



## RETURN BIDS TO:

## RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:

Réception des soumissions - TPSGC / Bid Receiving -  
PWGSC

1550, Avenue d'Estimauville

1550, D'Estimauville Avenue

Québec

Québec

G1J 0C7

## 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 - Commentaires

### Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du  
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

### Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

TPSGC/PWGSC

601-1550, Avenue d'Estimauville

Québec

Québec

G1J 0C7

<b>Title - Sujet</b> Dev. Techniques de contremesures	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> W7701-196997/A	<b>Amendment No. - N° modif.</b> 002
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b>	<b>Date</b> 2019-08-21
<b>GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG</b> PW-\$QCL-042-17721	
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> QCL-9-42046 (042)	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> <b>on - le 2019-09-04</b>	<b>Time Zone</b> <b>Fuseau horaire</b> Heure Avancée de l'Est HAE
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> Specified Herein - Précisé dans les présentes <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> Hamel, Jonathan	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> qcl042
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> (438) 355-9714 ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> (418) 648-2209
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b>	<b>Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address</b> <b>Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>	
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> <b>Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur</b>	
<b>Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm</b> <b>(type or print)</b> <b>Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/</b> <b>de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

## AMENDMENT 002

Amendment 002 is raised in order to provide answers to questions submitted by the industry and extend the closing date of the request for proposal

### 1. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY THE INDUSTRY DURING THE SOLICITATION PERIOD

**Question 1:** Being currently in the most intense summer vacation period, would it be possible to postpone the submission deadline by 3 weeks?

**Answer 1:** The closing date will be extended to September 4 2019

**Question 2:** Since the technical details are limited in the RFP, which complicates the assessment of the level of effort required, is it expected to use (or rely on) the level of effort according to Table 1 (page 38 of 47) to determine the estimated cost in Annex B (Page 34 of 47)?

**Answer 2:** Yes, bidders must rely on the level of effort to prepare their financial bid, in accordance with table 1 of Attachment 1 to Part 3.

**Question 3:** The minimum experience requirement for "Programming" category is 12 months, would it be possible to reduce the one for the "Algorithm design" category to 12 months (Page 41 of 47) and thus have the same minimum threshold?

**Answer 3:** No, the minimum experience required for the "Algorithm design" category is 24 months.

**Question 4:** Much of the project revolves around integrating with the Virtual Proving Ground (VPG). Is any further information about the VPG available to assist in the development or a proposed solution?

**Answer 4:** Yes, the following article can be consulted at <https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/6189501> for more information on VPG:

*"Boily, P., Harrison, N., "A Simulation System of Systems to Assess Military Aircraft Protection (U)", Proceedings of the IEEE International Systems Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 19-22 March 2012, p. 535-540"*

**Question 5:** How will we be integrating with the VPG? Will we have access to the source code, an API, executables, or will it simply be a black box into which we deliver parameters to return an output?

**Answer 5:** VPG will provide a simulation framework and all the models required to verify the effectiveness of the countermeasure techniques generated by the algorithms. Each solution corresponds to a given system configuration (adjusted using XML files). A VPG simulation is called through a .exe file. The contractor will have access VPG source code and may need to modify it.

**Question 6:** How restrictive is the requirement to work on site at DRDC Valcartier? Is there potential to develop the optimization algorithms/techniques and the interface off-site since they will not be privy to the classified information contained within the VPG?

**Answer 6:** All work evaluated by the Technical Authority as "Unclassified / Unlimited distribution" could be developed off-site. The Technical Authority will assess the merits of the request and analyze the security considerations. Following this procedure, standalone generic algorithms and interfaces could be developed off-site. The integration, testing and iterative stages of countermeasures development will have to be completed at DRDC Valcartier. The complete optimization software will rapidly get security restrictions once it includes several algorithms and is configured for countermeasure optimization.

**Question 7:** Does any resource require a NATO SECRET clearance level or is a SECRET clearance level sufficient? Section 7.3.1 point 6 (Page 19 of 47) mention that each personnel requiring access to NATO CLASSIFIED information must hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of NATO SECRET. However, according to Part B of the Security Requirement Checklist (SRCL), all resources only require a SECRET clearance level.

**Answer 7:** Before award of a contract, the contractor must hold a NATO SECRET security clearance, in accordance with article 7.3.1 of Part 7 of the solicitation document. The contractor personnel requiring access to NATO SECRET information must hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of NATO SECRET. Note that only a small proportion of work will require the access of NATO SECRET information.

**Question 8:** Are the resources required to have their security clearance at the time of the bid submission?

**Answer 8:** No. As specified in Part 6, sections 6.1, 1. a). bidders must obtain their security clearance prior to the contract award. However, bidders are encouraged to obtain their security clearance as quickly as possible, including key personnel security clearances.

**Question 9:** Could the algorithm design resource be based outside Valcartier and only occasionally go to Valcartier? Section 6.1 (Page 27) of the bid mentions that exceptionally, non-classified work may be carried out outside DRDC. Can a renowned professor based outside Quebec City be considered an exceptional situation?

**Answer 9:** See answer 6. The case of the "Algorithm design" resource based outside of Quebec could be acceptable provided that off-site work is limited to the development of generic algorithms at "Unclassified / Unlimited distribution" security level.

**Question 10:** Does experience acquired on financed university projects counts towards the mandatory criterion CO2 and the point-rated criteria RT2?

**Answer 10:** See sub-article 1. *GENERAL. f) of attachment 1 to part 4*. It is the responsibility of the bidder to provide an explanation on how the experience described in the bid meets the specific criteria of the solicitation.

**Question 11:** Does experience acquired in teaching advanced university courses counts towards the mandatory criterion CO2 and the point-rated criteria RT2?

**Answer 11:** See sub-article 1. *GENERAL. f) of attachment 1 to part 4*. It is the responsibility of the bidder to provide an explanation on how the experience described in the bid meets the specific criteria of the solicitation.

**Question 12:** In the evaluation of the point-rated criteria RT8, would internal research projects, such as projects that have received SR&ED tax credits, be accepted? If they are, what does the total invoiced amount correspond to? In particular for SR&ED tax credits, is the whole cost of the project considered or only the amount of the tax credits?

**Answer 12:** Yes, internal research projects will be accepted. Canada will use the total estimated value of the project to assess compliance with RT8. Note that Canada reserves its right to validate the information contained in a bid by contacting the references provided. See below the RT8 Criterion and Appendix A to Attachment 1 to Part 4 as amended.

## 2. AMENDMENT TO THE SOLICITATION DOCUMENT

- At article 5. *APPLICABLE DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES* of Annex A – Statement of work:

### **INSERT**

i. "Boily, P., Harrison, N., "A Simulation System of Systems to Assess Military Aircraft Protection (U)", *Proceedings of the IEEE International Systems Conference, Vancouver, Canada, 19-22 March 2012, p. 535-540*"

- At Attachment 1 to Part 4 of the bid solicitation :

### **DELETE**

*\*At the English version only\**

<b>CO2</b>	The proposed resource in the "Algorithm design" category must have at 24 months of experience in applying machine learning algorithms and/or evolutionary algorithms/computation.		
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### **DELETE**

<p>RT8 – The Bidder's organization has experience in projects that have used machine learning algorithms and/or evolutionary algorithms/computation.</p> <p>The projects used to demonstrate relevant corporate experience and expertise must have a total invoiced amount of at least CND \$40,000.00 including applicable taxes, a minimum duration of 6 months and have been completed within the 48 months before the closing date of this bid solicitation.</p> <p>The Bidder should replicate the table at Appendix A of Attachment 1 in Part 4 for each reference business project.</p> <p>The Bidder has completed more than 6 projects = 10 points The Bidder has completed between 4 and 6 projects = 7 points The Bidder has completed 2 or 3 projects = 4 points The Bidder has completed fewer than 2 projects = 0 points</p>		
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Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation  
**W7701-196997/A**  
Client Ref. No. - N° de réf. du client  
**W7701-19-6997**

Amd. No. - N° de la modif.  
**002**  
File No. - N° du dossier  
**QCL-9-42046**

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur  
**QCL042**  
CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME

**INSERT**

**\*At the English version only\***

<b>CO2</b>	The proposed resource in the "Algorithm design" category must have at least 24 months of experience in applying machine learning algorithms and/or evolutionary algorithms/computation.		
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<b>RT8 –</b> The Bidder's organization has experience in projects that have used machine learning algorithms and/or evolutionary algorithms/computation.  The projects used to demonstrate relevant corporate experience and expertise must have a total estimated value of at least CND \$40,000.00 including applicable taxes, a minimum duration of 6 months and have been completed within the 48 months before the closing date of this bid solicitation.  The Bidder should replicate the table at Appendix A of Attachment 1 in Part 4 for each reference business project.  The Bidder has completed more than 6 projects = 10 points The Bidder has completed between 4 and 6 projects = 7 points The Bidder has completed 2 or 3 projects = 4 points The Bidder has completed fewer than 2 projects = 0 points		
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**3. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL CLOSING DATE EXTENSION**

At the Notice of Proposed Procurement:

**DELETE**

**Date closing**

2019/08/27 14:00 Eastern Standard Time (EST)

**INSERT**

**Date closing**

2019/09/04 14:00 Eastern Standard Time (EST)

Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation  
**W7701-196997/A**  
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**002**  
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**QCL-9-42046**

Buyer ID - Id de l'acheteur  
**QCL042**  
 CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME

## ATTACHMENT 1 OF PART 4

### APPENDIX A—BIDDER RESPONSE TABLE

<b>Bidder response table</b> <b>RT8 – Corporate experience and expertise</b> <i>The Bidder should replicate the table for each corporate reference project.</i>		
Description of the corporate reference project.		(To be completed by the Bidder)
Client details	Name of client organization	
	Address	
	Contract or order No.	
	Contract or project title	
	Client name and title	
	Client phone number	
	Client email	
<p>On one page, briefly describe the projects that used machine learning algorithms and/or evolutionary algorithms/computation.</p> <p>Provide a summary of the scope, the list of categories of resources provided and the main responsibilities as part of the project.</p>		
Indicate the start and end dates for the project (mm/yyyy to mm/yyyy).		
Indicate the total estimated value (Canadian dollars, including applicable taxes).		

**\*\*All other terms and conditions remain unchanged\*\***