servers with shared storage.

Simple, Non-Disruptive Migration, Management, and All-Inclusive Software

- Automated configuration, deployment, monitoring and self-healing capabilities.
- Cross-volume link enables files that have been migrated to a cloud environment to be transparently accessed by the application for nondisruptive retrieval.
- Eliminate redundant data and achieve up to 90% capacity savings.
- Our tiered file system (TFS) separates file system metadata from user data. TFS automatically places file system metadata on a higher performance storage tier to increase your file system performance while also providing cost-efficiency.
- Automated configuration, deployment, monitoring and self-healing capabilities.
- Cross-volume link enables files that have been migrated to a cloud environment to be transparently accessed by the application for nondisruptive retrieval.
- Eliminate redundant data and achieve up to 90% capacity savings.
- Our tiered file system (TFS) separates file system metadata from user data. TFS automatically places file system metadata on a higher performance storage tier to increase your file system performance while also providing cost-efficiency.

Primary Storage Deduplication

The premium deduplication add on option provides additional ingest performance by increasing the number of logical state machines giving you unmatched simplicity and power with little to no administration, configuration or tuning required. Additionally, the data-in-place deduplication during production process reduces the need to pre-allocate capacity to be used as deduplication workspace. Our hardware-accelerated architecture [field-programmable gate array (FPGA), primary data deduplication leverages an FPGA offload engine to perform CPU-intensive hash operations that reduce the impact on file-serving performance. Lastly, our quality of service allows the deduplication engine to automatically throttle down with the file-serving load surpasses 50%.

Multilayered Data Protection

Our NAS system software also offers a variety of snapshot options that provide point-in-time data protection capabilities. One of which is a file system snapshot with hidden snapshot folder read-only access and Microsoft Volume Shadow Copy Service (VSS) recovery capability for local data protection of end user files and folders. Another option are file and directory clones that enable the creation of capacity-efficient writable snapshots (clones) of files to accelerate production data copies in testing and development, and virtual server and virtual desktop infrastructure environments. Directory clones extend the file-cloning capability to directory trees to enable protection or repurposing of applications and databases.

Finally, the global-active device metro clustering feature of Hitachi Storage Virtualization Operating System RF (SVOS RF) provides continuous access and availability of data in case of controller, system, or site failure. When implemented, it provides fully synchronous active-active clustering up to 500km with automated takeover.

The combination of these features makes the Hitachi VSP family ideal for diverse applications, from NAS or multiprotocol file server consolidation to high-performance storage for VMware virtual machine (VM) or database environments while also supporting commercial enterprise applications.

Highlights and Summary

Key Features	
Virtual Cluster	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enabled with EVS server farm migration, it extends the limits of Hitachi NAS scale-out up to 80 nodes in a virtual cluster. Server farm migration enables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimizing performance across clusters. For maximum throughput, migrate EVSs to a higher-end server or to a fully dedicated server. Balancing load. For more efficient use of available resources, migrate heavily used EVSs to less busy servers or to higher-end servers that support greater capacity.
Global-Active Device Metro Clustering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Zero RTO and RPO solutions that protect against controller, storage or site failure Fully automated configuration, deployment, failover and failback Flexibility for environments and sites up to 500km apart
Multitenancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enables up to 64 Hitachi Enterprise Virtual Servers for NAS to exist in separate security domains Provides true network-level separation, feature per-virtual-server routing tables and support for overlapping IP ranges that includes patented crosstalk detection
Superior Capacity Efficiency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for 1PB file system Unlimited virtual capacity with tiering to an object store Hardware accelerated primary storage deduplication to eliminate copies of redundant data Thin provisioning at the storage, file system and virtual volume layers
Intelligent File Tiering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy-based hierarchical storage management feature allows data storage to span NAS filesystems and namespaces across public and private cloud storage, providing elastic storage capability at a utility cost.
Enhanced High Availability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimized file system pre-mount checks and improved NVRAM replay time for faster cluster failover Nondisruptive upgrades (NDU) and downgrades of cluster microcode to reduce risk and downtime
Virtualization Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hitachi Virtual Infrastructure Integrator simplifies backup, restore and cloning operation from VMware vSphere to a unified VSP VMware vStorage APIs for Array Integration (VAAI) adapter divests storage operations from VMware vSphere to a unified VSP
Data Management Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enterprise Virtual Servers and Namespaces unify file system data and simplifies the consolidation of islands of unstructured data. User, Group and Volume Quotas (Hard/Soft) help administrators manage capacity utilization and provisioning tasks.
Data Governance Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet Content Adaptation Protocol (ICAP) and Remote Procedure Call (RPC) support for virus scanning File system auditing for Server Message Block (SMB) and NFS protocols External CEF administrative auditing
Complete Network Protocol Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IPv4 and IPv6; SMBv1, SMBv2 and SMBv3; NFSv2, NFSv3 and NFSv4; File Transfer Protocol (FTP); iSCSI; Active Directory, NT Domain and Kerberos v5 authentication.
Management and Other Protocols	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HTTP over Secure Socket Layer (HTTPS), Secure Shell (SSH), Syslog, Simple Network Management Protocol (SNMP) v2 and v3, Network Information Service (NIS), Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP), Domain Name System (DNS), Windows Internet Name Service (WINS), Network Time Protocol (NTP) and email alerts.
Data Protection Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NDMP v3, v4, ADC for Backup and ViVol Replication Active-active clustering. File System Checkpoints and Snapshots based on scalable zero impact redirect on write architecture with instant rollback. Capacity-efficient, writeable, file and directory clones for repurposed data copies for data protection or test/dev. Supports almost unlimited direct and cascaded copies. High Speed local and remote replication with automated failover and failback. Multi-target and cascade topologies. Read-only Target, Bandwidth Throttling.

* Feature or enhancement available after initial release. Ask your Hitachi Vantara representative or partner for more information.

[Learn More](#)



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DATASHEET

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform CI: The Intelligent Converged Infrastructure for Core and Cloud

Flexibility to Support Any Application at Any Scale

Performance, flexibility, and reliability to maximize hybrid cloud benefits, while simplifying operations

Organizations today face challenges from rapidly changing markets, new technologies and the need to exploit and safeguard ever-increasing amounts of data. IT departments must now deal with new data types from many sources and meet stringent new rules of oversight and compliance.

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform CI (UCP CI) series, the foundation for a modern IT infrastructure, meets these challenges. It allows you to simply build a data-driven IT infrastructure that can host any application, at any scale, and at any location.

The management software, Hitachi Unified Compute Platform Advisor (UCP Advisor) software provides intelligent unified automation of the management of your server, storage and networking components. As a result, you can monitor and allocate both physical and virtual resources rapidly and efficiently. With UCP CI, you can scale compute, storage and network capacity independently, to optimize the performance of your application and eliminate the cost of overprovisioning. With UCP Advisor, you can manage unified business resource pools across a single or multiple data centers from a single user interface.



UCP CI Capabilities

Flexible, Highly Configurable and Available Converged Infrastructure

Today's digital business must be always available, and organizations must rapidly deploy new business applications despite flat or shrinking budgets. With its prevalidated building blocks of compute, storage and networking guaranteed to work together the first time and deliver predictable performance, UCP CI addresses these needs. Its low-risk path to hybrid cloud provides a solution that can be operational, fast.

Key Platform Features

- UCP CI is a highly configurable integrated infrastructure, in which server, network and storage can be scaled independently, to optimize performance and eliminate overprovisioning costs.
- UCP CI provides a flexible infrastructure for running bare metal, virtualized or containerized environments. It enables customers to increase application density and run multiple workloads on the same UCP system.
- Data resilience and scalability are achieved using a choice of storage options, including industry-leading Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) arrays and VMware vSAN HCI storage. This approach gives UCP CI administrators access to a wide range of sophisticated data services, including data protection and disaster recovery options. Customers can optionally leverage their existing storage products.
- Performance and scalability is provided by the Hitachi Advanced Server family. DS120, DS220, DS225, DS240, DS120 G2, DS220 G2, HA810 G2 and HA820 G2 rack-optimized models deliver scale-out capability and simplify growth. Enterprise-class DS7000 series servers meet the performance and scale-up needs of demanding business-critical applications.
- Networking is provided by a choice of top-of-rack switches from Cisco, Arista and Broadcom that can flexibly satisfy IP-switching and Fibre Channel needs and customer preferences.
- Hitachi UCP Advisor provides a single management interface and provides integrated automation and management of both physical hosts and virtual machines, reducing both deployment and operational costs. The user interface includes native integration with VMware vCenter to simplify operations and speed time to operation.

Solution Architecture

The UCP CI architecture consists of modular building blocks. Its components scale independently and provide organizations with greater configurability, flexibility and agility. Systems can be configured with a wide range of server options from the Hitachi Advanced Server family. Choose from rackmount systems, such as DS120, which are optimized for scale-out cloud-native architectures. Or, select the enterprise-class DS7000 series systems to provide high performance for business-critical applications and high capacity for in-memory databases, such as SAP HANA.

UCP CI supports Hitachi's VSP arrays, including VSP 5000, as well as all-flash VSP F series and hybrid-flash VSP G series. These systems provide industry-leading performance and reliability, including a 100% data availability guarantee. They support Hitachi value-added software for AI operations and data services, such as data protection, disaster recovery and bottomless backup for applications and virtual machines. Flexible network infrastructure options from Cisco, Arista and Broadcom ensure Ethernet and Fibre Channel networking is tightly integrated and managed, and offers the same high availability as the other elements of the stack. Available tools include Hitachi Infrastructure Analytics Advisor (HIAA), which manages and monitors the IT infrastructure to ensure that services maintain compliance with service level agreements (SLAs).

A single source of trusted support takes care of every component in the system with available 24/7 monitoring and end-to-end support.

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform Advisor

UCP CI is managed by UCP Advisor automated management software, which provides complete, secure, end-to-end management and automation for all Hitachi platforms. UCP Advisor enables life-cycle management and application policies for infrastructure across multiple workloads (virtualized, bare metal, containers, mission-critical applications and big data) for faster and easier deployment and streamlined IT modernization. With UCP Advisor, you can:

- Accelerate and simplify deployments of converged infrastructure.
- Automate provisioning, service catalog, custom workflows and API integration for a modern data strategy with ubiquitous data services.
- Reduce risk and increase effectiveness with predefined server provisioning. Use policy-based automation to enable the development and execution of policies, practices and procedures.

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform CI: Infrastructure Overview*

Compute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For virtualized environments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to 128 Hitachi Advanced Server DS120 and other high-density rack-optimized servers DS220, DS225, DS240, DS120 G2, DS220 G2, HA810 G2 and HA820 G2 • (Up to 16 DS120 servers in a single rack configuration)
Storage Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VSP 5000 series • VSP E Series arrays: E590, E790, E990 and E1090 • VSP F series all-flash arrays: F1500, F900, F800, F700, F600, F400, F370, F350 • VSP G series hybrid-flash arrays: G1500, G1000, G900, G800, G700, G600, G400, G370, G350 • Local node storage, including VMware vSAN • Other vendor storage virtualized through VSP family
Software	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hitachi Unified Compute Platform Advisor • For VMware vSphere: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VMware vCenter • VMware vSphere
Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cisco Ethernet networking switches • Arista Ethernet networking switches • Broadcom Fibre Channel SAN switches

* Partial list of components

Summary

Hitachi Unified Compute Platform CI enables you to rapidly deploy IT infrastructure for a modern data center. It delivers the enterprise scale, flexibility, performance and resiliency required for workloads, from modern cloud-native applications to legacy mission-critical databases. You gain the foundation you need to manage the increased volume, complexity and regulatory compliance requirements of data that business requires today. This is a foundation that can support the tools you need to extract insights, uncover new efficiencies and exploit new revenue opportunities.

With UCP CI, Hitachi offers a streamlined, integrated and automated platform for enterprise data centers and hybrid-cloud deployments. It improves time to production, makes enterprise-class applications more agile and resilient, and has the flexibility to grow as business needs demand. And, it provides a single source of legendary service and support.

ABOUT HITACHI VANTARA

Hitachi Vantara, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd., delivers the intelligent data platforms, infrastructure systems, and digital expertise that supports more than 80% of the fortune 100. To learn how Hitachi Vantara turns businesses from data-rich to data-driven through agile digital processes, products, and experiences, visit hitachivantara.com.

Modernize your data center →

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In a world where microseconds matter, Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform (VSP) E series supercharges performance for business applications, while also meeting data efficiency needs with a simple-to-manage platform

DATASHEET

Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform E Series: All-Flash NVMe Speed and Efficiency

Trusted Capabilities That Won't Break the Bank

With the Hitachi Virtual Storage Platform E series (VSP E590, E790 and E990), we provide agile and automated storage built upon the innovative technologies found in our high-end enterprise systems. Now any business can deliver exemplary service levels, data security, and performance. With Hitachi Vantara VSP storage, you can enjoy the same peace of mind and application availability that the largest enterprises in the world rely on.

These systems enable you to cost-effectively meet your users' current digital expectations and scale to address future challenges as application data needs and service levels evolve. With time-tested, proven availability and scalability, we deliver infrastructure solutions that help you maximize your data center advantage.

Give your growing business the performance that large enterprises rely on to satisfy the demands of real-time, data-hungry applications. VSP E series NVMe architecture delivers consistent, industry-leading, low-microsecond latency, reduces the transaction costs of latency-critical applications, and delivers predictable performance to optimize storage resources.

Flexible data management options allow you to evolve as your business grows. Use the E series embedded management for simplified system configuration and setup, ideal for single system environments, or choose Hitachi's Ops Center management for comprehensive administration, analytics, automation and data protection capabilities across the entire E series and VSP families.

Take advantage of the advanced capabilities in the VSP E series across all your data center storage assets through virtualization pioneered by Hitachi. Storage virtualization gives you a common management control point for multiple storage systems, which drives increased administrative efficiencies. Data services, like data reduction, automation, and metro clustering, that are available with VSP E series are extended to virtualized storage systems to give them more value and an extended life cycle.

Proven. Powerful. Predictable.

Organizations trust Hitachi Vantara with their most important business asset: data. They know our storage solutions are fail-safe. Hitachi storage platforms are time tested, with proven performance, reliability and scalability.

Enterprise Agility

Building upon our successful portfolio of all-flash data solutions, the NVMe architecture of the VSP E series is powered by the same [Hitachi Storage Virtualization Operating System RF \(SVOS RF\)](#) operating system that protects our largest customers. With all VSP models sharing a common SVOS RF operating system, you can manage and replicate your data between any VSP system and avoid creating silos of data.

Class leading latency of less than 66uS (VSP E590 and E790) and less than 64uS (VSP E990) drives efficiencies and stellar customer experiences throughout your business while the 2 rack unit E590 and E790 deliver massive consolidation of mission-critical workloads which means considerable cost savings. VSP E series gives your growing business the performance that large enterprises have relied on for decades to satisfy the demands of your real-time, data hungry applications.

Hitachi Vantara has designed intelligence into our adaptive data reduction technology, which means that you can run data reduction and be assured of optimized data reduction performance and efficiency. With our proven data reduction capabilities, VSP E series allows organizations to adopt all NVMe today and make effective use of our [4:1 sight-unseen effective capacity guarantee](#)¹ plus our [7:1 total efficiency guarantee](#).

Legendary Hitachi Resilience

VSP E series builds on 58 years of proven Hitachi engineering experience, offering you a superior range of business continuity options that provide the best reliability in the industry. We back this up with the industry's first and most comprehensive [100% data availability guarantee](#). As a result, 87% of Fortune 100 financial services companies trust Hitachi Vantara storage systems with their mission critical data.

The VSP E series innovative active-active controller architecture protects your business against local faults while mitigating performance issues. In addition, enterprise-class metro clustering is also available with our [Global-Active device](#) solution which provides synchronous replication between data centers up to 500km apart. For even more protection and data mobility, you choose asynchronous replication to a third data center with Hitachi Universal Replicator. Migrate data from older systems with no disruption to your operation and applications. All the while, monitor your entire storage environment with Hitachi Remote Ops which proactively predicts and prevents issues that may lead to downtime or operational disruption.

The VSP E series is fully integrated with Hitachi Ops Center Protector to provides application-aware snapshots, copy data management and instant recovery. Ops Center Protector even delivers continuity in the public cloud, so you can recover from a data disaster in seconds, not hours!

Flexible Storage Management Choices

Hitachi Vantara offers flexible storage management choices that grow with your business. Whether for a single array or larger environments, our full complement of orchestration and optimization tools will meet your unique needs now and evolve for what is next. Use the E series embedded management, which is ideal for single system environments. Or choose Hitachi's Ops Center management that provides comprehensive administration, analytics, automation, and data protection capabilities across the entire E series and VSP families.

Hitachi embedded management provides simplified, rapid system configuration and setup of the VSP E series arrays with the ability to provision storage within minutes as well as providing array-based monitoring for basic troubleshooting.

Hitachi Ops Center is an integrated storage management platform which includes configuration, analytics, automation, and data protection for a more simplified approach to storage management. Ops Center uses the latest AI and machine learning (ML) capabilities to improve IT operations through an, Ops Center simplifies day-to-day administrative, optimization and management orchestration for VSP E series. Your staff can be freed to focus on innovation and tactical business efforts.

¹ The 4:1 Effective Capacity Guarantee does not require a pre-assessment of your environment

Hitachi Ops Center Analyzer uses ML to continuously monitor the entire data path, from virtual machine (VM) to storage, to ensure resources are meeting their required service level agreements (SLAs) for mission-critical applications. If bottleneck issues do arise, Ops Center Analyzer identifies, diagnoses, and prescribes recommended changes to rapidly resolve the issue. The software also offers predictive analytics to streamline complex decision-making for better planning of future storage requirements or to optimize quality of service (QoS).

Management automation is a critical aspect of improving IT operational efficiency. Hitachi Ops Center Automator orchestrates the agile delivery of VSP E series storage resources to enable a cloudlike, IT-resource delivery model. This approach provides rapid deployment of new infrastructure resources, based on best practices, and ensures consistent data resiliency policies. Hitachi Ops Center consolidates the number of management tools required to automate resource delivery, lower operating expenditure (opex) costs and deliver greater IT operational efficiencies for VSP E series storage environments.

[Learn More](#) about NVMe technology and how it delivers super-charged response times for your business critical applications.



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