15.102 Oral presentations.

- (a) Oral presentations by *offerors* as requested by the Government may substitute for, or augment, written information. Use of oral presentations as a substitute for portions of a proposal can be effective in streamlining the source selection process. Oral presentations may occur at any time in the acquisition process, and are subject to the same restrictions as written information, regarding timing (see 15.208) and content (see 15.306). Oral presentations provide an opportunity for dialogue among the parties. Pre-recorded videotaped presentations that lack real-time interactive dialogue are not considered oral presentations for the purposes of this section, although they may be included in offeror submissions, when appropriate.
- (b) The *solicitation may* require each *offeror* to submit part of its proposal through oral presentations. However, representations and certifications *shall* be submitted as required in the FAR provisions at <u>52.204-8(d)</u> or <u>52.212-3(b)</u>, and a signed *offer* sheet (including any exceptions to the Government's terms and conditions) *shall* be submitted *in writing*.
- (c) Information pertaining to areas such as an *offeror*'s capability, *past performance*, work plans or approaches, staffing resources, transition plans, or sample tasks (or other types of tests) *may* be suitable for oral presentations. In deciding what information to obtain through an oral presentation, consider the following:
- (1) The Government's ability to adequately evaluate the information;
- (2) The need to incorporate any information into the resultant contract;
- (3) The impact on the efficiency of the acquisition; and
- (4) The impact (including cost) on small businesses. In considering the costs of oral presentations, contracting officers should also consider alternatives to on-site oral presentations (e.g., teleconferencing, video teleconferencing).
- (d) When oral presentations are required, the *solicitation shall* provide *offerors* with sufficient information to prepare them. Accordingly, the *solicitation may* describe-
- (1) The types of information to be presented orally and the associated evaluation factors that will be used:
- (2) The gualifications for personnel that will be required to provide the oral presentation(s);
- (3) The requirements for, and any limitations and/or prohibitions on, the use of written material or other media to supplement the oral presentations;
- (4) The location, date, and time for the oral presentations;
- (5) The restrictions governing the time permitted for each oral presentation; and
- (6) The scope and content of exchanges that may occur between the Government's participants and the *offeror*'s representatives as part of the oral presentations, including whether or not discussions (see 15.306(d)) will be permitted during oral presentations.
- (e) The contracting officer shall maintain a record of oral presentations to document what the

Government relied upon in making the source selection decision. The method and level of detail of the record (*e.g.*, videotaping, audio tape recording, written record, Government notes, copies of *offeror* briefing slides or presentation notes) *shall* be at the discretion of the source selection authority. A copy of the record placed in the file *may* be provided to the *offeror*.

- (f) When an oral presentation includes information that the parties intend to include in the contract as material terms or conditions, the information *shall* be put *in writing*. Incorporation by reference of oral statements is not permitted.
- (g) If, during an oral presentation, the Government conducts discussions (see 15.306(d)), the Government *must* comply with 15.306 and 15.307.

Parent topic: Subpart 15.1 - Source Selection Processes and Techniques