

Request for
Information (RFI)

Collaborative Fabrication Partnership

Opportunity:

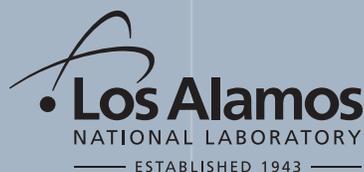
- Exhilarate the U.S. manufacturing industry by establishing effective public-private partnership
- Ability to own entire product development lifecycle from concept to production
- Innovative engineering to develop new product markets (commercial and governmental)
- Growth opportunities in work and scope with LANL capabilities and other industrial applications
- Manufacture parts for national programs and mission research using cutting edge machining technology and methods

Benefits:

- Collaborative relationship with premier national laboratory
- Strong outlook of diversified systems development
- Innovative business model focused on transforming ideas into products
- Copyrighting and licensing of possible new products
- Ability to utilize government-furnished equipment

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**Call for Partners to Develop a Fabrication Partnership in Los Alamos County****Background:**

Economic experts believe that manufacturing generates more economic activity than any other business sector in the U.S. Recent reports state; "that for every \$1 in manufacturing sales contributes \$1.40 in output to the rest of the economy". Because many major U.S. manufacturers have shifted their machining abroad, new approaches to enhance local fabrication need to be developed.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) is in a key position to help foster a change in manufacturing attitude. Parts machined and fabricated for National Security and scientific research required by LANL need to be of high quality, rapid, and cost competitive. Product realization require feedback between the requirements and manufacturer, sometimes on a daily bases. Often a chain-of-custody is required and commercial shipping is too time intensive. Similar issues are faced when using the current industry standard of machining abroad. The need for engineering and machining of complex systems using standard and novel methods is essential for the cutting edge developments required by LANL.

Vision:

The business model of the Collaborative Fabrication Partnership is based on a close relationship between the designer and the machining expert. Open communication between the flow of ideas and physical manufacturing constraints is necessary in order for many innovative ideas to be transformed into product designs.

Opportunity:

LANL is looking for an industrial partner to fabricate parts for National Programs using cutting edge machining technology and methods. LANL seeks to work with interested parties who want to develop a capability to provide parts and prototype systems to not only LANL but other industries in the area as well.

Desired Qualifications of Partner:

1. Open communication with "open door policy"
2. Close proximity to LANL's innovative engineers and researchers
3. Full suite of machining capabilities, including multitask machining
4. Flexible capacity to match work load demand with accurate time and cost estimates
5. Quality control program for parts manufacturing (e.g. ISO 9000, QC 1)
6. Parts inspection during manufacturing processes
7. Optimized business practices for rapid product turnaround
8. Ability and initiative to drive toward lower tolerances
9. Proven experience in manufacturing strategies
10. Establish streamlined customer relations

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