

RES -

I do not feel fully qualified to make any technical comments on this proposal with the following exception.

It seems to be a well organized presentation - perhaps too simple as I can understand most of the discussion.

There is only ~~not~~ one thing that bothers me -

The primary investigators are pretty high brass -

all people seem to be EE'S - no optical people - why?

All this points to one thing - will this end up as an ivory tower type program and not too practical?

Hasn't much of this work been done? If not, why not?

Hank

COMMENTS ON CORNING REAR-VIEW SCREEN PROPOSAL

This looks like a sound proposal to do a needed job, but at a rather inflated price. I notice that the bulk of the cost (83 per cent, to be exact) is absorbed by personnel. Judging from the resumes, we are getting high-power people for the money, but their power does not lie in the direction of optics; rather, I should think, in microwaves, ^eelectronics, magnetics, and the like. I notice that the first nine months of the contract will be devoted to bringing an engineer up to speed on the literature and theory of optical diffusers. Surely we can find a company with a qualified optics man already on the payroll.

STAT

Their description of the lab facilities doesn't impress me much, either. They have obviously been trying to get a glass-rod laser going with modulation and interferometry experiments and now find themselves with unused lab space (as well as people) on their hands, and would like us to play WPA. They also seem to be stuck with a gross of spectroscopic plates which they'd like to use up before the expiration date.

To sum up, I don't think we should buy this, but rather look around for a company with a capability already in being.

Dan L.

Comments:

I believe this is a well-written proposal - wish all such proposals were as well organized and clearly written.

I disagree with Dan's comments about cost. On the basis of CPFF, and assuming: Overhead at 150%, G&A at 15% and a fee of 10%, this works out to about a total labor (real) cost of approximately [redacted] for the 15-month period. STAT If they used the caliber of people they vend, they will lose money - and we will gain some probably useful work.

I do agree with both Dan and Hank. This work should have been done long ago - and why are they proposing EE's to work and be educated? For an optics firm they appear to be suffering from lack of qualified optical people. They appear to be trying to save some of their people from being laid-off - why else put EE's in optics, unless you belong to the University of Michigan and have no better reason.

[redacted] STAT

9 March 1965