

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)

1. Definition

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows departments and agencies to post a notice, for no less than fifteen (15) calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that it intends to award a good, service or construction contract to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a Statement of Capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the competitive requirements of the government's contracting policy have been met. Following notification to suppliers not successful in demonstrating that their Statement of Capabilities meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the contract may then be awarded using the Treasury Board's electronic bidding authorities.

If other potential suppliers submit Statement of Capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period, and meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the department or agency must proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

2. Definition of Requirements

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) has a need for Marine Technical Expertise to support equipment owned by the Geological Survey of Canada. Required technical support may vary based on maintenance requirements, equipment failure or updates, for example. NRCan will issue a standing offer in order to meet the technical requirements on an as-and-when-required basis. The Standing Offer holder will be responsible for the installation, operation maintenance and calibration of high resolution seismic systems and support as shown below:

Criteria for Assessment of the Statement of Capabilities

The supplier must demonstrate a minimum of two years of experience in the following areas:

High Resolution Seismic Systems:

- in installation, operation, calibration, maintenance of high resolution seismic equipment listed below:
 - Hunttec DTS tow fish and control console
 - Providing and interfacing modern components/subsystems to replace obsolete Hunttec DTS components/subsystems

- in installation, operation, calibration, maintenance of high resolution seismic equipment listed below:
 - Short single channel analog streamers
 - Small portable sub bottom profiling systems
 - Boomer plates (construction and calibration)
 - Sparker sleds and candles
 - Seismic receivers
 - Electrical power supplies for seismic sources

Technical personnel and experience levels required to be used on an as needed basis to meet each individual standing offer requirement: (Note: not all technical personnel will be required for each Call-up)

- Senior Technician
 - Electronic instrumentation Specialist – design, maintenance, installation, operation of various Geophysical/Oceanographic electronic instruments listed above and owned by NRCan.

- Junior Technician
 - familiarity working in a marine vessel environment with the ability to carry out routine loading/unloading of equipment under the direction of a senior staff person

- Senior Technologist
 - Hunttec Deep Tow specialist – maintenance, calibration, mobilization/demobilization, and operation of Hunttec deep tow seismic system owned by NRCan in the field.

Since most of the work requires that technicians go on board Government ships, the supplier and his staff will require valid reliability status security clearance from the Industrial Security Program.

Except where work is being conducted on Government of Canada vessels, or in cases where work must be conducted at a government worksite, required work will be conducted offsite at a facility secured by the service provider.

Appropriate tools and testing equipment must be furnished and maintained by the service provider.

3. Exclusions and/or reasons for limited tendering

Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under NAFTA (Article 1016.2)

1016.2(b) - where, (...) there is an absence of competition for technical reasons, the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists;

Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under CFTA (Article 513)

513.2.iii - due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;

Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under WTO-AGP (article XV)

XV 1 (b) - when, (...) in the absence of competition for technical reasons, the products or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists.

4. Standing Offer Period

The period of the proposed Standing offer is one year from date of issuance with an option to extend the term by up to an additional two (2) one-year periods under the same conditions.

5. Estimated Cost

The estimated expenditure against the Standing offer up to \$300,000 applicable taxes extra per year. The limitation for each call up will be \$75,000.00.

6. Exception to the Government Contracts Regulations

Sole Source Justification - Exception of the Government Contract Regulations (GCR):

(d) Only one person or firm is capable of performing the contract

The identified provider, Geoforce Consultants, is the only one able to meet all of the criteria identified in number 2 above.

7. Name and Address of the Proposed Contractor

Geoforce Consultant
P.O. Box 696
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia
B2Y 3Y9

8. Inquiries on Submission of Statement of Capabilities

"Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a Statement of Capabilities in writing, preferably by e-mail, to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date and time of this Notice. The Statement of Capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements."

In order to present a Statement of Capabilities, a supplier must demonstrate that he meets all the mandatory requirements presented under 2. *Definition of requirements.*

9. Closing Date

The closing date for a submission of a Statement of Capabilities is January 7, 2019 at 14:00 Eastern Standard Time.

10. Standing Offer Authority

Julia Pace
1 Challenger Drive, P.O. Box 1006
Dartmouth, NS B2Y 4A2
Julia.pace@canada.ca