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SOLICITATION AMENDMENT
MODIFICATION DE L'INVITATION

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
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Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Electronics, Simulators and Defence Systems Div.
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11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier
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Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet Tactical Headquarters Shelter Sys	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation W8476-13HQSS/A	Amendment No. - N° modif. 006
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client W8476-13HQSS	Date 2012-11-08
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$QF-024-23082	
File No. - N° de dossier 024qf.W8476-13HQSS	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2012-11-30	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Gagné, Annamarie	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 024qf
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 956-0582 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 956-5650
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction:	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée	Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée
Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur	
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur	
Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print) Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/ de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)	
Signature	Date

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

W8476-13HQSS/A

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

W8476-13HQSS

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

006

File No. - N° du dossier

024qfW8476-13HQSS

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

024qf

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

Letter of Interest Amendment No. 006 is issued to release the following Questions and Answers (Q&A) #25 - 62.

Q25. Could you elaborate on the intended usage of the shelter system, for example system function command & control, medical, accommodation, within Canada, outside Canada and so on?

A25. Covered during Industry Day presentation - Letter of Interest, Amendment no. 5 on MERX refers.

Q26. Will you provide an Operational Profile (e.g ref mil-std 810F)?

A26. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q27. Could you elaborate on adjacent systems that will be connected to the new shelter system, for example the power-supply system?

A27. DND will supply details of existing power supply interface characteristics in the RFP/SOW. However, DND is not adverse to a self-powered HQSS provided it meets the Requirement Specifications.

Q28. There are some conflicting issues within the requirements for outer climate, EMC, power supply and environment. For example regarding weight and EMC requirements. How will you refine the specification in order to increase our understanding of the system?

A28. We will refer to Standards such as the following: MIL-STD-810 for exterior climate and environmental conditions; MIL-STD-461 for Electromagnetic Emission and Susceptibility; MIL-STD-464 for Electromagnetic Environmental Effects; MIL-STD-1472 for interior climate. More details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q29. How will you take environmental and sustainability issues into consideration and evaluation?

A29. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q30. Could you elaborate on general ILS requirements, e.g. within the areas of System Safety, PHS&T, system & subsystem availability, spares (availability), repair/overhaul (sites), MTTR, MTBF, warranty?

A30. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q31. What will you require from the contractor in deployed operation? E.g. is it a requirement that our employees will be required to work on the front-line? How are system functions handled (C2, medical, beds etc), not included in this procurement, which are to be integrated?

A31. It is not envisaged that contractors will have to provide Field Service Representatives for Operational deployments. But until the In-Service Support SOW is completed, this option cannot be ruled out. System functions are not included in this requirement.

Q32. Could you elaborate on an anticipated delivery schedule and if it will be a proportional or varying delivery schedule over the time frame?

A32. An estimated timeline was provided in the Industry Day presentation slides - Letter of Interest, Amendment no. 5 on MERX. Further details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q33. Can you provide more detail and clarity on what will the minimum and maximum delivery quantities be?

A33. Initial details were provided during the Industry Day presentation - Letter of Interest, Amendment no. 5 on MERX refers. Further details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q34. What are the fuel requirements for the heaters - do they need to run on Biodiesel, and if so, is there a % of biodiesel?

A34. The fuel requirements for the heaters are detailed at page 37 of Annex D HQSS Draft HVAC Spec. Heaters must be capable of running on Biodiesel. The percentage of Biodiesel specifics will follow in the RFP/SOW. However, it must also be noted that the heaters must be capable of cold-start at -51 deg C.

Q35. Do we require independent test reports for the various heater requirements before the LOI is submitted?

A35. There is no mandatory requirement to submit independent test reports for the various heater requirements with the Letter of Interest (LOI) response. However, it is encouraged to submit any test reports with the Letter of Interest (LOI) response.

Q36. Do the heaters require 2" of static? If so, is there a max amp draw that is required?

A36. No. However, the HVAC system must be designed to prevent back pressure due to kinking of supply and return ducting. In other words, the HVAC system must include a suitable means to prevent hose ducts from collapsing.

Q37. Throughout the specifications are references to desirable features. It is of paramount importance to Industry that the rating for desirable features is known at an early stage because this can influence the bidder on what product to offer depending upon the evaluation methodology. Will Canada publish draft evaluation criteria prior to release of the official RFP?

A37. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q38. Temperature range for the entire system is unclear and whether the various references to temperature are storage temperatures or operating temperatures, please clarify the operating and storage requirements for the complete system? Also references are made to a maximum +49°C while operational experience in recent deployments has shown temperatures in the +60°C range. In this regard Mil-Std-810 is not up to date in relation to actual temperatures encountered. Please clarify the maximum operating temperatures for the HQSS components and systems?

A38. The HQSS Operational temperature range is from -51 deg C to +49 deg C. The HQSS Storage and Transit temperature range is from -51 deg C to +71deg C.

Q39. It is understood that no material handling equipment (MHE) will be required to use the HQSS. It is also stated that the HQSS components will be stored and transported in ISO containers. Please provide a concept of operations as it relates to the ISO containers since these containers would require MHE for movement and unloading. Is it a requirement to provide manually operable jacks for the ISO containers to unload from transport vehicles?

A39. No, there is no requirement to provide manually operable jacks for the containers. The containers will be moved by material handling equipment. However, the requirement for the HQSS components is that they must be capable of being loaded/unloaded into/from the containers or military vehicles (or other) manually (i.e. without the use of material handling equipment). Further details with regards to the Concept of Operations will be included in the RFP/SOW.

Q40. On page 6 of 13 of the LOI document under the heading "Climate Protection" it states that the floor must provide standoff from the ground. Given the statements throughout the document that the HQSS may be deployed worldwide this will result in deployment on flooded ground, frozen tundra etc . Also on page 7 of the draft flooring specification there is a requirement to accommodate protrusions of up to 12 cm. From our experience the floor must be level in order to operate with tables, chairs, medical equipment etc and must have adjustment capability. Is it therefore a requirement that bidders offer an elevated platform?

A40. There is no requirement for an elevated platform. However, as per Annex C HQSS Draft Flooring Spec, the Semi-Rigid Flooring System shall have a thickness in the range of 1.5cm - 4.0 cm.

Q41. On page 5 of 13 of the LOI document under the heading "Project Scope" the HQSS may be used for "non-surgical medical shelters". In the subsequent paragraph the document describes the four categories of medical shelters used by the CF. It is important to advise that modern soft-wall shelter technology that is readily available and competitively priced can meet the same clean room and surgical standards used in civilian hospital buildings. Given the value and the importance of acquiring a modern HQSS capability it is strongly advised that Canada not limit the use of the HQSS or its main subsystems to non-surgical medical uses.

A41. Comment noted, but not incorporated.

Q42. On page 1 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 there is a statement providing dimensions of the large screen display and a stand measuring 209 cm high. In the same document on page 22 it states that a clear height of minimum 200cm is required. Usually in a joint operations center (JOC) there is a rack that may contain 6 or 9 monitors mounted in an array and these are typically mounted 170 cm above the floor to provide visibility of the audience. It is important for bidders to be provided with a clear statement of requirement in order to determine side-wall and aisle height for their proposed shelters.

A42. The definition of the Effective Floor Area has been amended since the Industry Day presentation - Letter of Interest, Amendment no. 5 on MERX. The Effective Floor Area of the Operations Shelter, Planning Shelter, and Office Shelter must be defined as that area with an enclosed clear height of at least 209 cm, when the shelter is set up on a flat level surface with the Semi-Rigid Flooring System and Fabric Flooring installed. The Operations Shelters and Planning Shelters must accommodate the large screen display and a stand measuring 209 cm anywhere across the Effective Floor Area. This will give the Users the flexibility to place the display screen and stand wherever they choose within the shelters. The Effective Floor Area of the Shelter Interface and Blackout Vestibule must be defined as that area with an enclosed clear height of at least 209 cm, when the shelter is set up on a flat level surface with the Semi-Rigid Flooring System and Fabric Flooring installed.

Q43. On page 6 of 13 of the LOI document there is a test description under the heading "Testing of Equipment". Does this involve the complete HQSS system and is this to be conducted at the Contractor's expense or paid for by Canada?

A43. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q44. It is recommended that Canada require that shelter manufacturers employ a high-frequency welding process for joining the tent material as is specified by Canada for vehicle tarpaulins and that the seam strength must be equal to 80% or more of that of the material being bonded.

A44. Noted and if applicable will be detailed in the RFP/SOW.

Q45. Will Canada require that the tent material be reversible and with different colours on each side so that for example the tents will be green on the outside and white on the inside and if reversed white on the outside and green on the inside?

A45. Reversible tent material with different colors on each side would be highly desirable, not mandatory.

Q46. Will proposed tent material samples be required to be provided by bidders as part of their bid response?

A46. Material samples are not required for the Letter of Interest response, but may be required for the RFP bid response. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q47. It is noted that the maximum single weight of an equipment be equal to or less than 136 kg. In the case of the air-conditioner does this necessitate that a split-system be offered?

A47. Exact specifications and restrictions will be detailed in the RFP/SOW. With respect to the air-conditioner (also known as the ECU in Annex D HQSS Draft HVAC Spec), it must not be a split system.

Q48. Please confirm that the set-up time of 20 minutes using six soldiers is for the Office Shelter and this does not include flooring, insulated liner, solar shade and other accessories?

A48. The set-up time of 20 min using six soldiers is applicable to each the Office Shelter and the Planning Shelter. A set-up time of 20 min using eight soldiers is applicable to the Operations Shelter. The set-up time of 20 min does not include flooring, lighting, solar shades, and HVAC equipment. Attention is drawn to the definition of "under canopy" in the Industry Day presentation - Letter of Interest, Amendment no. 5 on MERX. "Under canopy" is defined as the shelter including framework, all liners, and insulation, erected and secured to the ground using a staking system (or other means) to resist wind lift of up to 40 km/hr.

Q49. Is it mandatory or at least desirable that the same tent sections and supporting structure be the same components for all three-shelter types?

A49. It is desirable that the same tent sections and supporting structure be the same components for all shelters.

Q50. On page 7 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 it is stated that the tents must be operable in winds of 80 km/hr gusting to 110km/hr. On page 27 the specification requires operability in 60km/hr without guy lines and 110 km/hr with guy lines. Given the nature of wind and the fact that gusting is unpredictable why is the mandatory requirement not 110km/hr given the scenario where it will be too late to erect guy lines after higher wind speeds may have been suddenly encountered? At the least will a tent system that meets 110km/hr without the need for guy wires be afforded a high point rating in the evaluation scoring?

A50. Each shelter must be capable of being erected, configured and operational in steady or gusting winds up to 40 km/hr, coming from any direction, without the need for a supplementary restraint system (e.g. guy wires). Each shelter must be capable of being operational in steady or gusting winds up to 110 km/hr, coming from any direction, and with supplementary restraint system, as determined by the Contractor, included as a Wind Kit. A shelter that meets 110 km/hr without the need for a supplementary restraint system (i.e. wind kit) is desirable and would be weighted accordingly in the evaluation scoring. Further details to follow in the RFP/SOW.

Q51. On page 26 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 there is a statement that metal frames are to be CARC painted. Does this therefore require that the tents be NBC protected since CARC paint is required to provide NBC protection? Alternatively can corrosion resistance of metal frames be offered through the use of plating and anodizing?

A51. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q52. On page 47 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 please explain what type of "Blast" may be encountered? Presumably it is not atomic or the subsequent heat wave will burn the material and would necessitate NBC Protection. Presumably it is not blast from a grenade nor IED or the fragments and shrapnel will also necessitate ballistic protection for the shelters. Please note that specifying an overpressure may be akin to requiring a mandatory equivalent wind speed of much greater than 110km/hr.

A52. Details to follow in RFP/SOW.

Q53. Most specifications nowadays for Canadian military equipment is performance based yet the draft specification for the semi-rigid flooring specifies that the material must be plastic. We recommend that the selection of material of construction should be left to the bidder. Further we are not aware of any plastic that will resist shattering when a spike is driven through at -50°C as specified on page 8 of the draft flooring specification.

A53. The Semi-Rigid Flooring system segments shall be manufactured from a plastic material or other synthetic material. Note: The Semi-Rigid Flooring shall be capable of through penetration by a 2cm dia spike, without shattering, at -51C°. However, this does not necessarily mean through a solid portion of the flooring.

Q54. On page 10 of the flooring specification there is a requirement for 3.5 MPa static load resistance. Where on the floor and over what area will this load be applied because we are not aware of any flooring system that can withstand this load over its entire floor area?

A54. Further details to follow in RFP/SOW. However, it must be noted that the flooring system must be capable of support an entire shelter system that is fully operational, without any degradation in performance (e.g. cracking, shattering) in -51C° temperature.

Q55. On page 30 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 it is noted that hook and loop closure mechanisms may be acceptable. It is suggested that this be qualified based on a performance requirement since hook and loop fasteners do not function when saturated with water and subsequently frozen nor when saturated in dirt. It is further noted that hook and loop fasteners are specifically not permitted to be used in the flooring according to the flooring specification.

A55. The use of hook and loop closure mechanisms may be acceptable everywhere except in the flooring as long as they meet the performance requirements in the RFP/SOW (to be determined). Industry feedback is welcomed on proposing how to measure the effectiveness of a hook and loop fastener (i.e. standard or specification).

Q56. On page 34 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 it should be noted that personnel access to the MSVS shelter is not via the double ISO doors but via the personnel door at the other end of the shelter.

A56. Comment noted, but not incorporated.

Q57. Will Canada provide the size of the power and data cables specified on page 42 of the document LSTL RDIMS 2844985-v1 in order to facilitate design of the cable entrance?

A57. The specification of the entrances for the cables (e.g. volume, capacity) will be provided in the RFP/SOW.

Q58. On page 12 of the tactical lighting specification, please specify what light colour and output is required when power comes back on to the light following emergency mode?

A58. When the power comes back on to the light following emergency mode, the light color and output must return to the same light color and output that was in effect prior to the onset of emergency mode.

Q59. It is understood that power to operate the lighting and HVAC equipment will be provided by Canada. Will Canada specify at what point the Canada supplied power and cabling ends and the connectors used and where the contractor is responsible to connect for each of the lighting, heaters and air conditioners?

A59. Details will be provided in the RFP/SOW.

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Q60. The desirable requirement for integral cable channels specified in the draft flooring specification is a patented technology and therefore unfair to bidders that do not have a license to the technology. As a result it is recommended that Canada remove this as a requirement or procure the flooring separately from HQSS.

A60. As this remains a desirable requirement, the comment is noted, but not incorporated. The RFP/SOW will be amended if required.

Q61. Are we able to reply to any parts of the LOI on MERX?

A61. Yes. However, suppliers should take note of LOI Amendment 001, point 3.
