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Scientific, Medical and Photographic Division /
Division de l'équipement scientifique, des produits
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11 Laurier St./ 11 rue, Laurier
6B1, Place du Portage
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

LETTER OF INTEREST
LETTRE D'INTÉRÊT

Title - Sujet RFI for X-Ray Baggage Scanners	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation 21120-140531/A	Date 2013-11-13
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client CSC BPA 1990531	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$\$PV-883-63881
File No. - N° de dossier pv883.21120-140531	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2013-11-29	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard Time EST	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Specified Herein - Précisé dans les présentes Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Saunders, Lynda	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur pv883
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 956-6851 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 956-3814
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: Specified Herein Précisé dans les présentes	

Comments - Commentaires

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

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

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

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Scientific, Medical and Photographic Division / Division
de l'équipement scientifique, des produits photographiques
et pharmaceutiques
11 Laurier St./ 11 rue, Laurier
6B1, Place du Portage
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)
X-RAY BAGGAGE SCANNER RENEWAL PROJECT

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

X-RAY BAGGAGE SCANNER RENEWAL PROJECT

1.0 Background

1.1 Correctional Service Canada

Correctional Service Canada (CSC) is an agency within the portfolio of Public Safety. The portfolio brings together key federal government organizations involved in public safety, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the National Parole Board, the Canada Border Services Agency, the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, and three (3) review bodies.

CSC contributes to public safety through the custody and reintegration of offenders. More specifically, CSC is responsible for administering court-imposed sentences for offenders sentenced to two years or more. This includes both the custodial and community supervision of offenders with Long Term Supervision (LTSOs) for periods of up to 10 years. CSC is currently responsible for approximately 15,000 inmates and 8,000 offenders actively supervised in the community.

CSC has a presence from coast to coast, in large urban centres with increasingly diverse populations, to more remote Inuit communities across the North. CSC manages institutions, treatment centres, Aboriginal healing lodges, community correctional centres, and parole offices. In addition, CSC has five regional headquarters (RHQ) that provide management and administrative support and serve as the delivery arm of CSC's programs and services. CSC also manages an addictions research centre, a correctional management learning centre, regional staff colleges, and national headquarters.

1.2 X-Ray Baggage Scanner Renewal Project

Correctional Service Canada (CSC) has a requirement to install and/or replace x-ray scanners for the detection of contraband (hereinafter referred to as "Scanners") used at a number of its federal correctional facilities (hereinafter referred to as "Institutions"). These Scanners are used to scan packages and material entering the Institution for contraband substances and items.

The construction of new living units at some Institutions as well as the need to replace front-line Scanners that have reached the end of their service life has created the requirement for CSC to acquire new Scanners.

With the evolving security profile of CSC and the Ministry of Public Safety in general, CSC has decided to investigate the next generation of x-ray scanning technology in the security sector. There have been recent advancements in the way x-ray scanning devices perform their function and CSC wishes to explore the advantages and disadvantages of adopting these new approaches.

At this preliminary stage, CSC is examining all options to fulfil the requirements of this project.

1.3 Objectives of this Request for Information (RFI)

The purpose of this RFI is to obtain feedback from industry so that CSC can better define its requirement for an eventual solicitation. This feedback will assist CSC in ensuring that its requirements are in-line with industry standards.

2.0 The RFI Process

2.1 Nature of the RFI

This RFI is intended to:

1. Invite industry experts and potential suppliers of relevant products and services to provide input to CSC's requirements or to re-align CSC's expectations with industry capability, experience, and direction.
2. Invite potential suppliers to express the degree of interest that they may have in participating in any solicitation that may be issued for x-ray baggage scanners in the future.

This is not a bid solicitation. This RFI will not result in the award of any contract.

As a result, potential suppliers of any goods or services described in this RFI should not reserve stock or facilities, nor allocate resources, as a result of any information contained in this RFI. Nor will this RFI result in the creation of any source list. Therefore, whether or not any potential supplier responds to this RFI will not preclude that supplier from participating in any future procurement.

Also, the procurement of any of the goods and services described in this RFI may not necessarily follow this RFI. This RFI is simply intended to solicit feedback from industry with respect to the matters described in this RFI.

2.2 Nature and Format of Responses Requested

Respondents are requested to provide their comments, concerns, and, where applicable, alternative recommendations regarding how the requirements or objectives described in this RFI could be satisfied. Respondents should explain any assumptions they make in their responses.

There is no formal structure or format that a response to this RFI should meet. The Respondent should feel free to submit whatever information it feels would make a useful and relevant contribution to CSC's analysis of this project and the development of solicitation documents to procure a product or products to fulfill its requirements.

Respondents are requested to provide their responses to the questions in sufficient detail.

RESPONSES ARE NOT TO CONTAIN ANY REFERENCE TO A RESPONDENT'S SPECIFIC PRICING. Respondents should explain any assumptions they make in their responses.

Canada only requests that any submissions to this RFI cite the question appearing below to which the Respondent's information pertains. This will aid CSC's personnel in the gathering and collating of submitted information addressing specific areas of the project.

2.3 Response Costs

Canada will not reimburse any Respondent for expenses incurred in responding to this RFI.

2.4 Treatment of Responses

2.4.1 Use of Responses

Responses will not be formally evaluated. However, the responses received may be used by Canada to develop or modify procurement strategies or any draft documents contained in this RFI. Canada will review all responses received by the RFI closing date. Canada may, at its discretion, review responses received after the RFI closing date.

2.4.2 Review Team

A review team composed of representatives of Canada will review the responses. Canada reserves the right to hire any independent consultant, or use any Government resources that it considers necessary to review any response. Not all members of the review team will necessarily review all responses.

2.4.3 Confidentiality

Respondents should mark any portions of their response that they consider proprietary or confidential. Canada will handle the responses in accordance with the Access to Information Act.

2.4.4 Follow-up Activity

Canada may, in its discretion, contact any Respondents to follow up with additional questions or for clarification of any aspect of a response. Canada may invite one, some, or all of the Respondents to present their submissions and/or perform a product demonstration for Canada. Canada is not obliged to invite any Respondents for this further exploration nor are any Respondents obliged to participate.

2.5 Enquiries

Because this is not a bid solicitation, Canada will not necessarily respond to enquiries in writing or by circulating answers to all Respondents. However, Respondents with questions regarding this RFI may direct their enquiries to:

Contracting Authority: Lynda Saunders
Address: Public Works and Government Services Canada
Acquisitions Branch
Commercial Consumer Products Directorate
11 Laurier Street, 6A2, Place du Portage Phase III
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0S5
E-mail Address: lynda.c.saunders@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca
Telephone: (819) 956-6851
Facsimile: (819) 956-3814

2.6 Submission of Responses

- (a) **Time and Place for Submission of Responses:** Respondents should send responses to the Contracting Authority's identified at 2.5 by the date specified on the front page of the RFI.
- (b) **Responsibility for Timely Delivery:** Each respondent is solely responsible for ensuring its response is delivered on time to the correct location.
- (c) **Identification of Response:** Each respondent should ensure that its name and return address, the solicitation number and the closing date appear legibly on the outside of the response.

3.0 CSC Requirements

The following is a list of high-level requirements CSC has identified for the new Scanners. This list was developed through a preliminary examination of the factors driving the need for a solution from the field and from organizations within the Ministry of Public Safety. These requirements are representative of the initial visioning of replacement Scanners and will be subject to more intense consideration and, possibly, modification throughout the development of the project.

The Scanners should:

1. Perform a normal scan on an object at least 38.1cm wide by 25.4cm high and of indeterminate length.
2. Provide an enhanced scanning method beyond that employed by standard Scanners (i.e. single-source, single receiver, black-and-white 2D image) that allows operators a superior result from a single scan of an object.
3. Achieve x-ray penetration of at least 26 mm of steel with each scan.
4. Produce an image of each scan with a resolution of at least 36 AWG solid copper wire.
5. Operate from a standard 120V/15A AC electrical outlet without any adapters or on-site modification.
6. Comply with the applicable safety standards, such as the *Radiation Emitting Devices Act* and *Health Canada Safety Code 29 – Requirements for the Safe Use of Baggage X-Ray Inspection Systems*.
7. Under its own power and without any action by the operator other than placing an object to be examined at the receiving area of the Scanner, must be able to transport an object through its scanning tunnel, perform the scan, and pass the object through the tunnel to an area where the object can be retrieved by the operator.
8. Allow the operator to manipulate the image such that the full range of image contrast made available by the scan can be viewed at various levels of intensity. This function will not require the object(s) to be scanned again.
9. Allow the operator to rotate the image on the monitor without having to adjust the object in the scanner and perform additional scans.
10. Photograph an object being scanned and retain information on that object in a single log record for each scan. Log files should be stored locally for at least 30 days.

11. Transmit stored scans and data to an external data storage appliance, including but not limited to, a computer, hard-drive, or removable media device.
12. Display information in both official languages: English and French.

4.0 Areas of Specific Interest

These are the key elements of the X-Ray Baggage Scanner Renewal Project for which CSC is seeking feedback. Though respondents are invited to make any comments or suggestions freely, CSC does request that Respondents comment specifically on the subjects addressed in the questions below. CSC also requests that Respondents indicate the number of the question listed below that their responses pertain to.

1. Considering the information provided about the Scanners above (Section 3.0), how does your organization suggest CSC proceed in the design, development, and implementation of this project?
2. Please identify all requirements set out in the information about the Scanners above that your organization cannot meet or provide. For each element that your organization cannot meet or provide, please propose an alternative solution.
3. In order to meet the enhanced security profile being implemented throughout CSC and organizations within the Ministry of Public Safety, CSC desires Scanners that can produce images from a scan that will provide more information as to the contents of an object being examined. What technologies does your organization employ to provide an enhanced scan of objects passed through the Scanner? Please provide as much information as you deem relevant to ensure CSC has a thorough understanding of:
 - a. the technology;
 - b. its benefits;
 - c. its disadvantages;
 - d. the history of its development;
 - e. the cost differential between it and a standard Scanner, and
 - f. the breadth of its deployment to your client base.
4. CSC has embarked upon a single, internally-delivered training program for all front-line Correctional Officers at all Institutions across Canada. Is your organization able to provide the administrators of this training program with a single comprehensive "train-the-trainer" operator training session? Is your organization able to provide the administrators of this training program with training materials that can be segmented and modified for incorporation into the training program to be delivered by CSC?
5. Please describe the supply chain organization of your proposed product. Are fully functional machines, spare parts, and peripherals stored at a warehouse or distribution centres? If so, where are those warehouses/distribution centres located? What affect on response times to client issues does the location of your supply have? What Canadian presence does your organization have?
6. Please describe the maintenance and service model your organization favours. Is it possible that CSC maintenance resources would be qualified to perform first-line maintenance on the Scanners? Is there a maintenance or service certification that first-line maintenance personnel would need to have in order to perform the work?

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21120-140531/A

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

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pv88321120-140531

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

pv883

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CSC BPA 1990531

7. How is your organization positioned in the industry with regard to the provision, configuration, and installation of Scanners as described in Section 3.0?
8. Are there any important considerations that you feel need to be added to our understanding of the possible with regard to Scanners should CSC wish to proceed?