

RETURN BIDS TO:
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:
Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des soumissions
- TPSGC
Place du Portage, Phase III
Core 0A1/Noyau 0A1
11 Laurier St./11, rue Laurier
Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5
Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

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
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution
Shared Systems Division (XL)/Division des systèmes
partagés (XL)
4C1, Place du Portage Phase III
11 Laurier St./11, rue Laurier
Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet ICEMS 2 APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation G7421-090186/C	Amendment No. - N° modif. 001
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client G7421-090186	Date 2014-12-22
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$XL-116-28251	
File No. - N° de dossier 116xl.G7421-090186	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2015-01-30	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard Time EST	
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: Yang, Annie	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 116xl
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 956-1560 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 953-3703
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CANADA 140 PROMENADE DU PORTAGE GATINEAU QC J8X 4B6 CANADA	

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

G7421-090186/C

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

001

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

116x1

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

G7421-090186

File No. - N° du dossier

116x1G7421-090186

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

Please see the attached.

**THE SOLICITATION AMENDMENT #001 IS RAISED TO MODIFY THE BID SOLICITATION
AND TO ANSWER QUESTIONS FROM THE INDUSTRY.**

MODIFICATION # 001

Reference: Bid Closing Date

Modification # 001:

The Bid Closing Date is hereby extended from January 14, 2015 to January 30, 2015.

MODIFICATION # 002

Reference: Article 1.17 in Annex A - Statement of Work (SOW)

Modification # 002

Article 1.17 is hereby modified to read as follows:

“The Contractor’s Project Team must be available to meet with the ICEMS 2 Stakeholders’ Representative Team (as described in 5.8 of this SoW), on a daily basis from Task 1 through Task 10 and up to once a month during Tasks 11, 12 and 13. At the Client’s sole discretion, the meeting could be held in person, or electronically using various mediums (i.e. teleconference, Webex, Lync, etc.).”

MODIFICATION # 003

Reference: French translation of Bidder Response Form in Article 3.2(c), 3.2g(iii) in Part 3 and article 4.2(a) in Part 4

Modification # 003

Any reference of "formulaire de justification à l'appui de la conformité" is hereby deleted and replaced by "formulaire de réponse du soumissionnaire".

MODIFICATION # 004

Reference: Article 1 of Notes to Bidder in Table A - Mandatory Requirement M7 and M8 in Form 2 - Bidder Response Form

Modification # 004

Article 1 of Notes to Bidder is hereby modified to read as follows:

"The bidder must provide a description and customer reference for the project as required in RFP Part III, 3.2 (g)."

MODIFICATION # 005

Reference: Article 1 of R1, R2 and R4 Criteria in Table B - Rated Requirement in Form 2 - Bidder Response Form

Modification # 005

Article 1 of Criteria in R1, R2 and R4 is hereby modified to read as follows:

“The bidder must provide a description and customer reference for the project as required in RFP Part III, 3.2 (g).”

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question # 001

Reference: Bid Closing Date

Question:

The holiday period, together with mandatory office closures and extensive vacation arrangements of a significant portion of our team poses a risk and will impact the ability to submit a response by January 14, 2015. In order to level the playing field for all Vendors who may also be challenged by the current due date, it is requested that the Crown please consider extending the closing date to February 6, 2015.

Answer:

Canada has reviewed the request and has granted an extension of the bid solicitation closing date until **January 30, 2015**

Please refer to Modification no. 001 in this Bid Solicitation Amendment.

Question # 002

Reference: Article 1.17 Annex A - SOW

Question:

In regards to section 1.17 (footer page 5, PDF document page 69) where it indicates “The Contractor’s Project Team must be available to physically meet with the ICEMS 2 Stakeholders’ Representative Team (as described in 5.8 of this SoW), on a daily basis from Task 1 through Task 10, and up to once a month during Tasks 11, 12 and 13.”, we would like to request the following amendment and clarification. Would the Minister consider amending this request to allow for the Contractor Project Team to meet via teleconference or other online tools such as WebEx or Lync? This change would benefit the Minister from a financial stand point and we feel it will not reduce the effectiveness of collaboration. Alternatively, can we assume the “Contractor’s Project Team” may be a single representative such as the Project Manager that is available to meet daily/monthly?

Answer:

Yes, meetings could be held using various mediums (i.e. teleconference, Webex, Lync, etc.). Please refer to Modification no. 002 in this Bid Solicitation Amendment.

Daily and monthly meetings with the “Contractor’s Project Team” could only require the presence of the Contractor’s Project Manager. But, as per section 6.15.4 of the SoW, if the ICEMS 2 Technical Authority makes a request 24 hours in advance of the review meeting, the Contractor must make specific personnel available to attend the review meeting.

Question # 003

Reference: Annex B, Table 1 (pricing)

Question:

In Annex B, Table 1 (pricing) the following resource categories are listed:

- 1 IT Project Manager
- 2 Senior IT Architect
- 3 Senior Application Developer
- 4 Application Developer
- 5 Senior Infrastructure Support Analyst
- 6 Infrastructure Support Analyst
- 7 Senior Database Analyst
- 8 IT Services Management Analyst
- 9 Security Systems Consultant
- 10 Tester
- 11 Services Manager
- 12 Senior Business Analyst
- 13 Business Analyst
- 14 IBM Cognos Analyst
- 15 Technical Writer
- 16 French Translation Analyst

In Annex A, Section 7 the above listed resources have technical requirements defined.

In "Form 2 – Bidder Response" evaluation tables, only the following resources appear:

1. IT Project Manager
2. Senior IT Architect
3. Senior Application Developer
4. Senior Business Analyst

Can you confirm that for the RFP response resumes and tables only need to be completed for those resources listed in "Form 2 – Bidder Response" and that we need to have resources available for all positions listed in Annex A and B, but as part of the RFP response do not need to provide each individuals resume?

Answer:

Yes , resources must be available for all positions listed in Annex A and B to perform the contract but as part of the RFP response, only resumes and tables for those resources listed in "Form 2 – Bidder Response Form need to be completed and provided.

Question # 004

Reference: Bid Closing Date

Question:

Would you consider a 2 week submission deadline extension to January 28th?

Answer:

Canada has reviewed the request and has granted an extension of the bid solicitation closing date until **January 30, 2015**

Please refer to Modification no. 001 in this Bid Solicitation Amendment.

Question # 005

Reference: --

Question:

What technology is being used today for the current ICEMS solution?

Answer:

The network technology being used for the current ICEMS solution is found in Annex A, SoW, Section 8- Current ICEMS 1 Network Diagram. The following is a non-exhaustive list of technologies used:

the ICEMS 1 Production, Training and Test all run fundamentally on one server - a Fujitsu Primergy RX300 S2, with 16 GB memory and 1800 GB hard disk, running Microsoft's Windows Server 2005 Standard Edition, SQL Server 2005 Standard Edition, Office 2003, Adobe 10, VMWare VI3, Cognos 8.2 BI, Crystal Reports 8, plus other minor software utilities.

Question # 006

Reference: --

Question:

What database technology is being used? What will be the method of data extraction?

Answer:

The database technology being used is Microsoft SQL Server 2005, Standard Edition. It is expected the bulk of the data extraction will be accomplished programmatically but will be finalized as per Annex A SoW Sections 6.10.1, 6.10.2, and 6.10.3

Question # 007

Reference: --

Question:

Will all ICEMS content need to be migrated, including exam questions, scoring criteria, and historical results?

Answer:

Yes

Question # 008

Reference: --

Question:

How many resources support the solution today?

Answer:

Currently the ICEMS 1 Project Team consists of primarily one full-time Senior Application Developer, a part-time Infrastructure Analyst and a part-time Database Analyst. The composition of the Project Team fluctuates according to the Enhancements through Task Authorizations. The Professional Services Resource Estimated Days shown in Table 3 of Annex B are consistent with the resource days used in ICEMS 1 over the years when only minor enhancements are being performed during a year.

Question # 009

Reference: --

Question:

Are you open to Open Source solutions?

Answer:

Yes, bidders are encouraged to suggest innovative solutions, which may be selected for use at Canada's sole discretion as described in Annex A SoW Sections 1.3.1, 3.2.1, and 3.3.1. Further, note that development and data base tools must be equivalent to the suggested solutions as described in Annex A SoW Section 10.4.2.

Question # 010

Reference: --

Question:

Are you open to Cloud Based solutions?

Answer:

Yes, bidders are encouraged to suggest innovative solutions, which may be selected for use at Canada's sole discretion as described in Annex A SoW Sections 1.3.1, 3.2.1, and 3.3.1. Further, note that development and data base tools must be equivalent to the suggested solutions as described in Annex A SoW Section 10.4.2.

Question # 011

Reference: --

Question:

Do you expect that a review and validation of the requirements will need to be performed?

Answer:

Yes a review of most current Requirements will be required as part of development of detailed Specifications as described in Annex A SoW Section 6.2.10

Question # 012

Reference: --

Question:

Can you share the architecture documents that have been developed?

Answer:

A potential Architecture diagram is provided in Annex A SoW Section 9. It is provided as a guideline and will be finalized as part of Task 2 as described in Annex A SoW Section 6.3. Further direction on architecture may be found in Annex A SoW Section 4.8.

Question # 013

Reference: --

Question:

Who are the system stakeholders?

Answer:

The Stakeholders include Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC) and the Canadian Council of Directors of Apprenticeship (CCDA). CCDA is comprised of representatives of Provinces/Territories and ESDC, as described in Annex A SoW Sections 1.1, 1.2, and 2.3.

Question # 014

Reference: --
Question: Would the Crown be open to providing a demo of the current solution prior to the RFP deadline date?
Answer: No

Question # 015

Reference: --
Question: Is there an opportunity for one on one sessions with service providers prior to the RFP deadline date?
Answer: No

Question # 016

Reference: --
Question: Are there any integration points with existing or future planned systems that need to be considered?
Answer: Full review of the requirements will be required as described in Annex A SoW Section 6.2.10. Further future direction is highlighted in Annex A, SoW, 4.8.

Question # 017

Reference: --
Question: Given the Xmas holidays and the fact many internal / partner resources will not be available during the period December 22 – January 5, we would respectfully request a two week extension to this RFP.
Answer: Canada has reviewed the request and has granted an extension of the bid solicitation closing date until January 30, 2015 Please refer to Modification no. 001 in this Bid Solicitation Amendment

Question # 018

Reference: Article 7.6.6 in Annex A - Statement of Work (SOW) and M29 in Form 2- Bidder Response Form

Question:

The criteria for the IT Solution Architect role includes a requirement for a “Microsoft Certified IT Professional (MCITP) or **equivalent.**” Would the Crown please provide examples of what would be considered a compliant equivalent?

Answer:

Canada is looking for professional certifications relevant to an IT solution Architect. For a Microsoft solution, an example of an equivalent to a MCITP would be a Microsoft Certified Solutions Expert (MCSE). For a Java solution or an alternate solution proposed by the Bidder, certification relevant to the technology would be considered compliant equivalent

Question # 019

Reference: M7, Table A - Mandatory Requirement, Form 2 - Bidder Response Form

Question:

Under M7 the following statement appears:
“The bidder must provide a description and customer reference for the project as required in RFP Part III, 3.2 (a)(vii and viii)”
Upon reviewing the RFP, Part III, Section 3.2, it is not clear where points (vii) and (viii) are located. Please clarify.

Answer:

Notes to Bidder 1 under M7 in Bidder Response Form is hereby modified to read as follows:

“The bidder must provide a description and customer reference for the project as required in RFP Part III, 3.2 (g).”

Please refer to Modification # 004 in this Bid Solicitation Amendment.

Question # 020

Reference: --

Question:

Is there or has there been in the past six months an incumbent company / organization currently supporting / hosting the ICEMS 1 application? If so, could we please know the name of the company along with the duration / value of the contract(s)?

Answer:

The ICEMS 1 contract was awarded in March 2000. Please refer to the following link for the latest contract history including the information on the current contractor and the contract value.

https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/search/site/V7422-8-0111?retain-filters=1&f%5B0%5D=sm_facet_procurement_data%3Adata_data_ch

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME