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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
Miscellaneous Special Projects Division (XN)/Division
des projets spéciaux divers (XN)
Canadian Building
219 Laurier Ave. West, 13th Floor
Room 13077
Ottawa
Ontario
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet e-Procurement Solution (EPS)	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation EN578-131350/H	Amendment No. - N° modif. 034
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 20131350	Date 2016-11-28
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$XN-111-30112	
File No. - N° de dossier 111xn.EN578-131350	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2016-12-21	
Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Standard Time EST	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
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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

Request for Proposal (RFP)**Solicitation Amendment: 034****Purpose:**

The purpose of this amendment is to extend the closing date of this Request for Proposals (RFP), amend the RFP and provide answers to questions received with regards to this RFP. Canada has reviewed industry's feedback with regards to amendment #033 and has re-assessed several elements. These reassessments are reflected in this amendment #034.

(A) CHANGES**CHANGE: 215**

Under subsection (ii) e-Procurement Solution Operational of section 7.10.1 Basis of Payment,

DELETE: The EPS Operational Firm Lot Monthly Price is payable monthly and begins in the month subsequent to the successful completion (and Canada's acceptance) of milestones #1, #2 & #3 of the EPS Transition-In phase.

INSERT: The EPS Operational Firm Lot Monthly Price is payable monthly and begins in the month subsequent to the successful completion (and Canada's acceptance) of milestones #1 & #2 of the EPS Transition-In phase.

CHANGE: 216

Under subsection (ii) e-Procurement Solution Operational of section 7.10.1 Basis of Payment,

DELETE: The EPS Operational Firm Unit Prices are payable monthly for actual usage, beginning in the month subsequent to the successful completion (and Canada's acceptance) of milestones #1, #2 & #3 of the EPS Transition-In phase.

INSERT: The EPS Operational Firm Unit Prices are payable monthly for actual usage, beginning in the month subsequent to the successful completion (and Canada's acceptance) of milestones #1 & #2 of the EPS Transition-In phase.

CHANGE: 217

At Annex 1, section 1.2.3 Solution Vision and Deployment Approach,

DELETE:

The first gate of this approach includes the delivery of:

- plans and the solution environment, as articulated in Milestones #1 and #2; and
- a working baseline solution implemented (Milestone #6) with the Acquisitions Program (Acquisitions Branch and the 5 PWGSC Regional offices) of PWGSC and the Finance and Administration Branch (FAB) of PWGSC, as articulated in Milestones #3, #4 and #5.

Following the delivery of Milestone #6, Canada will evaluate if the EPS is meeting the desired objectives and report the results to senior government officials.

INSERT:

The first gate of this approach includes the delivery of:

- plans and the solution environment, as articulated in Milestones #1 and #2; and
- a working baseline solution implemented (Milestone #7) with the Acquisitions Program (Acquisitions Branch and the 5 PWGSC Regional offices) of PWGSC and the Finance and Administration Branch (FAB) of PWGSC, as articulated in Milestones #3, #4, #5 and #6.

Following the delivery of Milestone #7, Canada will evaluate if the EPS is meeting the desired objectives and report the results to senior government officials.

CHANGE: 218

At Annex 1, section 3.8 *SECTION G - BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE*, sub section 3.8.2 *Requirements*, in the *Requirement* column of G-01.09, delete:

iv. PDF

CHANGE: 219

At Annex 1 – *Statement of Work*, section 4.3.2.3 *Technical Interoperability*, delete:

g) ABAC

CHANGE: 220

At Annex 1, section 4.4 *EPS TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS*, sub section 4.4.2 *Technical Requirements*, delete requirement Tech.12 in its entirety.

CHANGE: 221

At Annex 1, section 4.4 *EPS TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS*, sub section 4.4.2 *Technical Requirements*, delete requirement Tech.22 in its entirety and replace with:

to support a single login within the EPS domain.

CHANGE: 222

At Annex 1 – *Statement of Work*, section 4.5.1.1 *Group 1: GC users*, insert:

Canada is in the process of acquiring a new ICAS to replace myKey. Once the ICAS is ready, Canada may exercise a Task Authorization for integration between the EPS and the ICAS. Canada may consider an alternative to myKey as an interim solution to the GC's ICAS provided that it meets the required Level of Assurance.

CHANGE: 223

At Annex 1, section 6.10 *MILESTONES*, delete:

The Contractor must complete milestones #1 and #2 within 4 months of Contract Award. Following milestones #1 and #2, Canada may delay implementation of subsequent milestones, for example to help ensure Canada is fully prepared for a given milestone. Canada will provide a notice to the Contractor to authorize the commencement of each milestones #3 through #6 by means of a Task Authorization.

Should these delays in the initiation of the Work prevent the Contractor from implementing and delivering the milestones within the timeframes of the approved plans, the Contractor may adjust the milestone(s) date(s), up to a period equal to that of the delay.

Canada will ensure that it will complete its authorization process for milestones #3 through #6 in sufficient time to allow the Contractor to complete the milestones, based on the approved plans and the milestone date adjustment process above, within 60 months from Contract Award.

Should the delays outlined above occur, the EPS Transition-In Firm Lot Price as well as the respective percentage of the Firm Lot Price paid upon completion of each milestone, as described in the Basis of Payment, shall remain unchanged.

CHANGE: 224

At Annex 1, delete sections *6.10.6 Milestone #6 - Fully Operational Baseline* and *6.11. Optional Milestones* in their entirety and replace with:

6.10.6 Milestone #6 – Service Procurement Management for the GC

The Contractor must complete Milestone #6 within 24 months of Contract Award. This milestone will be considered to be achieved when the following work is accepted by the Project Authority:

- a) The functionality described in *Section 3.6 Service Procurement Management* has been, in accordance with the Statement of Work, configured, tested, completed the SA&A process for the release, deployed into production in both official languages, and piloted;
- b) The Contractor has delivered the elements of the project management plan, Organizational Change Management Strategy, Supplier Enablement Plan, Change Management Plan, Training Plan, Training Delivery, Transition-In Plan and the Transition-In Delivery applicable to the delivery within PWGSC of the functionalities described in *Section 3.6 Service Procurement Management*; and
- c) 100 SOW Based Services Procurement Contracts / Orders have been awarded using the EPS.

6.10.7 Milestone #7 – Fully Operational Baseline

The Contractor must complete Milestone #7 within 24 months of Contract Award. This milestone is considered to be achieved when the Acquisitions Program (Acquisitions Branch and the 5 PWGSC Regional offices) of PWGSC and the Finance and Administration Branch (FAB) of PWGSC have been fully transitioned onto the functionality and the Contractor has delivered all the Work described in the SOW, with the exception of Transition-Out Services as defined in section *6.8.3 Transition-Out Services*, the Work described in Part 7.0 Optional Services, the Work described in Milestone #8 – GETS, and the Contractor has submitted a report substantiating that the Work, inclusive of the report, has been complete, and the Work has been accepted by the Project Authority.

6.10.8 Milestone #8 – Government Electronic Tendering Service (GETS)

The Contractor must complete Milestone #8 within 48 months of Contract Award. Canada will use the first 12 months following Contract Award to design, in consultation with the Contractor, the deployment approach of the work pertaining to this milestone. This milestone will be considered to be achieved when the following work is accepted by the Project Authority:

- a) The functionalities described in Section 3.3.2 Government Electronic Tendering Service and section B-5.00 in Section 3.3.3 Portal Requirements have been, in accordance with the Statement of Work, configured, tested, completed the SA&A process for the release, deployed into production in both official languages, and piloted;
- b) The Contractor has delivered the elements of the project management plan, Organizational Change Management Strategy, Supplier Enablement Plan, Change Management Plan, Training Plan, Training Delivery, Transition-In Plan and the Transition-In Delivery applicable to the delivery of the functionalities described in Section 3.3.2 Government Electronic Tendering Service and section B-5.00 in Section 3.3.3 Portal Requirements;
- c) All GC departments and agencies have been on boarded onto the new GETS;
- d) All public GC tender notices are being posted and managed using the new GETS; and
- e) The Contractor has submitted a report substantiating that the Work, inclusive of the report, has been complete, and the Work has been accepted by the Project Authority.

CHANGE: 225

Delete *Annex 3 - Price Schedule, version 4.3* in its entirety and replace with the attached *Annex 3 - Price Schedule, version 4.4*.

Note to Bidders: Version 4.4 is introduced to change the commencement of the EPS Operational Firm Lot Monthly Price and Firm Unit Prices back to after Milestones #1 and #2 from after the completion of Milestones #1, #2 & #3 and to re-organize the milestones in light of the changes in this amendment. No other changes were made to this annex.

CHANGE: 226

At *Attachment 1 to Part 4 - Evaluation and Selection Methodology*, under *MFC 3* of section *7.1. Mandatory Financial Criteria*,

DELETE: The total Firm Lot Price bid for EPS Transition-In (table 1 of Annex 3) must be 40% or less of the total bid price for EPS Operational (table 2 of Annex 3).

INSERT: The total Firm Lot Price bid for EPS Transition-In (table 1 of Annex 3) must be 70% or less of the total bid price for EPS Operational (table 2 of Annex 3).

CHANGE: 227

At *Attachment 1 to Part 4 - Evaluation and Selection Methodology*, under *MFC 9* of section *7.1. Mandatory Financial Criteria*,

DELETE: The Bidder must provide a cost breakdown of its EPS Transition-In Firm Lot Price.

INSERT: The Bidder must provide a cost breakdown of its EPS Transition-In Firm Lot Price and its EPS Operational Firm Lot Monthly Price.

(B) QUESTIONS**QUESTION: 645**

Due to the significant changes raised in Amendment 33, we kindly request an extension of one week to December 21st to allow us sufficient time to assess the changes and the impact to our proposed solution and the pricing schedule.

ANSWER: 645

Canada extends the closing date of the RFP to 2:00 PM (EST) on December 21st, 2016.

QUESTION: 646

Since there are still outstanding questions to be answered we would like to request that the bid close date be set at 4 weeks following the issue of the Government of Canada's final Amendment.

ANSWER: 646

Canada extends the closing date of the RFP to 2:00 PM (EST) on December 21st, 2016.

QUESTION: 647

Amendment 27 proposes significant changes to the Basis of Payment that have caused us to revisit and re-approve our Response. We are continuing to assess the impact on our technical and financial response and we are concerned that the close of the question period will not leave enough time for us to clarify any questions in the coming days and weeks. We respectfully request an extension of the question period to 5 days prior to the close of the RFP to allow us to continue posing questions.

ANSWER: 647

The period to submit enquiries will remain at no later than 15 business days before the bid closing date.

QUESTION: 648

We have submitted several questions related to the changes provided in Amendment #33. We also expect to have follow-up questions based on the Crown's responses. Can the Crown please extend the question deadline until December 7th to allow the Q&A process related to Amendment 33 sufficient time to complete?

ANSWER: 648

The period to submit enquiries will remain at no later than 15 business days before the bid closing date.

QUESTION: 649

Regarding Answer #566, since the Crown is in the process of tendering for the updated MyKey technology that will support current protocols such as SAML and OpenID Connect, any work and associated costs to support the legacy TruePass capability will be throw-away. Given this, would the Crown consider removing the requirement to integrate with the current Entrust TruePass version of MyKey and allow the initial group of GC Users, until the updated version of ICAS is available, to leverage instead a Contractor provided solution? Alternatively, would the Crown consider providing an interim solution that includes a newer protocol that can be consumed by the EPS solution?

ANSWER: 649

The existing myKey solution is Canada's interim solution until the updated version of ICAS is fully implemented within the Government of Canada. Following Contract Award, Canada may consider an alternative to myKey as an interim solution to the GC's ICAS provided that it meets the required Level of Assurance. Once the ICAS is ready, Canada may exercise a Task Authorization for integration between the EPS and the ICAS.

In addition, Canada confirms that TruePass will be provided by the GC.

QUESTION: 650

Regarding Question #583, the Crown noted *"As stated in section 4.5.1.2 of Annex 1 – Statement of Work, version 2.1, Canada may accept the login credential from an existing Supplier Network, if it exists."* However, our question relates to leveraging a well-established supplier network as one of the components in our solution and, therefore, that component, for which many of the Crown Suppliers already have login credentials, cannot readily be included in a GC-specific single-login and common SSO framework. Can the Crown please confirm that where one of a Bidder's components is a pre-existing and established supplier network, the single-login and common SSO requirements will not apply?

ANSWER: 650

Canada cannot confirm that the Bidder's pre-existing and established Supplier Network will be exempt from GC specific single-login requirements. Canada clarifies that its requirement is to have a single login for all components of EPS, as stated in section 3.3.1, c) *Landing Page, iv. and B-02.01*. Please refer to the Change section of this RFP where Canada modified *Tech.22* to define single login requirements.

QUESTION: 651

In regards to Section 4.3.2.3, it states *"The following is a list of types of expected technologies that must be supported: a) Open ID connect; b) SAML 2.0; c) JSON; d) Kerberos; e) X.509; f) LDAP; g) ABAC; h) OAuth; i) SOAP; j) REST."* Can the Crown please clarify the use case related to ABAC so we can better understand the requirement? Most procurement solutions support role-based access rather than true ABAC. If ABAC should be considered an example rather than a clear requirement we ask that it be removed. If it is a clear requirement we ask that it be moved to the rated section.

ANSWER: 651

Canada will remove ABAC from section 4.3.2.3. Please refer to the Changes section of this RFP amendment.

QUESTION: 652

In regards to Tech.07, it states *"to support the capability of versioning of configurations, and the ability to roll back to previous production versions."* Given the multi-tenant cloud context, please confirm that this requirement applies to EPS-specific configurations rather than the core product functions that are applied to all subscribers of the multi-tenant cloud.

ANSWER: 652

Canada confirms that Tech.07 refers to EPS-specific configurations as clarified in the answer to question #515.

QUESTION: 653

In regards to Tech.12, it states *"to support functionality to allow Users to export outputs such as reports and search results, including information in tabular and graphical format, in the following file format. i. PDF (Adobe PDF); ii. DOC, DOCX (MS word 2007 and above); and iii. XLS, XLSX (MS Excel 2007 and above)."* Since most users are able to print to PDF using standard PC software, can the Crown please modify this requirement to 'support the ability to export outputs to DOC, XLS and CSV formats' or move the PDF portion of this requirement to the rated section.

ANSWER: 653

Requirement *Tech.12* has been removed as per "Changes" section of this RFP amendment. In addition, the requirement to export PDFs has been removed from requirement G-01.09.

QUESTION: 654

In regards to Tech.15, it states *"to support the capability to run as a secure web browser-based solution that does not require any other desktop software to be installed on the User's workstation besides a web browser."* Our solution does not require any software to be installed for standard application functioning. However, as with most web-based solutions, it does require a browser-based ActiveX plugin to integrate with Microsoft Excel and Word. Can the Crown please confirm that an ActiveX plugin for this limited purpose is an acceptable exception to this requirement? If not, can the Crown please move this requirement to the rated section.

ANSWER: 654

Canada confirms that, for the purpose of this requirement, a browser plugin is not considered a desktop software. Canada will assess the proposed plugin through GC internal security and technical assessments during the design and implementation phase. For planning purposes, Bidders should note that the GC's packaging of a plugin may require up to 4 months.

QUESTION: 655

In regards to Question 566, in the answer, GC has stated that "Canada expects that the EPS will integrate with the current internal credential management service for GC users known as 'myKEY'". Without knowing technical details of "myKEY" and GCKey, the bidder won't be able to confirm that the SaaS EPS solution would be able to comply with this integration requirement. Although attempt would be made to integrate with "myKEY", it is something the bidder cannot commit without going through detailed design discussion with GC. We kindly request GC to make this requirement an optional one contingent to EPS design confirmation during EPS implementation.

ANSWER: 655

Canada will not modify the requirement. Canada clarifies that the underlying technology behind myKEY is *Entrust TruePass* and that GCKey is provided by 2Keys. Sufficient information on these technologies is available publicly to allow Bidders to bid.

QUESTION: 656

The Crown has been clear that the Optional TA process will be used for any data migration efforts. We also recognize that some level of procurement content, such as framework agreements and associated catalog data, will need to be loaded into EPS for there to be a successful implementation. Will the Contractor be responsible for developing an implementation plan that includes activities to deploy procurement content, like catalog information, into EPS? Also, should the Contractor consider the work to collect or create, validate and load this type of procurement data to be optional scope invoked through a TA? If not, can the Crown please clarify what type of data will be considered Optional TA scope, which will not, and identify any associated activities the Contractor is expected to perform related to that data?

ANSWER: 656

In accordance with Milestones #4 and #5, 100 Contracts and 100 Orders need to be processed through the EPS. As such, the Contractor's Transition-In Plan should include activities associated to the deployment of procurement content in support of these milestones. Activities beyond the completion of the milestones to collect, validate and load procurement data is expected to be the responsibility of the GC. Should the GC require assistance in these activities, the GC will make use of the TA process.

QUESTION: 657

In regards to Answer #642, it states that *"At a minimum, it is Canada's intention that procurements done by departments and agencies against PWGSC methods of supply will be processed in the EPS."* Given this statement:

- a) Is it correct for Bidders to interpret the DFMS deployment scope included in the fixed DFMS transition-in cost includes onboarding the DFMS cluster departments and agencies to the EPS solely to use the existing PWGSC framework agreements?
- b) Is it correct for Bidders to interpret that if services are required to support the extended usage of EPS for departmental specific procurement activities, including source-to-contract activities, procurement against departmental agreements/catalogues, and department specific configuration and/or integration changes, that these services would be considered additional scope and contracted through an additional TA?

ANSWER: 657

a) No, the work related to the DFMS Transition-In, as articulated in section 7.2.7 of the Statement of Work, is to transition the given departments and agencies onto the EPS for their own use, which is not exclusive to using PWGSC framework agreements. Canada's answer to question #642 is to state that PWGSC cannot guarantee the manner in which departments will leverage EPS.

b) No, the DFMS Transition-In should contemplate the delivery of EPS for departmental specific activities. Additional professional services required beyond the services described in section 7.2.7 of the Statement of Work will be leveraged in accordance with section 7.1 *Optional Professional Services*.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.