Public Works and Government Services Canada | Travaux publics et Services gouvernementaux Canada

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Gatineau
Quebec
K1A0S5
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
Informatics Professional Services Division/Division des services professionnels en informatique
Terrasses de la Chaudière 4th Floo
10 Wellington Street
Gatineau
Quebec
K1A0S5

Title - Sujet Command & Control IM/IT	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation W6369-190169/B	**Amendment No. - N° modif.** 001
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client W6369-190169	**Date** 2019-12-17
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-$IPS-014-37099	
File No. - N° de dossier 014ips.W6369-190169	**CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME**
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin **at - à 02:00 PM** **on - le 2020-01-07**	**Time Zone** **Fuseau horaire** Eastern Standard Time EST
F.O.B. - F.A.B. **Plant-Usine:** ☐ **Destination:** ☐ **Other-Autre:** ☐	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Lang, Jennifer	**Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur** 014ips
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 296-3445 ( )	**FAX No. - N° de FAX** ( ) -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: **Destination - des biens, services et construction:**	

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**	

Canada

AMENDMENT 001

This amendment to the solicitation is raised to answer bidder questions and to amend the solicitation document.

Canada does not intend to grant extensions for the bid solicitation period.

BIDDER QUESTIONS

Q1: If there is no incumbent who worked on any related task to the above referenced RFP, we would greatly appreciate to be invited.

A1: The eligibility requirements are stipulated in Article 1.2(j) of the solicitation. Bidders should consult their current TBIPS SA(s) to verify whether they meet the requirements as described in the RFP. The Task-Based Informatics Professional Services (TBIPS) Method of Supply is refreshed on an annual basis. If you wish to find out how you can be a Qualified SA Holder, please contact RCNMDAI.-NCRIMOS@pwgsc.gc.ca.

Q2: I would like to get invited to this RFP. Please let me know if you need anything from me.

A2: See answer to Q1.

Q3: Can the Crown please disclose how many bidders responded to the original RFP W6369-190169/A?

A3: In order to protect the integrity of the current bid solicitation process, the number of bid(s) received for the original Request for Proposal (W6369-190169/A) will not be disclosed.

Q4: I understand that it is mentioned that there are no currently incumbents, but has there been anyone, in the last 24 months, performing these or similar services? If so what would be the company/s that hold the contract and what is the value?

A4: There is no incumbent for requirements under this Request for Proposal within the last 24 months. In the last 24 months, similar service categories were supplied to the Defence Lessons Learned System (DLLS) and Joint Targeting Enterprise Automation (JTEA) projects:

- Programmer/Software Developer (.NET)
  - Veritaaq Technology House Inc., contract value $2,826,953.00 CAD
- Business Analyst
  - Procom, contract value $2,788,331.00 CAD
- Business Process Consultant
  - Altis Human Resources (Ottawa) Inc., contract value $6,898,146.00 CAD

Q5: Can you please advise why this is being re-tendered?

A5: Canada is providing the following additional information on the decision to cancel W6369-190169/A. Due to an administrative oversight, conflicting information was provided to the bidders with respect to the bid submission requirements during the bid solicitation period. In order to be fair to all bidders and to ensure the integrity of the procurement process, Canada decided to cancel and re-issue the bid solicitation.

Q6: In reference to Solicitation Number W6369-190169/A (cancelled RFP), Amendment 5, Question and Answer 36 was as follows:

Q36: For Web Designer - Level 2, MC2 allows for the demonstration of experience with Government of Canada Web Standards or equivalent. Would the Crown consider amending the wording of RC1 to also allow for demonstration of equivalent experience (e.g. with provincial standards, such as AODA, or industry standards and specifications such as WAI-ARIA, WCAG 2.0)?

A36: Experience in the application of provincial web standards or Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) web standards are considered to be acceptable for Mandatory Criteria MC2. WCAG 2.0 is widely used to guide the creation of government web sites and relevant to this specific category and the tasks the contractor will be performing.

In comparing the MC2 requirement in the newly released replacement RFP (W6369-190169/B), the amended wording has not been added to the MC2 requirement. Does the response to Q36 also apply to MC2 within RFP W6369-190169/B?

A6: Attachment 4.1 Mandatory Technical Criteria – Table 3 has been amended below.

Q7: Can you please confirm the security level for the three resources that are to be submitted for this proposal?

A7: The A.6 Programmer/Software Developer (LEVEL 3) must hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of reliability status, granted or approved by CSP/ISS/PWGSC.
The A.13 Web Designer (LEVEL 2) must hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of reliability status, granted or approved by CSP/ISS/PWGSC.
The B.1 Business Analyst (LEVEL 3) must be a citizen of Canada or of the United States and must hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of Secret, granted or approved by the CSP/ISS/PWGSC.
Please see Part 6, 6.1 Security Requirement for the date by which these clearances are required.
Please see the Request for Proposal for more details of security requirements.

Q8: Does this RFP require Document Safeguarding?

A8: As per Annex C – Security Requirements Checklist (part C), document safeguarding is not required.

Q9: Regarding RC3, h) Aurelia: EmberJS and BackboneJS are both similar frameworks to Aurelia in that they are both MVC JavaScript frameworks with similar philosophies. Based on this, would the Crown change RC3 to "h) Aurelia, EmberJS, or BackboneJS" for one (1) point?

A9: After careful review of the RFP, Rated Criteria RC3 will remain the same. One (1) point is already available for experience with other unspecified JavaScript Frameworks, in RC3 g). Experience with Ember.js or Backbone.js may be applied to RC3 g).

Q10: We are an existing, qualified TSPS/TBIPS SA holder and we are very interested in this RFP. Can you please invite us?

A10: See answer to Q1.

Q11: With regards to RFP Section 4.3 Financial Evaluation, for each Resource Category the median will be calculated using the median function in Microsoft Excel and will represent a range that encompasses any rate to a value of minus (-) 20% of the median, and an upper median rate to a value of plus (+) 30% of the median. Many recent GoC TBIPS Tier 2 solicitations have evolved to utilizing a lower median rate limit of minus (-) 10 % of the median to establish the lower median band limit, as a result of these solicitations, higher rates are typically obtained which deliver better quality resources, less turn over of resources due to rate and increased project success while simultaneously discouraging low rates and avoiding unserviceable Tier 2 contracts. Minus 10 medians have been utilized by SSC, Agriculture

Canada, ESDC and DFAIT in TBIPS solicitations in order to realize these benefits. Would the crown consider a minus 10 lower band median in order to satisfy DND's project objectives?

A11: After careful review of the RFP, Article 4.3 of the solicitation will remain unchanged.

Q12: With regards to RB4, it is not common that a resource would have used all 14 technologies within the last 10 years, as some of the technologies listed can be used in the same capacity. Would the crown consider revising the scoring criteria to allow a resource to score max points utilizing most but not all listed technologies (ie utilizing greater than 80 % or 11 of the 14 listed technologies would score max) ?

A12: As these are point rated criteria there is no requirement that a proposed contractor has experience with all of them to be considered compliant. RB4 will not be modified. The same reasoning is also applicable to RA4, RC3, RC4 and RE3.

Q13: In reference to RC3 within Appendix C to Appendix A, would the Crown please accept experience with Node.JS in lieu of experience with Aurelia as they are both JavaScript Frameworks and perform similar functions. Aurelia was released in 2016 and is not widely used by public sector organizations, which limits the pool of otherwise well qualified candidates who have experience using more common technologies.

A13: After careful review of the RFP, Rated Criteria RC3 will remain the same. One (1) point is already available for experience with other unspecified JavaScript Frameworks, in RC3 g). Experience with Node.js may be applied to RC3 g).

Q14: Would the Crown please accept experience working with web services (WCF, REST, etc.) in lieu of experience with RabbitMQ, for RB4 within Appendix C to Appendix A, as the technologies serve similar messaging functions. RabbitMQ is highly specific and not commonly used within the industry, which could limit the ability of bidders to provide the Crown with otherwise qualified and quality candidates.

A14: After careful review of the RFP, Rated Criteria RB4 will remain the same. Experience with RabbitMQ is relevant to the work to be performed and it only represents a one (1) rated point. Experience with WCF web services or REST Web API services will be evaluated separately in MB5.

AMENDMENTS

1. At Attachment 4.1 Mandatory Technical Criteria – Table 3:

DELETE:

The Web Designer – Level 2 table in its entirety.

INSERT:

#	REQUIREMENT	MET	NOT MET	Cross-Reference to Resume
MC1	Must have a minimum of five (5) years of collective experience within the last fifteen (15) years designing web sites professionally.			
MC2	Must have a minimum of two (2) years of collective experience within the last ten (10) years designing web sites according to Government of Canada or equivalent web standards**. Experience in the application of Canadian provincial web standards or the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) will be accepted as equivalent web standards.**			
MC3	Must have a minimum of three (3) years of collective experience within the last seven (7) years optimizing the viewing experience of web sites by applying "Responsive Web Design" best practices.			

#	REQUIREMENT	MET	NOT MET	Cross-Reference to Resume
MC4	Must have a minimum of five (5) years of collective experience within the last fifteen (15) years sketching UX flows and screens using wireframing tools.			
MC5	Must have a minimum of five (5) years of collective experience within the last fifteen (15) years using graphic design tools like Sketch, Pencil, Photoshop or Adobe XD.			

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL REMAIN UNCHANGED.