

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE
Beyond-Visual-Line-of-Sight (BVLOS)
Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) Services

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 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 electronic bidding authorities.

If other potential suppliers submit statements of capabilities during the fifteen calendar days 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

Transport Canada's Aircraft Services Directorate, in coordination with other Government departments, is conducting Beyond Visual Line of Sight (BVLOS) Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) operations and research primarily focused on Arctic and maritime environments.

The Contractor will provide a broad range of beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) RPAS operational services to the Aircraft Services Directorate. Some of the requirements include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1.1 Develop mission plans, test plans, procedures, and conduct risk assessments;
- 1.2 Integrate payloads, conduct non-recurring engineering, and modify existing RPAS related equipment and systems;
- 1.3 Acquire equipment/supplies in support of RPAS operations and successful mission accomplishment;
- 1.4 Provide RPAS and operational staff to support operational demonstration, test and evaluation, and research and development flight activities. Specific RPAS requirements will be detailed at the Task Authorization level, but the following capabilities can be anticipated based on information available at the time of this contract issuance:
 - 1.4.1 A conventional (fixed wing) RPAS with retractable landing gear, a minimum mission flight endurance of 8 hours, a minimum service ceiling of 15,000' MSL, a cruise speed of at least 80 KIAS, and a minimum sensor payload capacity of 15 Kg with a full primary tank fuel load;
 - 1.4.2 Redundant RPAS command and control links including radio line of sight and satellite links (based on mission requirements);
 - 1.4.3 RPAS autopilot capable of fully automatic takeoff and landing;
 - 1.4.4 RPAS pilots, sensor operators, maintenance engineers and any other personnel

- required to operate and support the RPAS;
- 1.4.5 RPAS payloads to include a EO/IR gimbal mounted sensor, high-resolution still camera, and others as indicated at the Task Authorization level;
 - 1.4.6 RPAS to be equipped with ADSB out transponder. For maritime missions, it is anticipated the RPAS will require an AIS receiver capable of providing real-time AIS information to the ground control station;
 - 1.4.7 Shipping and logistics support to deliver the RPAS equipment and personnel to the specified test locations.

3. Criteria for Assessment of the Statement of Capabilities

The Contractor must meet the following qualifications;

- a) Recent verifiable experience (within the past 12 months) operating fixed-wing RPAS beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) in the Arctic (above 60 degrees North latitude).
- b) Recent verifiable experience (within the past 12 months) imaging and collecting data from RPAS of marine mammals and/or cetaceans in BVLOS operations, and using Artificial Intelligence for data analysis.
- c) Recent verifiable experience (within the past 12 months) collecting data related to infrastructure (such as roads, rails, canals, rivers, pipelines, electrical lines, etc...) in BVLOS operations.
- d) A minimum crew sufficient to operate two missions per day of 6 hours per mission, with the pilot in command having a current manned aircraft instrument rating.
- e) A minimum of 1 full-time OEM trained maintenance technician with previous experience conducting routine maintenance on the RPAS being used for the mission and sensor payloads.
- f) Operations staff with verifiable experience in mission planning and operating in BVLOS maritime and Arctic conditions.
- g) Personnel with previous experience collecting and interpreting data and imagery from RPAS sensor payloads.
- h) Currently owns and operates an RPAS with a minimum mission endurance of 8 hours (not including 2 hours of reserve fuel), a minimum payload capacity of 15 kg and a minimum one way operational range of 300 nautical miles in a zero wind condition.
- i) Ability to stream payload data in real-time from radio-line-of-sight links.
- j) RPAS equipped with Automatic Identification System (AIS) data collection and streaming capability.
- k) RPAS equipped with icing detection, prediction and/or icing protection. RPAS must have heated pitot tube.
- l) RPAS equipped with Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADSB) out.
- m) Knowledge and experience integrating and operating non-standard RPAS payloads.

4. Trade Agreements

None of the Trade Agreements apply to this requirement.

5. Comprehensive Land Claims Agreement

This procurement is subject to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, Gwich'in Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement and Tlicho Land Claims and Self-Government Agreement.

6. Justification for Pre-Identified Supplier

The proposed supplier is the only known contractor that meets the above requirements.

7. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons

The contract is proposed under the Government Contracting Regulations, Section 6 (d) that states “only one person or firm is capable of performing the contract”.

8. Ownership of Intellectual Property

Canada intends to retain ownership of any Foreground Intellectual Property arising out of the proposed contract on the basis that the main purpose of the contract is to generate knowledge and information for public dissemination.

9. Contract Period

The proposed contract will be for a period of two (2) years, from April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2021, and will include two (2), one (1) year option periods.

10. Estimated Cost

The estimated maximum value of the proposed contract is \$3.4 million, of which an estimated 15% would be for the purchase of equipment.

11. Name and Address of the Proposed Contractor

University of Alaska Fairbanks
2145 North Tanana Loop
008 WRRB, PO Box 757880
Fairbanks, AK 99775-7880

12. Suppliers' Right to Submit a 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.

Responses received on or before the closing date will be considered solely for the purpose of deciding whether or not to conduct a competitive procurement. Information provided will be used by the Crown for technical evaluation purposes only and is not to be construed as a competitive solicitation. Your written response must provide sufficient evidence (e.g. specifications, technical data, drawings, or any other proof) that clearly demonstrates that your product or service is capable of fulfilling this requirement.

Suppliers that have submitted a response will be notified in writing of TC's decision to continue with the non-competitive procurement or to compete for the requirement

13. Closing Date

The closing date for a submission of a Statement of Capabilities is April 16, 2019 at 2 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST).

14. Contact

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