

## **Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)**

### **Title: Flight Training for Canadian Astronauts posted to Houston, Texas**

#### **1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)**

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

#### **2. Definition of the requirement**

##### **1.0 Background**

Canadian astronauts get posted to Houston, Texas, for the duration of the active phase of their career. They receive several types of technical training as they await mission assignment, including flight training. Of all the training astronauts receive, flight training is considered vital because it closely simulates spaceflight due to its operational nature (i.e. where astronauts' actions and quick response can have life or death consequences).

##### **2.0 The tasks to be covered under this contract include:**

Flight training and instructor support, for Canadian astronauts posted at the Johnson Space Center (JSC) in Houston, Texas, on specific types of aircraft.

##### **3.0 Deliverables:**

Approximately 100 hours of flight training per year (50 hours per Canadian astronaut), as well as Instructor support when required, on specific aircrafts and per the astronauts' schedule and availability.

#### **3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)**

To perform the required work of providing timely flight training for astronauts, the consultant must be located in the immediate vicinity of JSC (within a 20 km radius), and have the following aircrafts available for flight training, as well as instructor support, as required by the astronauts:

Aero Commander 690B  
Cessna 414  
Piper Seneca

Cessna 172  
Bellanca 8KCAB

#### **4. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier**

Our current and future astronauts, having varying levels of flight experience, require different levels of flight training, with or without an instructor, and on aircrafts with varying levels of complexity and capability.

David Saint-Jacques was a non-pilot when he joined the Astronaut Corps; he started his flight training on small single-engine Cessna-type aircrafts at various flight schools in Canada and in the US. He has since obtained his Multi-Engine Instrument Rating license, so he no-longer needs the type of flight school for beginner pilots but rather a flight-training company that offers small to medium size twin-engine aircrafts. He usually flies the Piper Seneca or the Cessna 414 with an instructor, or the smaller aircrafts such as Cessna 172 or the Bellanca 8KCAB without an instructor. He typically flies short-duration flights.

Jeremy Hansen is an experienced Fighter Pilot, he still regularly flies the CF-18 fighter jet with the Canadian Air Force; he also flies in the Front Seat of NASA's T-38 Trainer Jet (non-American astronauts typically only fly in the back seat). For this reason, Jeremy requires additional flight training on a more powerful and capable civilian aircraft such as the Cessna 414 and the Aero Commander. He typically flies long-duration (cross-country) trips to complement his other flight training.

There are only a few airports close-enough to where our astronauts live and work to make rental practical, mainly Ellington and Laporte. In order to get challenging training and skill maintenance, we need an aircraft that can be taken on an out-and-back, not just local, repetitive flying. In order for our astronauts to get the most from flight training, they need a readily available, capable twin-engine aircraft that they can take cross-country on a regular basis, based on their schedules and availability and needs as stated above.

Given the current flight proficiency levels and training needs of our astronauts posted in Houston, CSA requires one company that provides the necessary flight services. The only local flying school that offers the required flight training, skills maintenance and instructor support, using readily available single-engine and twin-engine aircrafts, is Tri-Star Aviation. This company has the types of aircrafts listed above, as well as experienced instructors that our astronauts require for their flight training. Furthermore, they are located in Laporte, Texas, which is a 20-minute drive from the Johnson Space Center (where our astronauts are posted) thus minimizing the additional impact of this training on the astronauts' already busy and often rigid schedule.

**5. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)**

The following exception(s) to the Government Contracts Regulations is (are) invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) - only one person is capable of performing the work.

**6. Ownership of Intellectual Property**

There is no intellectual property generated by this contract.

**7. Period of the proposed contract or delivery date**

The proposed contract is from the award date till March 31, 2018

**8. Option to extend the contract period**

The Contractor grants to government of Canada the irrevocable option to extend the term of this contract by two (2) periods of one (1) year at the time each under the same terms and conditions. Government of Canada may exercise this option at any time by sending a notice to the Contractor at least 30 calendar days prior to the contract expiry date.

**9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract**

The estimated value of the contract is:

Base Period: \$ (April 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018): \$80K USD

Option 1: \$ (April 1, 2018 – March 31, 2019): \$120K USD

Option 2: \$ (April 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020): \$120K USD

**10. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier**

Tri-Star Aviation Inc.  
10615 West Main St  
La Porte, TX  
USA, 77571

**11. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

**12. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities**

**The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2017 at 2:00 pm.**

**13. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities are to be directed to:**

Anaïs Beaudry  
Contracting officer, Procurement and contracts administration  
Canadian Space Agency / Government of Canada  
6767 route de l'aéroport  
Saint-Hubert Québec  
J3Y 8Y9  
Phone: 450-926-4492  
Fax: 450-926-4969  
email: [anais.beaudry-delisle@canada.ca](mailto:anais.beaudry-delisle@canada.ca)

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The Canadian Space Agency is exempt from all of Canada's national and international trade agreements.

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

The file number, the CSA contact name and the closing date of the ACAN must appear on the outside of the envelope in block letters or, in the case of a facsimile transmission, on the covering page.

The Crown retains the right to negotiate with suppliers on any procurement. Documents may be submitted in either official language of Canada.