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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.

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Industry Day Questions & Answers

Q1

When questions and answers (Q&A) are posted to MERX, will the identity of the company who asked the question be kept anonymous?

A1

Yes

Q2

What will Canada do to keep the dialogue going with Industry after the P&A closes?

A2

Canada understands the importance of continued Industry engagement and dialogue for the UWSU project. After this current P&A process, Canada will consider additional activities during the procurement process such as:

- Site visits to see customer demonstrations
- Release Draft technical/procurement documentation for Industry feedback
- Additional Industry Day events
- Halifax Class ship tours for Industry

Q3

Will the UWSU Controlled Goods Technical Information package be made available to foreign companies?

A3

We are currently exploring potential processes which could allow Canada to send the package directly to foreign qualifying companies who request the package. It is important to note that companies who hold a valid Controlled Goods registration should have options available to them to export the controlled package to their foreign parent companies or subsidiaries through the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international Trade Canada.

Q4

Will the UWSU requirement have Industrial Regional Benefits (IRB)?

A4

While it is too early into the procurement process to know if IRB's will be applicable to UWSU, for the purpose of this P&A, it would not be unreasonable to assume the possibility of IRB's applying to a future RFP process.

Q5

What will be the UWSU In-service Support period?

A5

Canada is considering different options. These options are in line with current DND support trends. For the purpose of the P&A, an assumption of a 5 year initial support period with options to extend can be used.

Q6

Will UWSU be one contract or multiple contracts?

A6

The intent of the UWSU requirement is to have one solution provider rather than managing the complexities involved with multiple contracts.

Q7

Will Canada use the SOIQ (Solicitation of Interest and Qualification) process prior to an RFP release?

A7

The UWSU procurement strategy has not been finalized. It is too early to know how a future RFP would be structured. A future RFP process could involve the SOIQ process.

Q8

Does Canada own the IP rights on the PELEIDES and TIPAS?

A8

Yes, Canada owns the IP rights to both PELEIDES and TIPAS

Q9

Does Canada own the IP rights to the HMS transducer?

A9

Canada does not own the property rights to the HMS Single Element Transducer

Q10

Can you confirm if this requirement is for Fire Control Sonar Equipment only or will it include Underwater Electronic Warfare Systems?

A10

The Global Shipment Identification Number (GSIN) utilized for the UWSU P&A MERX posting is N1287: FIRE CONTROL SONAR EQUIPMENT. It was decided that this GSIN was inaccurate. The new GSIN for UWSU is N5845: UNDER WATER SOUND EQUIPMENT.

Q11

Will Canada release a draft UWSU Statement of Requirements document (SOR)?

A11

The UWSU SOR is an evolving document and will not be released as part of the P&A. Canada may consider releasing draft documents for industry input at a later stage of the procurement process.

Q12

Is the CSC project directly involved with the UWSU requirement?

A12

The UWSU project and CSC project are separate requirements. It is the intent of the UWSU project to migrate, if practical, the UWSU solution to the future CSC ships.

Q13

Is there a chance for Industry to get a better understanding of the Halifax Class general arrangement

A13

For the purpose of this P&A, potential UWSU solutions do not have to be comprehensive. General UWSU constraints are identified in the P&A Annex A, Draft UWSU High-Level Requirements, section 11 - Constraints. Some additional information

has been provided in the P&A Controlled Goods Technical Information Package. Additional information may be released at a future date.

Q14

Does the UWSU Statement of Requirements (SOR) have a requirement for range prediction and tactical decision aids?

A14

This will be addressed by the NITES2R software as highlighted in the P&A Annex A, Draft UWSU High-Level Requirement, section 19.

Q15

What are the practical constraints on marine mammal life?

A15

The constraints are driven by current International Regulatory Agreements. A goal of the UWSU project is to be able to vary the power output of the HMS-510

Q16

Since the MPT is owned and managed by DND, what P&A info is required?

A16

Industry is requested to state their assumptions. There may be reasons for not carrying out an upgrade to the MPT. Canada would be interested in hearing about possible stand alone systems.

Q17

Will the UWSU have a requirement for acoustic modeling?

A17

In the context of UWSU, these requirements will be considered with the end goal of acoustic range prediction and best placement of sensors.

Q18

You have specified options to purchase the LFAS and active intercept. Is the passive towed array also being replaced?

A18

Yes

Q19

Will you be stating performance requirements or prescriptive requirements in a future RFP?

A19

At this point this has not been decided. It is reasonable to assume we would consider adding some high level performance requirements and prescriptive technical specifications in a future RFP.

Q20

Will you be specifying PLEIADES in a future RFP?

A20

We're not specifying PLEIADES. We want something based on an open architecture solution.

Q21

Why do trainer upgrades have to be part of the UWSU requirement?

A21

The UWSU Project will greatly enhance the ASW capabilities of the RCN. It is therefore prudent to have the requisite trainers to improve the understanding and performance of the sailors who will be operating and maintaining this equipment.

Q22

It is understood that Canada wishes to upgrade NIXIE. Can version and delivery schedule be disclosed?

A22

No decision has been made as this time to release this information.

Q23

We have a have a specific product that would benefit the UWSU project however we're not a full solution provider. Would you accept a P&A response for a single component under the UWSU scope?

A23

For vendors who are interested in working with other suppliers to provide a single component of the UWSU equipment, it is acceptable to provide cost information for only the discrete pieces of equipment that they would like to supply.

Q24

Is it acceptable to add additional cost information that is not requested in the P&A price annex?

A24

Yes it is acceptable to add further cost information. It's very important to DND that P&A Respondents accurately list all the assumptions that they made to arrive at their cost estimates for the UWSU requirement. For example, if inflation, exchange rate, or contingency factors were taken into account to develop cost estimates, DND would like to know exactly how these figures were calculated. It is important to note that DND conducts its cost validation activities for Project Approval according to a prescribed process published by its Financial and Corporate Services. This process requires the DND project team to apply inflation and contingency calculations. It would be undesirable to double-account these amounts if industry has already considered them.

Q25

Reference Section 2, Aim, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements:

"The design must minimize the amount of work during the Halifax Class installation phase by reusing, to the greatest extent possible, all existing hardware and handling equipment."

Will the Crown secure and transfer to the supplier, all necessary licenses on third party intellectual property to enable re-use of all existing hardware such as SQS-510 HMS transducer, electronics, cabinets, and interfaces?

A25

Commercial agreements may be required for some of the intellectual property involved. In some cases, the Crown already owns the necessary rights. A procurement strategy, including definition of responsibility for securing access rights has not been defined.

If a contract is awarded in the future, DND may provide the documentation required to interface to the equipments that are re-used.

Q26

Reference Section 4, Design Concept for UWSU, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"4.b In order to reduce integration risk and minimize through-life support costs, the UWSU system must, where practicable, make use of the standard processors and the standard Multi function Workstations (2-EYE MFWs) employed by the CMS 330."

If not included in the technical information package, please provided detailed technical information on the CMS 330 standard processors and Multi function Workstations, including commercial standards used.

A26

Detailed Information is not yet available. Should a Request for Proposal (RFP) be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time.

In terms of commercial standards, we refer at this point simply to Ethernet, TCP/IP and Red Hat Linux Enterprise and X86 microprocessor architecture. Industry is free to propose COTS processors and commercial standards of their choosing. No further details will be provided at this stage.

If a contract is awarded in the future, DND may provide the contractor with the documentation required to interface to the 2-EYE MFWs.

Q27

Reference Section 4, Design Concept for UWSU, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"4 (c) The UWSU design must use HMI standards consistent with CMS 330 HMI standards. "

If not included in the technical information package, please provided detailed information on the CMS 330 HMI standards.

A27

Detailed Information is not yet available. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time.

If a contract is awarded in the future, if required, DND may provide the HMI Standards to the contractor.

Q28

Reference Section 4, Design Concept for UWSU, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"5. The UWSU system must be designed to achieve the following:

5 (j) provide Tactical Decision Aids which are functionally interfaced with the UWSU sensor suite and capable of automatically using data from sensors or other external sources."

Please provide more detail on the Crown's interpretation of the Tactical Decision Aid for UWSU and their functions. Examples of how the Tactical Decision Aids will be used would be very helpful.

A28

By Tactical Decision Aid, we refer to tools which provide command and operator guidance of employment of sensors and other aspects of combat. Range prediction tools are an example. Specific requirements are intended to be developed for inclusion in a potential future Request for Proposal during the project Definition Stage.

For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to describe current product features as they may apply to this requirement.

Q29

Reference Section 4, Design Concept for UWSU, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"5. The UWSU system must be designed to achieve the following:

5 (k) develop and manage a Recognized Sub-Surface Picture (RSSP) through the fusion of data received by the UWSU sensor suite and other contact information received from CMS 330."

Please provide the definition, description and specification for the RSSP.

A29

Recognized Sub-Surface Picture: A plot compiled to depict sub-surface maritime activity (see Recognized Maritime Picture). The plot typically displays positional data in an x-y format showing positions and identification as applicable.

No specification exists, but may be developed for inclusion in a potential future RFP. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to describe current product features as they may apply to this requirement.

Q30

Reference Section 4, Design Concept for UWSU, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"5. The UWSU system must be designed to achieve the following:

5 (L) contribute to the overall Recognized Maritime Picture (RMP) managed by CMS 330."

Please provide the definition, description and specification for the RMP.

A30

Recognized Maritime Picture: A plot compiled to depict maritime activity (at least in the naval context). The term "recognized" is used to indicate that the picture has been evaluated prior to its dissemination. In other words, rather than having stations simply pass data between themselves, there is a central authority to whom data is forwarded for compilation, evaluation and dissemination as a recognized picture.

No specification exists, but may be developed for inclusion in a potential future Request for Proposal. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to describe current product features as they may apply to this requirement.

Q31

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (a) the SPS must maintain interoperability and compatibility with all domestic and allied sonobuoys with which they will be required to interface."

Please provide a list of all sonobuoys that must be supported.

A31

A preliminary list of sonobuoys to be supported is as follows:

AN/SSQ-36s
AN/SSQ-536G(B)
AN/SSQ-53D(3)
AN/SSQ-553G(B)
AN/SSQ-53F (to replace AN/SSQ-575 functionality)
AN/SSQ-62E

Possibles:

AN/SSQ-47B
Mk-400 Mod 3 SUS
AN/SSQ-565

AN/SSQ-573

A finalized list, dependent on the requirement, feasibility and availability, is intended to be developed for inclusion in a potential future Request for Proposal. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to describe current product features as they may apply to this requirement.

Q32

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (c) processing components of the UWSU Project must interface with CMS 330."

If not included in the technical information package, please provide detailed information on the CMS 330 interfaces.

A32

If a contract is awarded in the future, DND may provide the documentation required to interface the UWSU to the CMS 330. Detailed Information is not yet available. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time.

Q33

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (d) UWSU must make maximum re-use of the existing systems infrastructure such as cabinetry and towed array handling system."

If not included in the technical information package, please provide a list and technical description of the relevant existing systems infrastructure. Also, will the Crown secure and transfer to the supplier all necessary licenses on third party intellectual property to enable maximum re-use of existing infrastructure including but not limited to AN/SQS-510, CMS-330 HMI and interfaces, cabinets, and hardware?

A33

Some of the referenced technical information is provided as part of the information package.

Commercial agreements may be required for some of the intellectual property involved. A procurement strategy, including definition of responsibility for securing access rights has not been defined.

If a contract is awarded in the future DND may provide the documentation required to interface to the equipment that is being re-used.

Q34

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (e) to the extent practical, the UWSU system should not exceed space and weight constraints or cooling and power requirements of existing equipment."

If not included in the technical information package, please supply the "not to be exceeded" space, weight, and power values.

A34

Some of the referenced technical information is provided as part of the information package.

Note that this is a "desirable" requirement. As such, there may be cost or technical reasons for exceeding one or more of these constraints. Therefore, for the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders may choose to describe their current product characteristics as they may apply to this requirement.

Q35

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (g) selection of hardware components for the UWSU system, such as cabinetry, operator consoles, processing equipment should maximize commonality with CMS 330 components."

If not included in the technical information package, please provide technical details on the cabinetry with which commonality is sought.

Is the Crown considering making the cabinetry, processing equipment and operator consoles GFE?

A35

Detailed Information is not yet available. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time. Any equipment that is re-used may be considered as Government Furnished Equipment.

Operator consoles in particular, if chosen to be consistent with standard HCM/FELEX equipment, may be assumed to be Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) for the

purposes of the costing exercise. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to state whatever assumptions are made in developing their response.

Q36

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (g) Commonality with CMS 330 HMI standards is also desired"

If not included in the technical information package, please specify the CMS 330 HMI standards with which the Crown desires commonality and provide detailed information on these standards.

A36

Detailed Information is not yet available. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time. Note that this is a desirable requirement. As such, there may be cost or technical reasons for not complying with this constraint. For the purposes of this Price and Availability request, responders may wish to provide technical and operational information on the HMI standards used on their current products.

Q37

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (i) the system must also be able to function while the ship is not underway."

Please clarify the intent of this requirement. Is it expected that the system, including the towed array, will be fully deployed and operating while the ship is stationary?

A37

Towed equipment such as the towed array is not required to be able to be deployed while stationary. The intent of the requirement is to be able to operate the processing systems, and to a limited extent, operate sensors such as the Hull Mounted Sonar, while stationary.

Q38

Reference Section 11, Constraints, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"11 (L) an own-ship self monitoring system must be provided."

The own-ship self monitoring system is not identified in the Cost Breakdown Table. Would the Crown prefer that the cost of the own-ship self monitoring system be broken out as a separate line item in the Cost Breakdown Table?

A38

It would be helpful if the ownship monitoring system were to be broken out as a separate line item. In the situation where the function is completely implemented in software, with no additional requirement for additional hardware such as processors, it would not be necessary to provide a breakdown based on quantity delivered.

Q39

Reference Section 13, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"Depending on the options selected, a minimum of eight and a maximum of twelve ship-sets will be required for installation on board ship, plus updates to 2 shore based training facilities."

Please identify and describe the specific training systems that are to be updated in the 2 shore-based training facilities.

A39

The Synthetic Environment Advanced Weapon Operations Leadership Facility (SEAWOLF), Synthetic Environment Advanced Combat Operations Trainer (SEACOT), the Maintenance Procedures Trainer (MPT) and the Land-Based Combat System Test and Support Facility (CSTC) are required to be updated. The two shore-based facilities referred to are the Canadian Forces Training establishments for SEAWOLF and SEACOT and the Canadian Forces Naval Engineering School (CFNES) for the CSTC. See also response to Question 40.

Q40

Reference Section 13, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"Updates to the Team Operations Training, individual Operator Training, and Maintenance Procedures Training (MPT) systems are required to be delivered as part of the UWSU Project, including delivery of Initial Cadre Training (ICT)."

If not included in the technical information package, please include technical details of the SEACOT and SEAWOLF trainers to include a description of how the trainers can be "updated" to include new (UWSU) functionality.

A40

Detailed Information is not yet available. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time.

It is considered desirable to integrate with existing training systems being delivered by HCM/FELEX. However, it may be the case that the responder has existing off-the-shelf training products as part of their current offerings which may mean make tight integration could be cost-prohibitive. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, responders are requested to describe current products and state any assumptions that are made as part of their response.

Q41

Reference Section 17, Hull Mounted Sonar Processing, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"The UWSU system must retain the existing functions of the AN/SQS-510, including interfaces to the Underwater Telephone (UWT) and the existing Sonar Performance Figure (SPF) measurement system."

If not included in the technical information package, please provide the specifications describing the interfaces required for the Underwater Telephone (UWT) and the existing Sonar Performance Figure (SPF) measurement system.

A41

Detailed Information will not be provided at this stage. Should an RFP be released in the future, details are anticipated to be available at that time.

The Underwater Telephone is to be interfaced with the Thales TUUM 6. Control and communications between the UWSU System and the UWT is via simple DC signals. UWT reception shall be muted during an active sonar transmission. The mute signal shall be provided to the UWT by the UWSU equipment. The UWT will provide UWSU with an indication of when it is transmitting so that passive sonar data processing can be suspended for the duration of UWT transmission.

The Sonar Performance Testing of the AN/SQS-510 involves two phases that involve interfaces to the AN/SQS-510 System: 1) alongside, the installation of a rotating boom and hydrophone assemblies to the sonar dome to measure sonar transmitter and receiver acoustics characteristics, sensitivities and source levels and 2) at sea, measurement of received noise levels for various machinery states and ships speeds. The purpose is to characterise the performance of the sonar hardware and software.

Interfaces between the Sonar Performance Figure testing system and the AN/SQS-510 are based on RS-232 and MIL STD-1397. Digital and Analog interfaces to the AN/SQS-510 utilize the Microstar DAP 3000A I/O board.

Q42

Reference Section 17, Hull Mounted Sonar Processing, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"17 (a) control and processing of all modes for the existing AN/SQS-510 medium frequency sonar."

Please define the existing 510 modes to be controlled and processed.

A42

Modes to be controlled are Passive Mode, and Continuous Wave (CW) and Frequency Modulated (FM) Active modes, in addition to transmission modes omnidirectional, narrow (10 deg) and wide (30 deg). Other modes to be controlled are the active transmission frequencies and power levels.

Q43

Reference Section 18, Active Intercept, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"This capability must consist of both hull mounted and off board sensors to allow detection above and below the layer."

We understand that some HALIFAX Class ships are fitted with hull mounted sensors for active intercept. Is the Crown considering using these existing sensors and is the Crown considering providing these sensors as GFE to UWSU?

A43

The existing hull mounted sensors used for active intercept on some ships were for technical evaluation, and not for operational use. For the purpose of this Price and Availability request, the responders are requested to assume that these are not GFE, though information regarding the technical evaluations may be made available as part of potential future RFP process. Responders may select other transducers than those used for the evaluation, depending on the detailed technical requirement which will be developed during Definition Stage.

Q44

Reference Section 19, CMS 330 and UWSU System Interface, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"The UWSU system must provide an interface between the Halifax Class CMS 330 and the UWSU processor(s) with a two way connectivity channel for the information transfer to develop the RSSP and contribute to the overall RMP."

Please provide the hardware and software interface specifications for the CMS 330 if they are not already included in the technical information package.

Please specify the open standards and protocols used in the CMS 330 interface and provide the details of these open standards and protocols.

A44

See answer to Question 26.

Detailed hardware and software interface standards are not yet available.

The open standards referred to are Ethernet, TCP/IP, and Red Linux Hat Enterprise.

Q45

Reference Section 19, CMS 330 and UWSU System Interface, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"19. (b) iv all UWW related alert messages."

Please provide a list of all UWW related alert messages

A45

A complete list is not yet available, but will be developed during Definition stage. Typical alert messages include status of deployed gear, depth under keel, array depth, cable full out, transmitter on and possible threat.

Q46

Reference Section 19, CMS 330 and UWSU System Interface, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"19. (b) v UWW related overlays."

Please provide a list of all UWW related overlays

A46

A complete list is not yet available, but will be developed during definition stage. Typical overlays include convergence zones, defined traffic lanes, depth contours etc. For the purposes of this Price and Availability request, industry may wish to provide technical, operational and related ROM costing information on overlays used on current products.

Q47

Reference Section 19, CMS 330 and UWSU System Interface, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"19. (b) vi the Navy Integrated Tactical Environment System 2 Redesigned (NITES2R) software and applications."

Please describe how NITES2R is to be used over this interface. It will also be helpful if the Canadian implementation and "CONOPS" for NITES2R is presented and discussed at the upcoming Industry Days.

A47

This information is not yet available, and will not be available for the Industry day.

NITES2R is anticipated to be running as a remote application in relation to the UWSU System. Though the technical requirements will not be developed until the Definition Stage, the concept at this point would be that UWSU operators would be able to call-up and interact with NITES2R in a pop-up window. The level of data interchange that may be possible or required between UWSU and NITES2R is yet to be determined. This application will not be provided as GFE.

Q48

Reference - Section 20, Combined Underwater Picture, of Annex A - Draft UWSU High Level Requirements

"The integrated UWSU UWW picture must be provided to CMS 330."

Is the "integrated UWSU UWW picture" the same as the RSSP? If not, please explain the difference

A48

The terms "the integrated UWW picture" and "the RSSP" refer to the same thing.

Q49

Reference - Appendix 1 to Annex A, Cost Breakdown Table

"System level efforts"

System level efforts such as project management, system engineering, system integration, FAT, HAT, SAT, installation and set-to-work, are not identified in the Cost Breakdown Table. Does the Crown want these items to be identified and costed separately in the Cost Breakdown Table?

A49

It would be helpful to the Project if these items, separately or in conglomeration, were included in the Cost Breakdown Table.

Note: As stated in the Price and Availability document released on MERX, at this time it is anticipated that the development of installation specifications and the installations themselves would be contracted separately to the applicable shipyard(s), however development of the Interface Control Documents needed to create installation specifications and the subsequent development and participation in each set-to-work will be within scope for a potential future UWSU contractor.