

rights/intellectual

property rights of the interface surfaces only (male and female), not necessarily the rights to the entire parts design. Technical drawings of the male-female interface, and the government right to publish them or adopt them as a MILSPEC, is to allow for open-system requirements (DOD 5000.2-R) and to promote follow-on competition of future accessories. It is not the intent of the SOPMOD program to use these rights to re-compete the selected accessory part, rather such an interface surface, if selected, must become government property in order to allow open competition on future SOPMOD systems that will mount in the 6:00 position, using a standard interface. GENERAL, OBJECTIVE 3 (PMOD Performance): To ensure system balance, sought are rifle/carbine parts, components, subassemblies, or modifications that enhance reliability, endurance, safety, and operational performance as compared to the current M16/M4 series rifles/carbines. The Government is not seeking alternative sources of current parts for the current M16-series/M4A1 carbines, rather is seeking alternative parts, groups of parts, or subassemblies that significantly increase weapon reliability and performance. These improvements, listed in priority order of government interest, may include new and improved (1) magazines, (2) bolt assemblies/bolt carrier groups, (3) barrels, (4) upper receivers, (5) trigger, sear, and hammer sets, (6) ambidextrous weapon controls, (6) flip-up front and rear iron sights, (7) front and rear pistol grips, (8) buttstocks, and (9) any other components of, or mechanical accessories to, the M16-series/M4A1 carbines, with the exception of the lower receiver. The government wishes to avoid modifications to the lower receiver, unless cost-effective benefits can be thus achieved. As an objective, 3 distinct PMOD versions should be optimized for (1) CQB operations, (2) precision fire operations, and (3) normal carbine operations, with barrel lengths appropriate to the operational mode. Parts can be stand-alone, or be grouped with other compatible parts into parts assemblies or parts sets that enhance, improve, or otherwise extend current performance criteria. All parts, except the lower receiver (stripped of parts), will be considered for replacement. Objective 3 PMOD goals include: (1) Increased reliability, durability, corrosion resistance, ease of cleaning, lubricity/reduced friction: fully functional for a minimum of 15,000 rounds threshold, 30,000 rounds objective, performing up to the standards and firing rates to be published in the solicitation; functional reliability exceeding that of the standard M4A1 carbine at high and low temperature extremes as well as other hostile (sand/dust/dirt/mud/surf) environmental conditions (2) Improved safety- delay cook-off, fail-safe features, fires/functions safely and without delay of draining in the Over-The-Beach (surf zone, weapon flooded with water) environment. (3) User Acceptance: operational suitability, increased live-fire hit scores, decreased live-fire engagement times, speed/accuracy of engagement, controllability in semi-automatic and full automatic fire, improved handling qualities, light weight, snag free in movement through vegetation and battlefield obstacles. ACQUISITION STRATEGY: The contemplated acquisition strategy consists of two major competitive phases. It selects initial sources and establishes a rifle/carbine platform baseline in 2002, with follow-on continued competition to acquire the EGLM in 2004. Objectives (2) and (3) (PMOD) are planned for testing and initial procurement (Low Rate Initial Production, LRIP) in calendar year 2002. Offeror(s) selected for PMOD are not automatically selected for Objective (1)(EGLM). EGLM is planned for concurrent initial developmental and operational testing in 2002, along with PMOD offerings, to be followed by additional EGLM testing in 2003 mounted on the selected PMOD, with an objective of initial procurements of EGLM in 2004. While SOPMOD is seeking offerors, or teams of offerors, to provide fully system-balanced