Royal Canadian Mounted Police / Gendarmerie royale du Canada

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Bid Receiving/Réception des sousmissions
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c/o Commissionaires, F Division
6101 Dewdney Ave
Regina, SK S4P 3K7

Fax No. - No de FAX:
(306) 780-5232

# 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: - Commentaries :

THIS DOCUMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN A SECURITY REQUIREMENT

LE PRÉSENT DOCUMENT NE COMPORTE PAS UNE EXIGENCE EN MATIÈRE DE SÉCURITÉ

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|---|---|
| **Title – Sujet:** Supply and Install Fire Alarm Monitoring Panels and Monthly Monitoring Services, Multiple Locations Across Saskatchewan | **Date : 12 March 2018** |
| **Solicitation No. – N° de l'invitation**<br>M5000-18-2940/A – PW-18-00814933 | **Amendment No. – N° de la modification**<br>002 |
| **Client Reference No. - No. De Référence du Client**<br>201802940 | |
| **Solicitation Closes – L'invitation prend fin** | |

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| **At /à :** | 2 :00 PM | CST (Central Standard Time)<br>HNC (Heure Normale du Centre) |
| **On / le :** | 28 March 2018 | |

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|---|---|---|
| **Incoterms 2010 "DDP Delivered Duty Paid"**<br>See herein — Voir aux présentes | **GST – TPS**<br>See herein — Voir aux présentes | **Duty – Droits**<br>See herein — Voir aux présentes |
| **Destination of Goods and Services – Destinations des biens et services**<br>See herein — Voir aux présentes | | |
| **Instructions**<br>See herein — Voir aux présentes | | |
| **Address Inquiries to –**<br>**Adresser toute demande de renseignements à**<br>Teresa Hengen, Procurement Officer | | |
| **Telephone No. – No. de téléphone**<br>639-625-3449 | **Facsimile No. – No. de télécopieur**<br>306-780-5232 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Delivery Required** –<br>**Livraison exigée**<br>N/A | **Delivery Offered** –<br>**Livraison proposée**<br>N/A |
| **Vendor/Firm Name, Address and Representative – Raison sociale, adresse et représentant du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur:** | |
| **Telephone No. – No. de téléphone** | **Facsimile No. – No. 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** |

Canada

This amendment is raised to address the following, response in red:

**RFP M5000-18-2940/A**

**PW-18-00814933 Supply and Install Fire Alarm Monitoring Panels**

**Addendum #1 – Response to Questions**

1. The project specifications require connection to the monitoring station via cellular transmitter. The provider that facilitates ULC listed communicaton via cellular uses SIM cards that work on the Rogers cellular network in the transmitting units. The Rogers cellular network does not provide coverage in the majority of the locations shown in Appendix 1. Consulting the Rogers coverage map, it appears 47 locations do not have coverage, and we could not guarantee that a signal booster would provide coverage. Would an alternate solution be acceptable in these locations, such as a land line/ IP communicator option?

   The specified solution as noted in Para 2.4.7 in Section 28 31 02 is the only acceptable solution with one telephone land line and one cellular communicator.

2. In order to issue a ULC Certificate for an installation, the service location has to provide a 4 hour response time. Due to the travel distances to some of the remote locations a 4 hour response time would not be possible. Therefore, a certificate could not be issued, is that acceptable?

   The RCMP recognize that a four-hour response is not always possible, however, the RCMP Fire Protection Engineer will accept this as long as the Vendor advises the local fire department and makes them aware of the situation and estimated repair time.

3. 28.3.1.1 states that the system should be generically monitorable and not proprietary. It is required by ULC that the fire alarm monitoring panel has an installers code lock on the system. This is required so that only the ULC listed installer can access the system programming. Therefore we cannot leave the system "unlocked" so that the programming can be changed to communicate with another monitoring facility. Further, if the RCMP cancelled the monitoring contract with the installing ULC listed contractor, the ULC certificate would be immediately invalid. Can this section be removed from the specifications?

   Delete para 3.1.1 from Section 28 31 02.

4. 28.3.1.5 states that the contractor is to arrange with the telephone service provider for the connection of the land line to the monitoring panel and for the monthly charges for phone line rental. In our experience the telephone service provider (Sasktel) will not arrange for service for the building or discuss line rentals or information with anybody other than the building owner or the organization who is responsible for the phone service. I expect this would be even less flexible given that the building

owner is the RCMP. Further we have been advised in the past that billing for lines to a 3rd party is not possible. Can this requirement be removed from the specifications?

Delete para 3.1.5 from Section 28 31 02. The RCMP will provide the required additional phone lines however, the Contractor is to assist the RCMP with the coordination of the installation of these required phone lines and their location.

5. ULC requirements do not allow for any non ULC listed parts to be installed inside the fire alarm panel. At times a contractor will install non ULC equipment, such as relays for door release or fan shutdown, inside the fire alarm panel. In such cases it is required for ULC certification to remove these devices from the fire alarm panel. If we find that this is required due to pre-existing deficiencies in the fire alarm panel installation, would RCMP approve additional charges to correct the deficiencies.

   Situations as described above will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and will be addressed at that time as required.

6. If the existing fire alarm control panel does not have the required contacts to connect to the fire alarm monitoring panel (Fire Alarm Relay, Trouble Relay, Supervisory Relay), would the RCMP approve additional charges to have the required relays installed?

   Situations as described above will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and will be addressed at that time as required.

7. 28.3.3.1 requires a manufacturer's factory authorized representative to verify the fire alarm panel after installation of the fire monitoring panel. This is not typically required if you are not modifying the fire alarm panel in any way and just connecting to relay contacts. Requiring manufacturer representative be changed to require a CFAA registered fire alarm technician?

   The specification is clear, the RCMP require system reverification by Manufacturer's Authorized Factory Representative as per Section 28 31 02 Para 3.3.1.

8. Some of the sites listed in Appendix 1 do not have a fire alarm panel and have only a 3 wire 120volt fire alarm panel. These systems do not have relay contacts for a monitoring panel to connect to and cannot comply with the ULC requirements for fire alarm monitoring. Please advise how you would like to address this issue.

   The following locations will have new fire alarm systems installed under a separate contract:

   - Carrot River;
   - Ilse-a-la-Crosse;
   - Patuanak;
   - Sandy Bay;

- Stanley Mission.

Once the new systems have been installed, we will require the above noted locations to be included in the overall monitoring contract as well. Hence, the Contractor will need to allow to install the required monitoring equipment to these locations.

9. Regarding the Document entitled **ULC Monitoring Detail**, I'm wondering about the following:

    - Item 8 - conduit from the fire alarm panel to the fire monitoring panel.
        - The spec calls for EMT conduit and cabling.
            - Is metallic flexible conduit with the appropriate internal cabling an acceptable wiring method?

              Yes, the use of metallic flexible conduit is acceptable.
    - Item 10 - conduit from the electrical panel to the fire monitoring panel.
        - The spec calls for EMT conduit and appropriate conductors.
            - Is an armoured electrical cable acceptable?

              EMT is preferred but armoured cable would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

10. Regarding the Document that refers to the **System Locations Spreadsheet**, I'm wondering about the following:

    a. North Area

        i. Carrot River 245 2nd Street

            1. Existing system – 120 volt smoke alarms

                a. Since these lose their functionality during a power failure and the proposed system provides 24 hours of backup battery and is capable of operating a detection system, would the reconfiguration of the wiring and replacement of the sensors to a type that can be connected to the monitoring panel be considered?

See response to Question #8 above.

b. As well, the existing 120 volt system is not supervised and so the system cannot provide a trouble signal, and so a reconfiguration/replacement would allow proper backup AND proper supervision.

See response to Question #8 above.

ii. Isle-a-la-Crosse Parcel 6 Lajeunesse Av Box 40

1. Existing system – 3 wire 120 volt system

a. Since these lose their functionality during a power failure and the proposed system provides 24 hours of backup battery and is capable of operating a detection system, would the reconfiguration of the wiring and replacement of the sensors to a type that can be connected to the monitoring panel be considered?

See response to Question #8 above.

b. Appliances in the form of 12 volt horns can be added to provide the audible warning

See response to Question #8 above.

c. As well, the existing 3 wire 120 volt system is not supervised and so the system cannot provide a trouble signal, and so a reconfiguration/replacement would allow proper backup AND proper supervision to a portion or the entire detection system (depending upon the existing wiring method)

See response to Question #8 above.

iii. Patuanak 102 1st Street

1. Existing system – hardwired smoke detectors

a. The document doesn't state the type of smoke detectors, so 120 volt type will be assumed.

See response to Question #8 above.

b. Since these lose their functionality during a power failure and the proposed system provides 24 hours of backup battery and is capable of operating a detection system, would the reconfiguration of the wiring and replacement of the sensors to a type that can be connected to the monitoring panel be considered?

See response to Question #8 above.

c. As well, the existing 120 volt system is not supervised and so the system cannot provide a trouble signal, and so a reconfiguration/replacement would allow proper backup AND proper supervision.

See response to Question #8 above.

iv. Sandy Bay Lots 1+2 Sandy Bay Ave

1. Existing system – 3 wire 120 volt system

a. Since these lose their functionality during a power failure and the proposed system provides 24 hours of backup battery and is capable of operating a detection system, would the reconfiguration of the wiring and replacement of the sensors to a type that can be connected to the monitoring panel be considered?

See response to Question #8 above.

b. Appliances in the form of 12 volt horns can be added to provide the audible warning

See response to Question #8 above.

c. As well, the existing 3 wire 120 volt system is not supervised and so the system cannot provide a trouble signal, and so a

reconfiguration/replacement would allow proper backup AND proper supervision to a portion or the entire detection system (depending upon the existing wiring method)

See response to Question #8 above.

11. Regarding the Document entitled **Fire Alarm System Monitoring Final**, I'm wondering about the following:

    a. Section 1.1 Security Requirements

        i. What is required to be allowed to perform site visits?

        The Contractor will be required to obtain the required security clearance in accordance with RCMP Departmental Security Section requirements. This will involve the provision of various information for personnel and completion of forms and perhaps personal interviews as is deemed necessary.

        ii. Will we be able to select sites and take a look at the existing systems in place and the infrastructure without having to be cleared in the manner required to work on site once the contract is awarded?

        Any requested pre-bid site visits are to be coordinated in advance with the RCMP Project Authority on a case-by-case basis and will be escorted by an RCMP Member.

    b. Section 6.4.1 Term of Contract

        i. Can you disclose the reason(s) for the terms outlined?

            1. Will there be an opportunity to provide monitoring (and possibly maintenance services) after the 4 year overall term?

            The required monitoring of the Fire alarm systems will be reviewed prior to the termination of this Contract and will be re-tendered as required at that time.

            2. Is it the intention that the monitoring services will be performed internally at some point in the future?

            No.

c. Annex A

i. Can you clarify the installation requirements and certification requirements?:

1. All components of the system must be ULC labelled

   Yes

2. All components of the system must be installed as regulated by the appropriate ULC regulations

   Yes

3. The systems must be installed and commissioned by a ULC listed agent/contractor

   Yes

4. The systems require letters/certificates of full completion and verification

   Yes

5. This systems require ULC Certification and ongoing renewals and associated maintenance

   We require that the Contractor be ULC certified and use manufacturer's authorized factory representatives for the term of the contract.

ii. Regarding the Cellular Signal Boosters, we would like to note the following:

1. Signal boosters are an independent system and cannot be supervised by the monitoring system

   a. The only way to have proof of service is for the dealer to perform regular signal level checks over and above the standard monitoring services

2. Signal boosters would require an immensely large backup power supply (UPS or equivalent) to be maintained for 24 hours without power

3. The cellular backup systems have solutions available for this which maintain the following:

    a. Antenna extension kits that are made specifically for the cellular radios can be added to the systems

    b. These are ULC approved signal boosting devices

    c. These do not add any load to the existing monitoring system and can therefore maintain the minimum 24 hour standby requirement

    d. Tampering with the antennae will provide a supervision signal in the form of a loss of service that would be reported to the monitoring station via the alternate communication path

    e. The antennae are physically designed to provide the required signal enhancements for areas where the signal levels at the panel location are inadequate

    **f. Would this option for signal boosting be allowed and approved?**

    **Yes, as long as this system will be able to maintain a 90 dB signal. See response to Question #15 below.**

    **g. Would site personnel be willing to load an application on their mobile devices to have a reference point of which sites may need signal boosting?**

    **No.**

    **h. If not, would we base the requirement on a site by site basis and install the signal boosting (extension kits) as needed?**

    **Yes.**

12. Regarding the Document entitled **17065 Monitoring Specifications**, I'm wondering about the following:

    a. Section 28 31 02 Multiplex Fire Alarm System

i. 2.4.3 refers to the cellular path and applicable antenna configuration – I assume this rule allows for the antenna extension kit versus the signal booster

Yes. See response to Question #15 below.

ii. 2.4.7 refers to the current minimum monitoring requirement of passive communications and 2 paths

a. The current scope calls for a passive cellular path (daily check-in only) and a telephone line (daily check-in only)

b. would you be open to using an active network connection as then there is no worry about cellular service levels and the work required to maintain this level of service

No. A Passive system is the requirement.

i. an active network will detect a loss of service within 4 minutes

ii. this can be part of the existing building network (isolated by VLAN or VPN) or on its own internet service

iii. this communication is encrypted

iv. this connection allows for downloading and panel programming changes, if desired, and the phone line is then optional

iii. 3.1.1 refers to non-proprietary systems.

1. It appears to basically allow takeover of services either by a different alarm company/dealer or become internally monitored

a. Is there a basic premise that is preferred for this to occur?:

i. Have the sites downloaded with a generic programming access when the time comes?

ii. Utilize a different installers access code than typically used for other sites, and disclose that code when requested?

iii. Allow the systems to be 'factory reset' and then reprogrammed and re-verified by the next successful alarm company?

See response to Question #3 above.

iv. 3.1.5 refers to the telephone line setup.

1. Does this need to be a dedicated phone line, or can it be a shared line in use for another service within the building? Please note that the wiring of this shared line will still ensure the alarm transmitter has priority. As well, a shared line can still be used for downloading connectivity if required.

2. If this is a separate line, it looks like it will be 'owned and maintained' by the alarm contractor. Please confirm. As well, **at what point is the ownership transferred**?

See response to Question #4 above.

v. 3.1.7 refers to signal boosters.

1. As mentioned earlier, it is difficult to impossible to supervise this appliance

2. Boosters are typically physically independent systems and cannot be monitored nor supervised by the alarm transmitter

3. If you require signal level verification, it would require manual intervention at regular intervals and the costs associated would be added to the monitoring fee.

4. A backup power source would also be difficult as the size required for 24 hour service would be immense.

5. Instead, we strongly suggest the utilization of antenna extension kits designed and approved for the purpose:

    a. They are approved and made by the manufacturer

    b. They are allowed to be used by ULC regulations

c. They are designed to allow better signal gain

d. They do not require extra power to operate

See response to Question #11 above and #15 below.

vi. 3.3.4 Inspection Certification

1. This appears to require the following:

a. A Certificate (or letter?) of Verification and copies of the verification worksheet that the fire alarm system has been completed….

b. A Certificate (or letter?) of Verification and copies of the verification worksheet that the installation and testing of the fire alarm monitoring panel has been completed…

c. A certificate/documentation indicating that the fire alarm monitoring panel is communicating with and being monitored by a ULC listed monitoring agency.

**d.** There seems to be no requirement for the installations to require a ULC certificate (ULC Certified System – inspected by ULC at some point). **Can you confirm that you don't require this?**

It is not the intent to have the systems inspected by ULC. The requirement is that all work is performed by ULC certified technicians with the systems verified by the fire alarm manufacturer's authorized factory representatives. See response to Question #7 above.

13. Lastly, I'd like to confirm the following:

a. The requirements for ULC fire monitoring (typically for certified systems) state that the alarm signal will be received by the appropriate authorities within 1 minute of alarm generation.

b. Trouble and supervisory signals (including power and other system trouble signals) require a site representative be called within five minutes.

c. System failures (trouble and supervisory conditions) require repair within 4 hours.

i. If these are non-ULC certified sites, will we still maintain these guidelines?

See response to Question #2 above.

ii. Whom would we be in contact with initially to ensure the right agencies and authorities are called for the appropriate signals?

The RCMP will provide the list of contact numbers to the successful contractor upon award.

iii. Whom is responsible to ensure all personnel changes (relocations, etc.) are noted and the required changes in the contact list are kept up to date?

The RCMP will advise the contractor of any changes during the course of the contract.

iv. Would there be an overall contact person or persons that would ensure these changes are communicated effectively?

Communication between the contractor and the RCMP upon award will be via the RCMP Project Authority.

14. Contractor may be asked to include the monitoring of additional facilities throughout the Province during the term of the Contract with monthly monitoring rates for these additional facilities being similar to the other facilities in this contract. Quotations will be sought for the installation of these changes from the Contractor and if approved, an amendment to the contract will be issued by the Contract Authority.

15. Delete para 3.1.7 from Section 28 31 02 and replace with:

- Provide ULC approved cellular antenna extension kits in locations where the cellular signal within the building is less than 90dB to provide a minimum of 90 dB cellular signal at all installations.

16. Under Annex "C" Basis of Payment, Part C, please revise to read "Supply and Install Cellular Antennae Extension Kits" in lieu of "Supply and Install Cellular Signal Boosters".

17. In "17065_e-1_ulc_monitoring_detail"; does 1 and 2 "refer to specifications" mean RCMP documents or manufacturer and ULC documents?

The specifications referred to are the RCMP provided specifications.

18. *Can* we utilize other means of ULC listed communication such as internet communicators at the sites which do not have cellular coverage? For example; Turner Lake.

    As Turner Lake is the only location listed that does not have cellular coverage, based on the requirements of the ULCS561, there requires to be two separate and non-interdependent channels used in accordance with clause 13.3.2. Hence, in this specific location, a second feed from the utility pedestal to the fire alarm monitoring panel will need to be installed under this contract and in this location only, we will have two separate and independent land line channels to communicate through. RCMP will work with SaskTel to install this second line but the work will need to be coordinated with the successful Vendor for this contract.

19. Is fire panel installation required as part of this response at sites which do not have one? For example; Carrot River.

    See response to Question #8 above.

20. In "fire_alarm_system_monitoring_final", section 5.1.1 Integrity Provisions indicates information should be included for the Declaration of Convicted Offences (as applicable), but references Annex D, which is a Claim for Progress Payment form. Can you please clarify what documents you require for this section?

    Integrity Request Letter - PSPC Approved_1, attached separately. If not submitted with bid this form will be requested from the successful bidder.

21. In regard to the installation timeline, is the RCMP requiring the installations to take place throughout the length of the two-year contract, or is there a compressed time frame required to complete the installations?

    We recognize that the installation of the required systems will take a significant time to complete. We would prefer the work take place as quickly as possible but understand that it may take up to the full term of the contract to complete and make operational at all locations listed.