

"Michael W. Janus" <VAmichaelj@telstra.com>
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Please respond to michael.janus@tenix.com

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To: David C. Childs A-76comments/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject:

Dear Sirs:

I am very pleased to see the recent initiative to revise OMB Circular A-76. To this extent, I would like to formally offer some supporting documentation for your consideration in this endeavor. For your convenience, I have provided the documentation via an attachment to this e-mail correspondence. I thank you in advance for your time and consideration and applaud your efforts to open up these activities to the private sector whom I believe can not only provide a superior service, but at a reduced cost to the taxpayer.

Michael W. Janus
Tenix LADS, Inc.

- comments Federal Register A76_Dec02.doc

Proposed revision to Office of Management and Budget Circular A76
"Performance of Commercial Activities"

This response is being tendered as a result of an announcement in the Federal Register/Volume 67 No. 223/Tuesday, November 19, 2002.

Our Business

Our company, Tenix LADS Inc, is based in Biloxi, MS. We provide airborne lidar bathymetric (water depth) surveying services. Our customers include Federal and State government agencies that require fast, cost effective bathymetric survey data for shallow coastal waters. The data is used by these agencies for a variety of purposes including the production of up-to-date nautical charts and coastal zone management projects. Our survey service is provided using the world-leading Laser Airborne Depth Sounder (LADS) technology. LADS using pulses of laser light to measure water depth. This technology provides massive increases in the safety and speed of shallow water survey at a fraction of the cost of survey with surface vessels using acoustic sounders.

Competition from the Government

Our company's ability to expand its operations is being severely hampered by the activities of the U. S. Army Corps Mobile District using a prototype lidar system known as SHOALS. The SHOALS equipment is technically inferior to LADS, but by using the Corp's role as a government organization it has effectively stopped some government agencies from going to tender for lidar survey work. In every instance, and there have not been many, when agencies have invited competition for these services, these agencies have selected the LADS service.

Recommendation

We believe that the intra-government operation of its lidar survey capability by the U. S. Army Corps has stifled the growth of airborne lidar bathymetry, an exciting new technology. This work can be, and should be, done by the private sector. Surveying and mapping is specifically mentioned in A76 as an activity that should be undertaken by the private sector.