

Innovative Solutions Canada Program

Challenge EN578-170003/22: Tracing the Steel Industry Supply Chain

Attachment 1

Questions and Answers #1 to #4

This document contains questions and answers related to this challenge.

Question #1:

Can you give us examples of data/reports that the Government of Canada would be looking for out of the AI platform?

Response #1:

The Government of Canada would like to use AI enabled data analytics to better capture activities across the steel supply chain. Examples of applications of AI to the steel supply chain could include predicting demand for input or output, as well as, predicting downstream product volume from supply products. The firm chosen to undertake the challenge will have some creative freedom in developing the capabilities of the AI platform. Moreover, they will have access to industry experts from the steel sector that will provide input into the process.

Question #2:

Will tracking be required from the fabricators through consumer products?

Response #2:

The Government of Canada will require the tracking of inputs and outputs in real time across the steel supply chain, including upstream and downstream. This will include tracking components and transactions from fabricators to consumer products.

Question #3:

Does the Government of Canada have a general idea of transactional volume?

Response #3:

In 2017, the Canadian steel sector produced roughly 13.6 million metric tons of crude steel. In the same year, Canadian steel companies exported approximately 6.7 million metric tons of steel globally. One of the objectives of this challenge is to create a digital system that will more comprehensively track transactional volumes. As such, the selected firm will have access to industry experts from the steel sector that will provide input to aid in this task.

Question #4:

In order for our organization to properly respond to the challenge, it will require us to share proprietary information that is deemed confidential. Is the Government of Canada open to signing a mutual NDA?

Response #4:

Canada will not sign a mutual Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA).

As stated in the Call for Proposal on page 8 of 53 : PART 2 – Bidders Instructions, 2.2 **Standard Instructions, Clauses and Conditions**: The 2003 (2018-05-22) Standard Instructions - Goods or Services - Competitive Requirements, are incorporated by reference into and form part of the CFP...

The ID #2003 Standard Instructions - Goods or Services - Competitive Requirements state the following (<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/standard-acquisition-clauses-and-conditions-manual/1/2003/23>) :

05 (2018-05-22) Submission of bids:

6. Bids received on or before the stipulated bid solicitation closing date and time will become the property of Canada and will not be returned. All bids will be treated as confidential, subject to the provisions of the [Access to Information Act](#) (R.S. 1985, c. A-1) and the [Privacy Act](#) (R.S., 1985, c. P-21).