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Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des soumissions -
TPSGC

11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage, Phase III

Core 0A1 / Noyau 0A1

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

**Revision to a Request for Supply
Arrangement - Révision à une demande
pour un arrangement en matière
d'approvisionnement**

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless
otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of
the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf
indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation
demeurent les mêmes.

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Electronic Information Technology Professional Srv
Div/Div des srv professionnels en technologie de
l'information électronique

11 Laurier St. / 11 rue Laurier

Portage III 0A1 - 1

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet TBIPS		
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EN578-055605/E		Date 2013-02-01
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client EN578-055605		Amendment No. - N° modif. 004
File No. - N° de dossier 003ei.EN578-055605	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME	
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$EI-003-25338		
Date of Original Request for Supply Arrangement Date de demande pour un arrangement en matière d'app. originale		2013-01-18
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2013-03-04		Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard Time EST
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Benoit(003ei), Real		Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 003ei
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 934-4667 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 956-7827	
Delivery Required - Livraison exigée		
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction:		
Security - Sécurité This revision does not change the security requirements of the solicitation. Cette révision ne change pas les besoins en matière de sécurité de l'invitation.		

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Acknowledgement copy required Accusé de réception requis	Yes - Oui <input type="checkbox"/>	No - Non <input type="checkbox"/>
The Offeror hereby acknowledges this revision to its Offer. Le proposant constate, par la présente, cette révision à son offre.		
Signature	Date	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of offeror. (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du proposant. (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)		
For the Minister - Pour le Ministre		

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation
EN578-055605/E
Client Ref. No. - N° de réf. du client
EN578-055605

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.
004
File No. - N° du dossier
003eiEN578-055605

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur
003ei
CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

This Solicitation Amendment is raised to make the following:

A: Modifications #2, #3, and #4

B: Questions and Answers.

A: Modifications

MODIFICATION #2

Delete the grid from Component II, article 4.2 and replace it with the following grid:

	Submission Period	Submission Due Date (14:00 at Bid Receiving Unit)	Evaluation Start Date	Estimated Award Date (subject to change)
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	January, 2013 to March, 2013	March 4, 2013 (as indicated on Page 1)	March 5st, 2013	June 30, 2013
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	July 2013 to March 31, 2014	March 31, 2014	April 1st, 2014	June 2014
Quarterly Evaluation Schedule	July 1, 2013 to September 30, 2013	September 30, 2013	October 1st, 2013	December 2013
Quarterly Evaluation Schedule	October 1, 2013 to December 27, 2013	December 27, 2013	January 1st, 2014	March 2014
Quarterly Evaluation Schedule	January 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014	March 31, 2014	April 1st, 2014	June 2014
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2015	March 31, 2015	April 1st, 2015	June 2015

Delete the grid from Component III, article 4.2 and replace it with the following grid:

	Submission Period	Closing Date (14:00 at Bid Receiving Unit)	Evaluation Start Date	Estimated Award Date (subject to change)
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	January, 2013 to March, 2013	March 4, 2013 (As indicated on page 1)	March 5 st, 2013	June 30, 2013
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	July 1st, 2013 to March 31, 2014	March 31, 2014	April 1st, 2014	June 2014
Refresh Bid Solicitation Schedule	April 1st, 2014 to March 31, 2015	March 31, 2015	April 1st, 2015	June 2015

MODIFICATION #3

The Data Collection Component (DCC) of CPSS has been modified to accomodate the collection of the JV member's name who provided the services being referenced against a specific category to meet M.5.

JV bidders who have already entered information into the DCC must review their bid to ensure this information is provided.

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

EN578-055605/E

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

004

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

003ei

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EN578-055605

File No. - N° du dossier

003eiEN578-055605

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

MODIFICATION #4

Add the following information to Component 1, Part 2, article 3.

Where to Direct Enquiries: All enquiries and other communications with government officials relating to this Renewal Solicitation are to be directed **ONLY** to the **E-mail Address below**.

Non-compliance with this condition may for that reason alone result in disqualification of a Offeror's offer.

Standing Offer/Supply Arrangement Authority: Manager

E-mail Address:

RCNMDAI.-NCRIMOS@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

Telephone:

(866) 930-IMOS (4667) or (819) 934-4667

Facsimile:

(819) 956-7827

Q18:

1. As a TBIPS SA/SO Tier 1 Supplier, we do not have input information into the “Data Collection Component: Suppliers’ Module of CPSS”. How can we obtain this information?

2.

a) Also, how is it that CPSA and TEMS categories are now on TBIPS?

b) Does this mean we can qualify as a Supplier for Stream 4 and 5? Please confirm as this Refresh is not very clear on its instructions.

A18:

1.

Existing TBIPS Suppliers were sent via e-mail the list categories for which they are currently technically qualified. The Bidder must manually input this information relating to their qualified Categories into the Data Collection Component of CPSS.

For information on enrolment into the CPSS Supplier Module. Please refer to Component 1, Part 1, articles 5.4, 5.5, 5.6.

2.

a) Since 2010, Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) has undertaken a complete review of its professional services procurement with the goal of improving the efficiency of its procurement tools.

After months of extensive consultations with government departments, agencies, suppliers' forums and associations in all regions of the Country, what is now known as the Professional Services National Procurement Strategy was drawn up and again presented to the same audiences. The feedback received was tremendously positive and hence resulted in the harmonization of many methods of supply. It also meant the standardization of the multiple business rules across all the Professional Services methods of supply managed by PWGSC as well as reducing the number of those methods of supply such as the amalgamation of the CPSA and TEMS (Telecommunication Services Stream) SA into TBIPS.

For many months we have been working on the migration strategy and we have communicated these changes through many channels such as, but not limited to: emails to SA holders, notices on several websites, news releases, industry associations and many presentations to industry in general, etc.

b) Yes. Existing TBIPS Suppliers can bid for new categories, Streams, and/or Tiers. Please refer Component 1, Part 3, article 1.4 - Submission Grid, Column D, and to Attachments B and C of this solicitation. Please note that the two new TBIPS Streams are:

- Stream #6 Cyber Protection Services, and
- Stream #7 Telecommunications Services

Q19:

1. This provides only a single Stream qualification, e.g. does not incorporate the various regional qualifications currently in use. Does this suggest that TBIPS will move to a single national format?

2. Can you please explain what action by the supplier is required for categories showing “Unsubstantiated Award”?

A19:

1. No, that is incorrect. The list of technically qualified categories sent via e-mail to existing TBIPS Suppliers has no bearing on regional qualifications. Bidders must identify in the Data Collection Component those regions for which they wish to be considered.

2. Existing TBIPS Suppliers must manually input the information relating to their qualified Categories into the Data Collection Component of CPSS.

If the existing TBIPS Supplier wishes to keep a category as an “unsubstantiated category”, then it must select the option “Currently Unsubstantiated” in the Data Collection Component (DCC) of CPSS.

If the existing TBIPS Supplier wishes to change this category from an “unsubstantiated category” to a “substantiated category”, then it must select the option “Currently Unsubstantiated - Now Substantiated” in the DCC and provide the reference details for that category in the DCC (refer to M.5, 3. of Attachment B and/or Attachment C).

If the existing TBIPS Supplier no longer wishes to offer this category, then it must select “Not Offered” in the DCC.

Q20:

Re: TBIPS EN578-055605/E Request for Supply Arrangement

Could you please confirm the Solicitation Close Date for the above mentioned RFP? On Page 1 of the document, it refers to 2013-03-04 at 2:00 PM. However, on page 36 and 81 of the document, it indicates a closing date of February 28, 2013. Could you please confirm?

A20:

Please refer to Modification #2 of this Solicitation Amendment #4.

Q21:

1. a) As it relates to the page ordering of the hard copy submission of the Bid, should Bidders follow the same order of documents as displayed in section 1.4 “Submission Grid” on page 15/16? Ie, The requested information in Section I, followed by Section II, and then Section III?

b) Other than a physical cover page, is any other information needed in the hard copy that is not included or mentioned in the “Submission Grid” matrix/chart, section 1.4, page 15/16?

2. Our company would fall under “Column B” under the “Submission Grid” matrix/chart, section 1.4, page 15/16. For the Bid overall (including both hard copy and DCC components), is any other information needed that is not included, mentioned or requested in the “Submission Grid” matrix/chart, section 1.4, page 15/16?

3. As it relates to the substantiating information, in Attachment C, M5, #5.a), it mentions “closely match the TBIPS Categories listed in the table below”. Does this mean that if more than one category (and potentially within more than one stream) were provided to one individual reference, will Canada/PWGSC be sending one e-mail to that particular reference to substantiate all categories at the same time? For example, if reference person ‘John Doe’ was provided (in the last three years) a P.1 Project Manager, a B.1 Business Analyst, and an A.7 Programmer/Analyst, will that reference receive one e-mail to substantiate all three categories, in this example?

4. a) As it relates to the substantiating information, Attachment C, M5, #4, is it correct to say that any given substantiated positive reference will count towards both the Tier 1 and Tier 2 minimum number of substantiated positive references?

b) I.e., do the references for Tier 1 and Tier 2 have to be different, or

c) will one count towards the other and vice versa.

A21:

1. a) Yes, that is correct.

b) No. However the status and circumstances of each bidder is unique. The onus is on the Bidder to ensure it provides all necessary documents, electronically or in hard copy as detailed in the solicitation document. Bidders must read the solicitation document in its entirety.

2. No. Please refer to A21 1b) above.

3. Yes, that is the intent.

4. a) Yes, that is correct. A substantiated positive reference for a given category will count towards the SO, SA Tier 1, and SA Tier 2.

b) No

c) Yes, that is correct

Q22:

We are going to respond to the TBIPS renewal and have noted that having a corporate security clearance is a mandatory requirement. We would ask that you sponsor us for a DOS clearance. Please advise if there is anything else that we need to provide to get the clearance process started.

A22:

A company is not required to have corporate security clearance in order to submit a bid in response to this Renewal solicitation. Corporate security clearance is mandatory before issuance of the Standing Offer/Supply Arrangement. Please refer to Attachment B and/or Attachment C, M6 1.a) (ii). Sponsorship requests will not be actioned until after the date of bid submission.

Q23:

We are interested in bidding on the above noted RFSO/RFSa and require sponsorship for security clearance at the DOS level.

I believe you require the following information:

Solicitation Number for which the registration is requested; EN578-055605/E

name of the Bidder; (*proprietary information*)

address of the Bidder's Office in Canada; (*proprietary information*)

telephone, fax numbers and e-mail address, as applicable; (*proprietary information*)

name of President, CEO or contact, as applicable; (*proprietary information*)

language preference (English or French); (*proprietary information*)

the Bidder's Procurement Business Number (PBN). (*proprietary information*)

A23:

Please refer to A22 above.

Q24:

Question A 2 states:

1. Bidders must download the solicitation documents directly from MERX. Bidders must submit their financial bid and most of their technical bid as specified in Component 1 through the Data Collection Component (DCC) of CPSS

1. Where do we get the supplier log in information for Data Collection Component (DCC) of CPSS? What is the link to this site?

2. Are there no Mandatory Qualifications to this solicitation?

3. As a current TBIPS SO/SA Supplier, how do we go about refreshing our existing SO and SA as instructions are not clear in the RFP?

4. There are now Streams 4 and 5 in this RFP, can TBIPS SA/SO Suppliers qualify under those streams? If so, how?

A24:

1. For information on enrolment into the CPSS Supplier Module. Please refer to Component 1, Part 1, articles 5.4, 5.5, 5.6.

The direct link for CPSS enrolment is:

English: <https://sspc-fournisseur-cpss-supplier.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/FournisseurInscrire-SupplierEnrol-Eng>
 French: <https://sspc-fournisseur-cpss-supplier.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/FournisseurInscrire-SupplierEnrol-Fra>

2. Attachment B includes the mandatory criteria to qualify for the Standing Offer and Attachment C includes the mandatory criteria to qualify for the Supply Arrangement.

3. Please refer to Attachments B and C, and to Solicitation Amendment #3, A6.

4. Please refer to A18, 2b) from this Solicitation Amendment.

Q25:

In the Mandatory Requirements for both the SO and for the SA, M.5 para 4 states “To be awarded a Stream within an applicable Tier, the minimum number of Categories within the Stream as detailed in the table below must be capable of reference substantiation.” The tables only list the “ Minimum Number of Substantiated Positive References” and there is no identification of the minimum number of Categories that must be substantiated within each Stream. Please clarify:

A -Is the requirement only one substantiated reference per Category? If yes, the numbers listed in the tables would therefore be equal to the minimum number of substantiated Categories to qualify for that Stream; or

B – Are the numbers listed equal to the number of substantiated references required for each Category? If this is the case, there is no indication of the minimum number of substantiated Categories to qualify for each Stream.

A25:

A: Yes, that is correct

B: No.

Q26:

Would you please clarify the technical evaluation with respect to the migration of categories from CPSA to TBIPS Stream 6 Cyber Protection Services?

Specifically:

(iv) A Bidder that is a CPSA and a TBIPS SA Holder and is carrying over two (2) substantiated IM/IT Categories from TBIPS Work Stream 3 to Work Stream 6 Cyber Protection Services will be granted four (4) Categories of its choice (i.e.: C.5 and C.16 are to be factored into the total number of 6 substantiated Categories).

Question: If supply holders are granted 6 substantiated categories with this migration process are they entitled to also select 3 unsubstantiated categories as a result of these 6 positive substantiations per the evaluation process? It's not entirely clear given the additional following statement:

c) If the Bidder wishes to be considered for more or all Categories, substantiated references must be provided in the bid and any additional Category will be subject to the TBIPS refresh evaluation process (i.e.: 2 positively substantiated Categories for 1 unsubstantiated Category).

A26:

Yes, they are entitled to 3 unsubstantiated categories. Please see Solicitation Amendment #3, Modification #1.

Q27:

I have two (2) questions regarding the Refresh bid response:

#1) How many bid are we allowed to submit.....I am assuming one bid response for my company, and a second bid response for my existing Joint Venture ?

#2) On the topic of Joint Ventures.....How many Joint Ventures are we allowed to have; is there a limit to the number of JV's one company may have in place ?

A27:

#1) & #2) Please refer to Component 1, Part 2, article 1.3 Bid Participation.

Q28:

Please provide the following clarification regarding ATTACHMENT B, STANDING OFFER TECHNICAL EVALUATION, Mandatory M.5 IDENTIFICATION OF CATEGORIES, page 217 of the RFP, the requirement regarding reference check e-mail from PWGSC: "Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) has received a bid from (Insert Bidder's legal name) to provide informatics professional services to the federal government..."

In case of the bidder is a joint venture: are you going to use a joint venture name in the statement above or actually the service provider company, which is a member of the Joint Venture?

A28:

Both. The email will include the name of the Bidder (the JV) as well as identify the name of the individual company that provided the work referenced. Please refer to Modification #3 of this Solicitation Amendment #4.

Q29:

Regarding the grandfathering/qualification for previous CPSA holders. We are part of a joint venture under CPSA, we are also an existing supplier under TBIPS individually not part of any JV. Do all members of an existing JV under CPSA qualify to grandfather individually as per their TBIPS. i.e. Three member of an existing CPSA JV all get the CPSA categories as outlined thru their own companies nullifying their joint venture.

A29:

No. The joint venture is the legal entity holding the CPSA and as such, cannot alter its membership. Your TBIPS SA/SO is considered as a different legal entity than your CPSA JV. Please refer to Solicitation Amendment #3, A10, 1 and 2.

Please note that the Grandfather Certification applies only to your existing TBIPS SO/SA. As an existing TBIPS Supplier, please refer to Attachment E for details on the Grandfather Certification.

Your CPSA is under a different legal entity, that is not an existing TBIPS Supplier, and as such the Grandfather Certification does not apply. As an existing CPSA Supplier (ie: the JV that is not the same legal entity as the TBIPS Supplier), please refer to Attachments B and C, M.5, article 8 b and to Component 1, Part 3, article 1.4 Submission Grid Column E.

Q30:

We are seeking clarification with respect the the number of references required for additional categories.

If we wish to bid on two additional categories in Stream 5, do we require a min. of 6 references in those 2 categories?

A30:

No. One (1) positive reference is required to substantiate one (1) category. The minimum number of substantiated positive references must be met to qualify for a Stream.

Q31:

It would be appreciated if PWGSC could confirm that the gross business volume includes the taxes (GST or HST) amount as per the invoices paid by the GOC

- **to justify the \$250K for M1 (based on the supplier's Fiscal Year Ending anywhere between Mar 2012 and Feb 2013), and**
- **to justify the \$1.5 million for M4 for the eligible period being Mar 2010 – Apr 2013 (if my understanding of the eligible period for M4 is not correct, please confirm the correct one, thank you)**

A31:

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

EN578-055605/E

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

004

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

003ei

Client Ref. No. - N° de réf. du client

EN578-055605

File No. - N° du dossier

003eiEN578-055605

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

That is incorrect. The \$250K in gross business volume in sales required to satisfy M.1 excluded any tax.

- Correct
- M4: The eligible period to meet M4 is based on 36 months prior to the date of bid submission (currently from March 2010 to February 2013).