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Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des  
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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**

<b>Title - Sujet</b> Mercury Global Ground Segment	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> W8474-12MGGS/A	<b>Date</b> 2012-06-01
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> W8474-12MGGS	<b>GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG</b> PW-\$\$ST-006-24487
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> 006st.W8474-12MGGS	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 04:00 PM</b> <b>on - le 2012-07-16</b>	
<b>Time Zone</b> <b>Fuseau horaire</b> Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT	
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Thorsley, Mark	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> 006st
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (819) 956-1772 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> (819) 997-2229
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>	

Comments - Commentaires

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

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

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

**Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution**  
Science Procurement Directorate/Direction de l'acquisition  
de travaux scientifiques  
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier  
11C1, Place du Portage  
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

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## Mercury Global Ground Segment

### GENERAL

A Request for Information (RFI) was issued by the Communications Research Centre Canada (CRC) on 25 August 2010 to gather information from commercial satellite operators and service providers on their ability to provide capacity and service provision to the Department of National Defence (DND) Forces over the 2012 to 2027 time frame as per the DND Mercury Global Project. As a result of this RFI process and subsequent analysis by the DND, it was determined that an Allied Partnership via the US Department of Defense Wideband Global SATCOM (WGS) constellation was the preferred option.

With this current RFI, the DND, Mercury Global Project, is seeking feedback from industry, and in particular, satellite terminal providers, ground station operators and system integrators with respect to the commercial sector's ability to address DND's satellite ground infrastructure needs for access to the US Department of Defense WGS constellation. In essence, a long term, firm commitment is contemplated to provide access to satellite communication through the provision of Anchor Stations (AS), Strategic Deployable Terminals (SDT) and in-service support (ISS) beginning in 2015 and ending in 2031.

The information gathered through this RFI will be used by Canada to assist in the development of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for the implementation of the Mercury Global Wideband Satellite Communications Project Ground Segment.

### BACKGROUND

The Mercury Global project will provide the DND with assured access to robust global wideband satellite communications to meet the needs of the Canadian Forces (CF) in the present and future.

Mercury Global will provide the CF with a secure, reliable and high availability wideband military X and Ka band communications space segment via an Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) signed January 2012 with the US Department of Defense and other international partners. This MOU provides the CF with immediate access to the US Department of Defense's WGS satellite constellation.

The objectives of the Mercury Global Project being explored under this RFI are as follows:

- \* Deliver strategic Military X-band and Ka-band SATCOM AS. These AS will enable backhaul connectivity into DND's Information Management Infrastructure from global theatres.
- \* Deliver a family of WGS certified X-band and Ka-band SDT to the CF as detailed below.
- \* Deliver SATCOM ISS that will allow the management, control and maintenance of the above AS and SDT.

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## RULES OF ENGAGEMENT

In order to receive a copy of the RFI documents and engage in the Industry Consultation process, potential respondents must sign the attached Rules of Engagement and return a signed copy to the Procurement Authority indicated below. A scanned copy will suffice.

Document distribution will follow a green procurement approach and utilize electronic distribution and questionnaires.

## INDUSTRY DAY

An Industry Day information session and one-on-one sessions will be held on 3-4 October 2012 as an opportunity to pose and address questions with regards to this RFI. One hour one-on-one meetings, with the Mercury Global Project team, will be held following the Industry Day information session. These meetings will provide an opportunity for vendors to clarify the presentation and to present relevant technical input for the upcoming RFP.

Registration for the above events will be required on or before 27 August 2012. All Vendors will be limited to sending three (3) representatives. Upon registration, a meeting time will be allocated to each registering vendor on a first come first served basis. To register please contact the Procurement Authority listed below.

Attendance at the Industry Day is not required in order to submit a response to the RFI nor any follow-on RFP.

## NOTES TO INTERESTED FIRMS

This RFI is not a bid solicitation and a contract will not result from this request.

Potential respondents are advised that any information submitted to Canada in response to this RFI may be used by Canada in the development of a subsequent competitive RFP. However, the Government is not bound to accept any Expression of Interest or to consider it further in any associated documents such as a RFP.

The issuance of this RFI does not create an obligation for Canada to issue a subsequent RFP, and does not bind Canada legally or otherwise, to enter into any agreement or to accept any suggestions from organizations. Canada reserves the right to accept or reject any or all comments received.

There will be no short listing of firms for purposes of undertaking any future work, as a result of this RFI. Similarly, participation in this RFI is not a condition or prerequisite for participation in any RFP(s).

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation

W8474-12MGGS/A

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

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006stW8474-12MGGS

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Companies responding to this RFI should identify any submitted information that is to be considered as either company confidential or proprietary.

All enquiries and other communications related to this RFI must be directed exclusively to the Procurement Authority. Firms that intend on responding to this RFI are asked to advise the Procurement Authority of their intention to respond, in order that they may be notified of any changes to the notice on MERX, which may occur during the posting period.

#### CLOSING DATE

Responses to this RFI should be submitted to the Procurement Authority identified below, on or before the close of business on 16 July 2012. E-mailed responses are acceptable.

#### PROCUREMENT AUTHORITY

All enquiries and other communications related to this RFI must be directed to the Procurement Authority as follows:

Public Works and Government Services Canada  
Acquisitions Branch  
Specialized Services and Acquisitions Management Sector  
Science Procurement Directorate  
Space Sciences and Communications Division (SR-ST)  
11 Laurier Street  
Gatineau, Quebec  
K1A 0S5  
ATTN: Mark Thorsley  
TEL: 819-956-1772  
FAX: 819-997-2229  
E-mail: [mark.thorsley@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca](mailto:mark.thorsley@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca)