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**Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des soumissions
- TPSGC**

11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage, Phase III

Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

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

Special Projects Division (SPD)/Division de Projets
Spéciaux (DPS)

Terrasses de la Chaudière 4th Floo

Terrasses de la Chaudière 4e étage

10 Wellington Street,

10 Wellington Street,

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

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|--|---|
| Title - Sujet IPRMS Technology Partner Services | |
| Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation U8210-198681/A | Amendment No. - N° modif. 005 |
| Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client U8210-198681 | Date 2019-08-22 |
| GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$XU-002-36647 | |
| File No. - N° de dossier 002xu.U8210-198681 | CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME |
| Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2019-09-19 | |
| Time Zone Fuseau horaire Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT | |
| F.O.B. - F.A.B. Specified Herein - Précisé dans les présentes | |
| Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | |
| Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Kim, Raquel | Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 002xu |
| Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 406-0742 () | FAX No. - N° de FAX () - |
| Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: INNOV, SCI AND ECON DEVT CAN PDP 1, 11 FLOOR 50 VICTORIA ST K1A0C9 | |

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

| | |
|--|--|
| Delivery Required - Livraison exigée | Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée |
| Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur | |
| Telephone No. - N° de téléphone Facsimile No. - N° 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 |

THIS SOLICITATION AMENDMENT NO. 005 IS RAISED TO:

- A. Respond to questions received from suppliers; and
- B. Amend the RFP.

PART A: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Question #035

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| <p><u>Reference:</u></p> <p>Technical Evaluation</p> |
| <p><u>Question #035:</u></p> <p>As per the previous Amendment 003, Q&A #025, “Canada has not yet selected any platform for the development of IPRMS or CDS solutions. Wherever possible, for development purposes, CIPO intends to leverage GC licensing of cloud services”.</p> <p>Based on this information, will Canada amend the below resource requirements that mention Amazon Web Services Cloud Computing environment to any Cloud Computing Environment?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. RPR-7 for A.1 - APPLICATION/SOFTWARE ARCHITECT (LEVEL 3)2. RPR-6 for I.10 - TECHNICAL ARCHITECT (LEVEL 3)3. RPR-6 for P.9 - PROJECT MANAGER (LEVEL 3)4. RPR-6 for A.6 - PROGRAMMER/SOFTWARE DEVELOPER (LEVEL 3) |
| <p><u>Answer #035:</u></p> <p>Please refer to Answer #030 to Question #030 in Amendment NO. 004. Therein (Revision 005), Canada replaced “the Amazon Web Services Cloud Computing environment” with “the Amazon Web Services or Microsoft Azure Cloud Computing environment” in RPR-7 for A.1 - Application/Software Architect (Level 3), RPR-6 for I.10 - Technical Architect (Level 3), RPR-6 for P.9 - Project Manager (Level 3) and RPR-6 for A.6 - Programmer/Software Developer (Level 3).</p> <p>As responded in Answer #025 to Question #025 in Amendment NO. 003, wherever possible, for development purposes, CIPO intends to leverage GC licensing of cloud services. Therefore, Canada maintains the phrase, “the Amazon Web Services or Microsoft Azure Cloud Computing environment”.</p> <p>Nevertheless, Canada will consider, on a case-by-case basis, other Cloud Computing environments for which GC licenses are in place. The Bidder is required to confirm with Canada for acceptance of said Cloud Computing environment prior to submitting its bid.</p> |

Question #036

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| <p><u>Reference:</u></p> <p>Bidder’s Conference</p> |
| <p><u>Question #036:</u></p> |

We requested for a Bidder's conference during the solicitation process (see Question #005 in Amendment NO. 001), however have not yet received Canada's confirmation. In order to assess this RFP in the full context of CIPO's multiple initiatives, we feel such conference would be beneficial to the industry, CIPO and ISED. Could Canada confirm whether it will hold this event?

Answer #036:

After careful consideration and discussions with pertinent stakeholders, Canada has decided to forego a Bidder's conference for the following reasons:

1. Canada has learned that a number of Suppliers do not consider a Bidder's Conference as necessary. Given the closing date of **September 19, 2019**, a conference at this time could be more detrimental than beneficial to the bid preparation process;
2. Canada has learned that many Suppliers are satisfied with the information disseminated through the amendments and would prefer to continue to raise questions through the Q&A bid solicitation process; and
3. Given the high levels of vacation, variability in the availability of Suppliers and the fast-approaching bid closing date, it would be difficult to accommodate the schedule of all pertinent parties.

Canada is committed to working with Bidders and issuing amendments to clarify the RFP and inform the preparation of bids. Additionally, upon receiving a written request, Canada is committed to providing an electronic copy of the IT Modernization Blueprint. The IT Modernization Blueprint contains a high-level description of CIPO, the future state of business operations and the current state of business operations amongst others.

Question #037

Reference:

Technical Evaluation

Question #037:

Regarding Q & A #028 from Amendment 004, would Canada accept a degree in Chemical Engineering in addition to 20 years of experience as an Architect in IT with enterprise and web based architecture, system and functional analysis, programming and testing experience among others for RM-4 for the A.1 - Application/Software Architect (Level 3), and I.10 - Technical Architect (Level 3)?

Answer #037:

As noted in **Answer #028 to Question #028 in Amendment NO. 004**, Canada will accept a degree (Bachelor or higher) in Physics, Mathematics, Electronics, Systems Engineering and Electrical Engineering. Canada will consider, on a case-by-case basis, other degrees or diplomas that could be related to the requirement.

After careful consideration, Canada has concluded that a degree in Chemical Engineering is not acceptable for RM-4 for the **A.1 - Application/Software Architect (Level 3)**, **I.10 - Technical Architect (Level 3)** or **A.6 - Programmer/Software Developer (Level 3)**.

Question #038

Reference:

Financial Bid Workbook

Question #038:

In the RFP, Canada has provided an overview of the IPRMS requirements and scope of work. However, no specific technologies are identified for each resource category. The resource tasks and requirements outlined in the RFP are generic in nature. This is problematic as Bidders are required to provide a per diem rate for twenty one (21) different TBIPS resource categories as part of their financial bid, some of which are resource categories that may require specific and specialized skills after contract award.

Given these challenges, would Canada consider amending the Financial Workbook to allow Bidders to provide two different rates for the resource categories that might have specialized skill sets? For example, one (1) bill rate for a Programmer/Analyst - General and one (1) bill rate for a Programmer/Analyst - Specialized.

Answer #038:

The specific requirements for the four (4) key resources are outlined in Appendix 2 to Annex E - Key Resources Criteria. For other resource categories indicated in the RFP, the Bidder is advised to propose per diem rates based on general requirements described in the TBIPS Supply Arrangement. Please refer to the following link: (<https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/app-acq/sptb-tbps/categories-eng.html>).

Please note that the Financial Bid Workbook remains unchanged.

Question #039

Reference:

General Question

Question #039:

Can Canada provide the total estimated funding for the CIPO Information Technology Modernization initiative under the IPRMS Technology Partner Services requirements?

Answer #039:

The total funding allotted for the CIPO Information Technology Modernization initiative under the IPRMS Technology Partner Services requirements is approximately \$20M (applicable taxes included).

Question #040

Reference:

General Question

Question #040:

Can Canada provide the timeline for completing the evaluation and awarding the IPRMS Technology Partner Services contract?

Answer #040:

Canada intends to begin evaluating the bids in late September. The timeline for completing the evaluation will depend on the number of bids received. Canada is working to award the IPRMS Technology Partner Services contract as early as December 2019.

Question #041

Reference:

General Question

Question #041:

Can Canada describe the initial Task Authorizations that will be issued upon IPRMS contract award and the categories of resources that would be requested?

Answer #041:

For a description of the initial Task Authorizations that could be issued, please refer to **Answer #023 to Question #023 in Amendment NO. 003.**

Canada intends to issue mostly outcome-based task authorizations. Towards this, Canada will engage with the Technology Partner to identify the necessary resource categories for a given task authorization. Initially, Canada anticipates that some or all Key Resources (Application/Software Architect, Technical Architect, Programmer/Software Developer and Project Manager) could be requested.

PART B: RFP REVISIONS

No revision has been made to the RFP as a result of this Solicitation Amendment.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE BID SOLICITATION REMAIN UNCHANGED.