Questions & Answers
Network Universal Persistence (NETWORK UP) Phase 2
Broad Agency Announcement HR001120S0003
Amendment 02
12/02/2019

The purpose of this amendment is to publish answers to Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) submitted against DARPA BAA HR001120S0003, Network Universal Persistence (NETWORK UP) Phase 2. Answers will also be posted on the DARPA Opportunities webpage for this solicitation found on DARPA.mil (http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities).

Q&A:

Q1: Does the metric below mean that if the data plane link fails at X dB attenuation, then the control plan link fails at X+40 dB?

Metric: Demonstrate over a single link that the control link can withstand 40 dB of signal degradation and continue transmitting/receiving data.

A1: The metric applies only to the control channel/link, and the data that is being transmitted refers only to control channel data being transmitted/received by the control channel. There is no reference to the data channel/link.

Q2: On page 7 of the BAA, FA-2 Objective #2, states, “Demonstrate the ability of the control plane to opportunistically transmit user data across the data plane in diverse interference scenarios.” Did you mean to say, “Demonstrate the ability of the data plane to opportunistically transmit user data across the control plane in diverse interference scenarios?”

A2: No. While solutions that offer the flexibility to transmit user data using either the data plane or the control plan are welcome, the specific sentence in question should be interpreted as exercising the ability of the combined Network UP control and data planes to opportunistically transmit user data across the data plane in scenarios where the data plane connectivity is intermittent.

Q3: Is an entry planned via https://baa.darpa.mil for DARPA STO BAA HR001120S0003, Network UP Phase 2? BAA page 29 states, "Unclassified abstracts sent in response to HR001120S0003 may be submitted via DARPA's BAA Website (https://baa.darpa.mil)." The Abstract due date is 11/26/19, but as of 11/21/19, the solicitation is not available on that website to submit a response.

A3: The solicitation is available – please follow-up via e-mail to baat_support@darpa.mil if your team is not able to locate it.

Q4: Will the cost requirement field be deleted or noted as not required on the DARPA website submission entries for the abstract (https://baa.darpa.mil)? The DARPA PM, Aaron Kofford, instructed guests at Proposers' Day that cost was not required for the Abstract submission.
Normally the cost field for the submission is mandatory and therefore must be completed to submit the abstract. If the field remains mandatory with only numeric entries allowed, and we do not enter a cost per DARPA PM instructions, could you please provide a method for us to satisfy the requirements and allow completion of the submission?

**A4:** Unfortunately, we do not currently have the capability to disable the cost field on the online cover sheet – simply enter $1 as a placeholder as the information entered on this form will not be considered for review.

**Q5:** Will the allocation for Section I - Administrative change to 2 pages? BAA page 19 Proposal format, Section I - Administrative, shows one page allotted for both the cover sheet and the transmittal letter. Usually the cover sheet is one page and the transmittal letter is one page, for a total of 2 pages - and these pages are not included in the proposal page count.

**A5:** Section I: Administrative should include a 1 page cover sheet and an official transmittal letter that is not counted against the page count.

**Q6:** Has anyone been identified for the red team yet? What constitutes an existing military radio? Does this include radios and systems that are being developed?

**A6:** Yes, a red team has been identified but we will not disclose whom at this time. A radio that the military is likely to deploy constitutes an existing military radio. We acknowledge that it often takes some time to deploy radios. Radios with current development contracts would be considered likely to deploy.

**Q7:** Can we use off the shelf SDR’s with a currently used military waveform? Are you concerned with the physical robustness of the “leave behind radios?”

**A7:** Using off the shelf SDR’s is an acceptable approach. However, this may potentially weaken the transition story so proposers taking this approach should address transition clearly. Yes, we are concerned with the physical robustness of the “leave behind radios.”