

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 0B2 / Noyau 0B2
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
Informatics Professional Services - EL
Division/Services professionnels en informatique -
division EL
4C2, Place du Portage
Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet Informatics Professional Services	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EN869-150630/A	Amendment No. - N° modif. 010
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 20150630	Date 2015-06-08
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$EL-632-28860	
File No. - N° de dossier 632el.EN869-150630	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2015-06-18	
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: Lapalme, Francis	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 632el
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 956-5181 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 956-5925
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction:	

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

EN869-150630/A

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

20150630

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.

010

File No. - N° du dossier

632e1EN869-150630

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur

632e1

CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No/ N° VME

SEE DOCUMENT ATTACHED

SOLICITATION AMENDMENT No. 010
RFP No. EN869-150630/A

The following is raised to provide clarification in response to questions received and to extend the bid solicitation closing date from June 11th, 2015 at 2:00pm EDT to June 18th, 2015 at 2:00pm EDT.

Q1 It is very common for global / large professional services firms with operations in Canada to self-insure. As a result, the ‘insurer’ is often not carrying on business within Canada as is currently required by the RFP. Would the Crown consider modifying the language of clause 7.15(a)(iii) to remedy this issue for such firms by adding the following wording: “or an equivalent based on the requisite insurance reasonably available within Canada as generally accepted in the Contractor’s industry” ?

As the RFP stands now, the wording inadvertently limits certain capable suppliers of bidding this opportunity. By adding the suggested wording, it would open this opportunity up to firms who are otherwise precluded from bidding as the RFP stands now, while achieving the same objectives.

A1 *Canada has considered your request. However, clause 7.15(a)(iii) will remain unchanged.*

Q2 The Crown has asked for a “certified true copy of all applicable insurance policies”. Many of these policies are confidential and the common practice is for the Crown to ask for a Certificate of Insurance. Would the Crown modify this requirement by allowing a Certificate of Insurance, as opposed to the policy itself. This is the current standard within the Government of Canada solicitations.

A2 *Canada has considered your request. However, clause 7.15(a)(iii) will remain unchanged.*

Q3 In Amendment 8, it was indicated that “*the contract value is defined as the amount specified in the limitation of expenditure, plus Applicable Taxes*” and the changed criteria still references invoicing. We are seeking clarification about what is required at the time of proposal submission. Please confirm that to comply with M1:

1. A bidder does not need to have billed/invoiced \$5M worth of services against the contract presented.
2. No invoices or billing summaries need to be submitted with the proposal.

Further, please confirm that this requirement be satisfied with the cover page of the awarded contract, provided that it shows:

- it is for informatics professional services for a government client

- the award date, awarded value, unique contract number
- Contact authority (name, phone, email of person who can confirm details including invoicing).

A3 *Canada confirms that in order to comply with M1, a bidder does not need to have billed/invoiced \$5M worth of services against the contract presented.*

Canada also confirms that no invoices or billing summaries need to be submitted with the proposal.

To comply with requirement M1, the submission of the cover page of the awarded contract will not be found acceptable.

Q4 Please confirm that to comply with M2 and R1, a Bidder does not need to provide copies of invoices or billing summaries with their proposal at the time of bid closing. The Bidder must complete Appendix A of Attachment B RFP Billable Days Response Table and, by providing a response, certifies the dates and number of billable days. Appendix B of Attachment B, RFP Contract Reference Form must be completed in its entirety but it does not require the inclusion of invoices or billing summaries. In other words, proof of the stated billings is only necessary if requested by Canada per 3.2 Section I Technical Bid (iv).

A4 *Please see A3.*

Q5 For R1, if a Bidder presents 100 days against a minimum requirement of 50 days for a given category but the reference verified the number was actually 98 or 104, how will this be handled? Will the revised number be considered in the evaluation? If the Bidder was otherwise compliant, would they be penalized or found non-compliant for this kind of administrative error?

A5 *The revised number, if applicable, will be considered in the evaluation.*

Q6 Due to the scope and size of this solicitation, we would like to respectfully request an extension to the current closing date. Would the crown please consider extending the closing date of this solicitation to June 18th?

A6 *Please see the amended bid solicitation closing date on the cover page of this Solicitation Amendment.*

Q7 Due to the large volume of RFPs and current client commitments, would the Crown consider extending the due date of this RFP to June 18?

A7 *Please see the amended bid solicitation closing date on the cover page of this Solicitation Amendment.*

Q8 We respectfully request a two week extension in order to submit a complete and compliant bid for EN869-150630/A.

A8 *Please see the amended bid solicitation closing date on the cover page of this Solicitation Amendment.*

Q9 In light of Amendment 9, in terms of format for M1 will you confirm that an email with all the required details (rather than a letter per se) is acceptable?

A9 *An email will not be found acceptable.*

Q10

- a) Amendment 6, Answer 4, in reference to M1, defined Government as Government of Canada and/or foreign governments. Please confirm in order for Vendors to reference work undertaken outside of Canada must still have been delivered by the Legal Entity as it is registered under TBIPS SA# EN578-055605/E. For example, a large multinational company has offices outside of Canada, but conducts business in Canada under a Canadian Legal Entity, and is registered under the TBIPS Supply Arrangement using this Canadian Legal Entity. In this case, the company can only reference corporate project references outside of Canada if they were performed by the Legal Entity as it is registered under TBIPS SA# EN578-055605/E. Is this a correct statement?
- b) Similarly, RFP Clause 1.2 (f) (page 7 of the RFP) states that “SA Holders that are invited to compete as a joint venture must submit a bid as that joint venture SA Holder, forming no other joint venture to bid. Any joint venture must be already qualified under the SA #EN578-055605/E as that joint venture at the time of bid closing in order to submit a bid.” Please confirm that all Corporate Project References requirements within RFP EN869-150630/A must have been carried out by a Canadian Legal Entity (including Joint Ventures) and is registered under the TBIPS Supply Arrangement, SA #EN578-055605/E, using this Canadian Legal Entity.

A10

- a) *Yes. In order for Vendors to reference work undertaken outside of Canada, the work must have been delivered by the Legal Entity registered under TBIPS SA #EN578-055605/E.*

b) All Corporate Project References requirements within RFP EN869-150630/A must have been carried out by a Legal Entity (including Joint Ventures) registered under the TBIPS Supply Arrangement, SA #EN578-055605/E, using that same Legal Entity.

Q11 MT1 reads: “*The Bidder must have been awarded at least three (3) Informatics professional services* contracts, two (2) of which were for a Government client**.* To be accepted, each of these contracts must have: 1. been awarded within the past five (5) years prior to the solicitation closing date; and 2. a minimum value of \$5,000,000.00. The Bidder must submit for each contract: (1) A letter from its client (referencing a contract award date and a contract serial number or other unique contract identifier) that shows that the Bidder is providing or has provided such services in the amount of \$5,000,000.00 minimum; and”

It is a very uncommon ask from the Crown to request experience based on Contract Award, from our experience it is more common for departments to request experience from the project start date. Our concern is with the limitation on the projects being placed on the “Contract Award Date”. Many contracts are awarded weeks or months prior to the commencement of work and therefore Bidders may have relevant similar project references where the actual contract was awarded more than 5 years ago (prior to May 28, 2010 per stipulation in Amendment #4) but the work itself has been performed or is still being performed within the last 5 years. We wish to suggest that in order for the Crown to receive from bidders these very similar and relevant work samples that the requirement be changed to allow projects that have been performed within the last 5 years to be considered compliant and not to limit the criteria to the actual contract award date. Work performed within the last 5 years will be relevant to the Crowns’ requirements even if the actual award date may be outside of that timeframe.

A11 *Canada has considered your request. However, criterion M1 of Streams 1 and 2 will remain unchanged.*

Q12 Given there remain submitted questions on this solicitation that have yet to be answered, we respectfully request a two week extension on the above mentioned solicitation to allow PWGSC sufficient time to answer remaining questions and bidders sufficient time to incorporate the results of these questions into their responses.

A12 *Please see the amended bid solicitation closing date on the cover page of this Solicitation Amendment.*

Q13 Due to the large volume of RFPs and in order for us to compile a quality response, would the Crown consider extending the due date by one week to June 18?

A13 *Please see the amended bid solicitation closing date on the cover page of this Solicitation Amendment.*

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1. At Article **2.2 Submission of Bids** of the RFP, amend as follows:

DELETE Paragraph (a) in its entirety.

INSERT:

- (a) **Location and Time for Delivery of Bid:** Due to the nature of this solicitation, bids submitted by facsimile or electronic mail will not be accepted. Bids must not be sent directly to the Contracting Authority. Bids sent directly to the Contracting Authority will not be considered.

Bids must be delivered to the following location, by the time and date indicated below:

Department of Public Works and Government Services Canada
Bid Receiving Unit
Portage III, 0B2, 11 Laurier Street
Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0S5

Solicitation Closes:

At 02:00 PM On 2015 06 18 Time Zone: Eastern Daylight Saving Time

Bid Receiving Unit Address is Solely for Delivery of Bids: The above address is for the sole purpose of bid submission. No other communications are to be forwarded to this address.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.