

**RETURN BIDS TO:
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

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
Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**LETTER OF INTEREST
LETTRE D'INTÉRÊT**

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address
Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Alternative Service Delivery/Autres modes de prestation
des services
11 Laurier/11 rue Laurier
7C2, Place du Portage Phase III
Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet JOINT INFORMATION AND INTELLIGENCE	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation W8474-13BN05/A	Date 2012-05-30
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client W8474-13BN05	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$PSD-006-22825
File No. - N° de dossier 006psd.W8474-13BN05	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2012-07-10	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Potter, David	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 006psd
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 944-5687 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (613) 947-6262
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: Specified Herein Précisé dans les présentes	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

Delivery Required - Livraison exigée See Herein	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

This Letter of Interest (LOI) does not constitute a commitment by the Government of Canada. The Government of Canada does not intend to award a contract on the basis of this notice or otherwise pay for the information solicited.

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1.0 NEW ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

- a. In order to ensure a successful procurement for the provision of data mediation software and data simulation software in support of the Joint Information and Intelligence Fusion Capability (JIIFC) Project, Industry shall be engaged in an engagement process as the first step in this solicitation. The engagement process includes an "Industry Engagement Session" followed by one-on-one "Industry Meetings" and Industry "Working Group Meetings", followed by the conventional Request for Proposal (RFP) process.
- b. The Industry Engagement Session is scheduled for 26 June 2012 from 9am to 12 pm at 2 Constellation Cres, Ottawa K2G 5J9 Ottawa, Canada. One-on-one Industry Meetings will follow this session.
- c. Canada anticipates that Working Group Meetings may be scheduled in July/August 2012, if required.
- d. It is desirable that Industry provide comments and recommendations to the Public Works Government Services Canada (PWGSC) Contracting Authority on the Draft Rules of Engagement and Dispute Resolution Process by 4 pm on 15 June 2012 to allow the Crown to prepare for the One-on-one sessions. The Draft Rules of Engagement and Dispute Resolution Process will be discussed and finalized at the Industry Engagement Session.
- e. To participate in the Engagement process, including the Industry Engagement Session, one-on-one meetings, Working Group Meetings and a review of the final DRAFT RFP, Industry must sign and agree to the Industry Engagement – "Rules of Engagement and Dispute Resolution Process" which is attached at Annex B and will be presented at the Industry Engagement Session.
- f. Also, in order to facilitate the one-on-one meetings, Industry is encouraged to provide written comments and recommendations on the proposed topics attached at Annex C, for discussion as well as any additional topics Industry may wish to discuss.
- g. All Industry engagements will be documented and this information is subject to the Access to Information Act. Canada shall not reveal any designated proprietary information to third parties.
- h. Industry Engagement Session:** The purpose of the Industry Engagement Session is to provide Industry and other interested parties with general information on the procurement and engagement process, finalize the Draft Rules of Engagement and obtain industry comments on the engagement process timeline.
- i. One-on-One Industry Meetings:** Following sign off by Industry of the Rules of Engagement and Dispute Resolution Process Canada will meet with Industry

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- participants individually to listen to their concerns, recommendations and solutions. Canada will analyze and summarize industry input, identify topics that need to be discussed at Working Group meetings and revise solicitation document(s), if applicable.
- j. Working Group Meetings:** The objective of the Working Group Meetings is to resolve industry issues and secure an open competitive procurement process. Industry will be invited to Working Group Meetings comprised of representatives from the Department of National Defence (DND) and PWGSC to discuss specific issues, potential solutions and revised solicitation document(s), if applicable. Canada will finalize the solicitation document(s) following these meetings.
- k. Draft-RFP:** Following the Working Group Meetings, Canada will document all industry issues, positions and actions. A revised draft-RFP will only be made available to all participants who have signed and complied with the Rules of Engagement for a final review before the official RFP is published on MERX.
- l. Third Party Consultation:** Third parties such as Industry Associations will be consulted on an as and when required basis to discuss industry issues and recommendations on industry standard practices.
- m. LOI Closing Date:** The LOI closing date published on the first page is not the deadline for comments or inputs. The purpose of industry engagement is to accept inputs and comments at any time up until the formal Request for Proposal (RFP) is posted.

2.0 SCOPE

The Contractor will develop and deliver the Data Mediation software to provide integration capability between Government-Off-The-Shelf (GOTS) Battlespace Management software with existing Department of National Defence information systems. Included in this effort is also the delivery of Data Simulation Software to provide simulated data to the GOTS Battlespace Management software to support operator training. Additionally, for the software delivered, training, verification and testing, Additional Work Requirements (AWR), and In-Service Support will also be required. The contract will be established as follows:

- a. The initial Contract will be from contract award to the full installation of the Crown approved data mediation software and data simulation software as defined in the SOW.
- b. The Contract will also include Option Periods for In Service Support services for up to six (6) additional one-year option periods. In-Service Support activities will include Contractor support to the delivered software and the ability to contract for additional work requests should the technical landscape change.

3.0 CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

PWGSC Contracting Authority:

David Potter

Public Works and Government Services Canada

Alternate Service Delivery (ASD) and Special Projects

E-mail: david.potter@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca

Tel. No.: 613-944-5687

4.0 COMMUNICATIONS

All enquiries and other communications with government officials throughout the solicitation period are to be directed ONLY to the Contracting Authority named above who is responsible for the oversight of the solicitation process. Noncompliance with this condition during the bid solicitation period may (for that reason alone) result in disqualification of a bidder from the Engagement process.

5.0 INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT: REGISTRATION

Participants who wish to attend the Industry Engagement Session and Industry One-on-One sessions are to register in writing by notifying the PWGSC Contracting Authority identified herein via email, by 4 pm EST, 15 June, 2012. Participants must identify themselves by their legal name, corporate address, the names of representatives attending by their respective title as well as their office address, telephone number(s) and e-mail address.

Please note that:

- a. Although Industry may register as many representatives as required no more than four (4) representatives may attend at any given time due to space limitation.
- b. All attendees are encouraged to register in advance with the Contract Authority and will be required to sign-in upon arrival at the venue. In addition, please indicate whether a one-on-one session is requested in addition to the Industry Engagement Session.
- c. Interested participants are encouraged to submit their comments, in writing, to the Contracting Authority in regards to the "Industry Engagement Proposed Topics for Discussion" attached at Annex "C" as well as to suggest additional topics to be discussed at the one-on-one meetings and working group sessions.
- d. One-on-one sessions will be conducted over a number of days following the Industry Engagement Session. The Contracting Officer will notify you of your designated meeting time. Allotted times will be established on a first-come-first serve basis based on when the registration is received.

Please note: with up to four Industry representatives attending the session, the rescheduling of allotted times is discouraged.

- e. One-on-One Sessions will be a maximum of 1 hour in length.
- f. Attendees are responsible for their own transportation, accommodation, meals, parking and all other expenses.
- g. Participation is not a mandatory requirement. For example, choosing not to attend any of the Engagement Sessions will not preclude an interested participant from submitting a proposal.
- h. Media cannot participate in the Industry Engagement Session, one-on-one meetings or the working group sessions.
- i. It is requested that participants attending the Industry Engagement Session arrive no later than 08:30 am the day of the session. However arriving at 08:00 am is encouraged to facilitate Industry sign-in to a DND facility.

6.0 INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT SESSION AGENDA 26 JUNE 2012

The following is the Agenda for the Industry Engagement Session:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| a. Opening Remarks: | PWGSC |
| b. Industry Engagement Process | PWGSC |
| c. Technical & Operational Overview | DND |
| d. Break | |
| e. Solicitation/Contract Overview | PWGSC |
| f. Rules of Engagement | PWGSC |
| g. Questions and Answers | All |
| h. Closing Remarks | DND/PWGSC |
| i. Industry one-on-one Meetings | |

7.0 ESTIMATED PROCUREMENT SCHEDULE

Step	Event	Target
1	Letter of Interest	31 May 2012
2	Industry Engagement Registration Due Date	15 June 2012
3	Industry Engagement Session	26 June 2012
4	One-on-one Sessions	26 June 2012
5	Working Groups / RFP Development	Spring-Summer 2012
6	SOW Complete	Fall 2012
7	RFP Complete	Fall 2012
8	Issue RFP on MERX	January 2013
9	RFP Closes	March 2013
10	Evaluations Complete	May 2013
11	Contract Award	June 2013

ANNEX A

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

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006psdW8474-13BN05

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DRAFT RFP

The Draft RFP for the JIIFC Software Integration Contract for Data Mediation Software and Data Simulation Software is attached and is to be considered in conjunction with the Industry Engagement Proposed Topics for Discussion contained at Annex C.

ANNEX B

INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Rules of Engagement

The Draft Terms & Conditions and Dispute Resolution Process of the Rules of Engagement will be discussed and finalized at the Industry Engagement Session. Sign off by participants will be required in order to attend the follow-on One-on-One and the Working Group meetings.

- 1) An overriding principle of the industry engagement is that it be conducted with the utmost of fairness and equity between all parties. No one person or organization shall receive nor be perceived to have received any unusual or unfair advantage over the others.
- 2) These Rules of Engagement will apply beginning with the signing of this document and conclude with the release of the Final Request for Proposal (RFP) on MERX.
- 3) All Crown documentation provided throughout the industry engagement process, which begins with the Industry Engagement Session and concludes when the official Request for Proposal is published on the Government Electronic Tendering Service (MERX) ("Engagement Process"), will be provided to all participants who have agreed to and signed the Rules of Engagement ("Participant").
- 4) The Engagement Process will consist of an Industry Engagement Session, Industry Meetings, Working Group Sessions and any other processes deemed necessary by the Contracting Authority.
- 5) The Principal Elements of the Proposed Topics and Questions for Discussion document at Annex C is the basis to move forward with the Engagement Process.
- 6) In order to maximize the benefits of the Engagement Process, Canada will endeavor to solicit comments from Participants on various issues raised.
- 7) Any solutions, ideas or issues raised during the One-on-One sessions will be first analyzed for further consideration by Canada;
- 8) Any issues, recommendations, solutions or ideas raised during the One-on-One meetings and accepted by Canada, shall be raised for discussion during the Working Group Sessions;
- 9) An agenda with discussion topics and any available supporting documentation will be provided to Participants in advance of each Working Group Session;
- 10) Following each Working Group Session, a Record of Discussion will be distributed to all Participants.
- 11) A draft-RFP for a final review before the official RFP is published on MERX will only be made available to Participants.

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- 12) Canada will not disclose proprietary or commercially sensitive information concerning a Participant to other Participants or third parties, except and only to the extent required by law.

Terms and Conditions

The following terms and conditions apply to the Engagement Process. In order to encourage open dialogue, Participants agree to the following:

- 1) Participants are expected to discuss their views concerning the JIIFC Project Software Integration Contract for Data Mediation and Data Simulation Software, and to provide positive resolutions to the issues in question. Everyone shall have equal opportunity to share their ideas and suggestions;
- 2) Participants will NOT reveal or discuss any information to the MEDIA/NEWSPAPER regarding this requirement during this engagement process. If participants receive a question from the Media, participants are to direct the Media to contact the PWGSC Media Relations Office at 819-956-2313;
- 3) Participants are to direct inquiries and comments only to authorized representatives of Canada, as directed in notices given by the Contracting Authority from time to time. Any communication to unauthorized representatives of Canada may be subject to full disclosure by Canada on MERX;
- 4) Media cannot participate in the one-on-one meetings or the working group sessions;
- 5) Canada is not obligated to issue any RFP, or to negotiate any contract for the JIIFC Project Software Integration Contract for Data Mediation and Data Simulation Software requirement;
- 6) If Canada does release a RFP, the terms and conditions of the RFP shall be subject to Canada's absolute discretion;
- 7) Canada will not reimburse any person or entity for any cost incurred in participating in this industry engagement process;
- 8) Participation is not a mandatory requirement. Not participating in this engagement process will not preclude a bidder from submitting a proposal;
- 9) Final Draft-RFP will be released to all Participants for comments. If required, a Working Group Session will be organized;
- 10) Failure to agree to and sign the Rules of Engagement will result in the exclusion from participation in the one-on-one meetings, working group meetings and review of the final draft RFP; and,

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- 11) A dispute resolution process to manage impasses throughout this engagement process shall be adhered to as follows. All requests to use the dispute resolution process shall be directed to the Contracting Authority who will make the appropriate arrangements.

Dispute Resolution Process

- 1) By informal discussion and good faith negotiation, each of the parties shall make all reasonable efforts to resolve any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or in any way connected with this Industry Engagement.
- 2) Any dispute between the Parties of any nature arising out of or in connection with this Industry Engagement shall be resolved by the following process:
 - a. Any such dispute shall first be referred to the Participant's Manager and the PWGSC Manager managing the Industry Engagement. The parties will have 3 Business Days in which to resolve the dispute.
 - b. In the event the representatives of the Parties specified Article 2.a. above are unable to resolve the dispute, it shall be referred to the Participant's Project Director and the PWGSC Senior Director of the Division responsible to manage the Industry Engagement. The parties will have 3 Business Days to resolve the dispute.
 - c. In the event the representatives of the Parties specified in Article 2.b. above are unable to resolve the dispute, it shall be referred to the Participant's Senior Representative responsible for this project and the PWGSC Director General, who will have 3 Business Days to resolve the dispute.
 - d. In the event the representatives of the Parties specified in Article 2.c. above are unable to resolve the dispute, it shall be referred to the Participant's CEO and the PWGSC Assistant Deputy Minister, Acquisitions Branch who will have 5 Business Days to resolve the dispute.
 - e. In the event the representatives of the Parties specified in Article 2.d. above are unable to resolve the dispute, the Contracting Authority shall within 5 Business Days render a written decision which decision shall include a detailed description of the dispute and the reasons supporting the Contracting Authority's decision. The Contracting Authority shall deliver a signed copy thereof to the Participant.

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Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

006psd

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

W8474-13BN05

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

By signing this document, the individual represents that he/she has full authority to bind the company listed below and that the individual and the company agree to be bound by all the terms and conditions contained herein.

Name of Company: _____

Name and Title of Company Individual: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

PWGSC Contracting Authority:

David Potter

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DND Project Authority:

Lorna Palmer

Signature: _____ Date: _____

DND Procurement Authority:

DES Proc 3

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ANNEX C INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT PROPOSED TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

This template is being provided to assist Industry and Canada to prepare for One-on-One and Working Group Meetings and to facilitate the engagement process. Your written response to this Annex and additional topics are encouraged but optional.

Header Information in Company's format

**Industry Engagement
Proposed Discussion Topics**
DATE
Company ABC Response

On this title page, please provide:
Company Information (Company Name, Address, Web address, etc.)
Contact Information (Name, Title, Phone, E-mail Address)
Document Protection Level (Optional)

Footer Information in Company's format Page X of X

The intent of this document is to present possible topics for discussion to promote open dialogue while working in collaboration with Industry in the development of a simplified performance-based SOW and Evaluation Methodology. This collection of topics is by no means exhaustive and Canada encourages participants to bring forward any other key issues that they consider to be relevant.

Consideration of and responses to this document will play an important role in this engagement process by fostering open discussion.

Initiatives that fall within the scope of the requirement are encouraged and are open to discussion during the One-on-One and Working Group sessions

Instructions:

- This document template is intended to provide guidance to Industry in preparing for the Industry Engagement Session, One-on-One meetings, Working Groups, and their discussion papers. It is not expected that all questions will elicit a response; neither should submissions be constrained by the questions or topics of discussion;
- Use the written format of your choice, but keep the same section numbering to facilitate Canada's analysis of all responses;
- The number of pages of your response is not limited. However the expected length should not exceed 30 pages single sided standard business format.;
- Written responses are to be provided electronically in MS Word or PDF format.

Section 1: Executive Summary

- 1) Describe if you intend, should you bid on this requirement, to be the prime contractor or a potential subcontractor;
- 2) What services or products are you currently providing that are similar to this requirement?
- 3) Outline your interest in the JIIFC project and the Data Mediation Contract.
- 4) Insert your key conclusions and recommendations.
- 5) Up to a maximum of four (4) pages for the Executive Summary. Use the other Sections to provide details

Section 2: Request for Proposal (RFP) including Contract Terms and Basis of Payment

- 1) As a Bidder, is the RFP clear and is there sufficient information provided, for you to submit a bid?

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- 2) During the initial period of the contract, there is the intention of establishing an off-ramp after the Critical Design Review process has concluded. This will enable Canada to terminate the contract without penalty OR to continue with the contract to the delivery of the Data Mediation software and Data simulation software. Do you have any concerns with this approach?
 - 3) Do you have concerns regarding Canada owning Intellectual Property rights of foreground information?
 - 4) Canada has provided a draft Basis of Payment. Do you have comments or suggestions for an alternative Basis of Payment scheme?
 - 5) Do you have any issues submitting the signed Certifications (contained in Section 5 of the RFP) with your bid?
 - 6) All bids will be submitted and evaluated in Canadian dollars. Do you have comments on this approach?
 - 7) As the Contract will be awarded in Canadian dollars, there will be no exchange rate fluctuation protection for any foreign currency work. Do you have concerns with this approach?

Section 3: Statement of Work

- 1) As stated in the SOW, much of the Government Furnished Equipment will be subject to the ITAR/Controlled Goods process with the information/specifications related to these items only being released to the winning bidder after contract award. Please confirm that there is sufficient information provided to allow for a comprehensive bid? Do you have any concerns/suggestions regarding this issue;
- 2) Other than the ITAR/Controlled Good issue stated above, do you have any comments/concerns regarding the SOW? Is there sufficient information to provide a firm price bid?
- 3) Do you have comments/concerns regarding:
 - Project Management responsibilities
 - Software development requirements
 - Verification, Testing and Training requirements
 - Installation activities
 - Additional Work Requests (AWR) process
 - In Service Support responsibilities

Section 4: Service Delivery Solutions

- 1) Where would you see the main opportunities to achieve improvements?

- 2) Where do you see the potential for providing improved service performance standards?
- 3) Are there any particular areas of flexibility/relaxation of constraints that you would require from DND in order to make innovations / efficiencies?
- 4) Are there particular external factors impacting on the ability to make innovations?

Section 5: Evaluation Criteria

- 1) Is the Evaluation Criteria and selection methodology clear?
- 2) The rationale for Key Personnel is to ensure that qualified company representatives are main points-of contacts for this requirement. Are there any concerns over this approach?
- 3) Are there any areas in the Evaluation Criteria that you would like to see changed?

Section 6: Risks and Benefits

- 1) Identify any potential risks and benefits to Canada. Include any mitigation strategies you would deem necessary in order for your proposed solution to be viable.

Section 7: Other Comments

- 1) Indicate any other areas of concern that Canada may be interested / concerned with that would aid in providing a recommendation for improvement.
- 2) Are there any other key issues that you consider relevant?
- 3) What would you consider to be the minimum qualifications required for a company to participate in this RFP process?