



RETURN BIDS TO:

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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

This requirement contains a security requirement.

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
Les Terrasses de la Chaudière
10, rue Wellington, 4ième
étage/Floor
Gatineau
Québec
K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet TBIPS-IM/IT Services	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation G9292-203481/F	Amendment No. - N° modif. 003
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client ESDC PReq 100013481	Date 2020-08-22
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$ZM-380-38368	
File No. - N° de dossier 380zm.G9292-203481	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM on - le 2020-09-18	
F.O.B. - F.A.B. Plant-Usine: <input type="checkbox"/> Destination: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other-Autre: <input type="checkbox"/>	
Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à: Cook, Gail	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 380zm
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (613) 858-9369 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX (819) 956-2675
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT CANADA	

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

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AMENDMENT NO. 003

This amendment is raised to revise the RFP and to answer Bidders' questions.

RFP REVISIONS:

1. At Page 1 of the RFP, Solicitation Closes:

Delete: 2020-09-04

Insert: 2020-09-18

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

Question 8:

This RFP refers to the category of service entitled "1.7 Platform Architect", which is not a TBIPS category. Please confirm that the RFP should read in all instances of "1.7 Platform Architect" the correct TBIPS category of "1.7 Platform Analyst".

Answer 8:

Confirmed. The RFP should read in all instances 1.7 Platform Analyst.

Question 9:

RE: RTC1

RTC1 refer to a category of service entitled "Database Analyst / IM Modeller", which is not a TBIPS category. Please confirm that this should align to the rest of the RFP and read "Database Modeller / IM Modeller."

Answer 9:

Confirmed. The resource category should read Database Modeller / IM Modeller.

Question 10:

To allow for stronger bid responses and a fair procurement process, can Canada please grant an extension of the closing date of this RFP to by three (3) weeks to September 14th?

The current end date puts undue time constraints on the vendor community which impacts a fair procurement process and strength of bid responses.

Answer 10:

The closing date has been extended to September 18, 2020.

Question 11:

ESDC is one of the largest Federal Government Departments, playing a vital role for the Canadian government by providing critical services to Canadians. This includes millions of benefit-related transactions across key social institutions like Old Age Security, Employment Insurance, Canada Job Bank and Canada Pension Plan. These services have only grown in importance given the current Covid-19 health emergency, as has ESDC's role in the Government's response with CERB, CESB, CEWS, etc.

The services required for this RFP are crucial to ESDC's future success, however the RFP in its current form does not do enough to incentivize market rates to attract skilled IT Consultants.

The skillsets required through the RFP are generally procured on large TBIPS contracts. Based on two recent solicitations for Application Services with similar thresholds to score full points, we expect there to be many compliant bids with a median rate below market value.

The only way to win a contract that receives a high number compliant bids is to be the lowest cost, which is likely for this solicitation given the current thresholds for this RFP.

To increase ESDC's chances of awarding a contract that can attract strong local IT talent in line with its mandate:

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Question 11A)

RTC1- can ESDC please amend the criteria to read, "Referenced contracts and Resources named to meet MTC1 cannot be named again for the same resource category in RTC1. A resource cannot be named more than once for the same resource category."

RTC1's current format permits bidders that may have won only two major TBIPS contracts to satisfy all of the criteria, as MTC1 contracts can be used. The above change would show a larger breadth of corporate experience in the required skillset categories.

Question 11B)

MTC1- can ESDC please confirm that resource categories listed in the Statement of Work that contain a Level 3 and Level 2 position do not count as two separate categories?

Question 11C)

MTC1(d)- can ESDC please amend the criteria to read "Must have been for a minimum contract billed value of \$5 Million (amendments and applicable taxes included)."

Measuring contract value only proves that a bidder won the contract. Having billed this value proves a bidder delivered the required services throughout the duration of the contract. TBIPS Stream 1- Application Services contracts are generally large in contract size and bill a high value. This change would be an appropriate way of gauging a Bidder's ability to successfully and continuously deliver services on a large scale.

Answer 11A):

Your recommendation was considered but MTC1 will remain unchanged.

Answer 11B):

Confirmed.

Answer 11 C):

Your recommendation was considered but MTC1 will remain unchanged.

Question 12:

Reference: RFP Part 1, Para 1.2 Summary, Sub para (k)

Request the Crown clarify I.7 Platform "Architect". TBIPS Stream 3 IM/IT Services lists I.7 as Platform "Analyst".

Answer 12:

See Answer 8.

Question 13:

Reference 2: Solicitation Closing Date

We respectfully request the Crown's consideration in granting a two (2) week extension past the current August 24th closing date to enable Bidders additional time to respond to this additional complex RFP during COVID and this year's vacation season. This will also help stagger incoming ESDC bids.

Answer 13:

The closing date has been extended to September 18, 2020.

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Question 14:

ESDC currently has many opportunities out for solicitation each of which require numerous client references. An additional challenge has been contacting clients during the summer vacation period and working remotely with reduced hours and staff during the pandemic. We respectfully request an extension to the current August 24th due date in order to allow reasonable cycles to complete compliant proposals.

Answer 14:

The closing date has been extended to September 18, 2020.

Question 15:

In regards to MTC1.f for the subject solicitation, would the Crown consider amending the requirement to allow cumulative experience of the two reference contracts to demonstrate experience with the 5 similar resource categories?

For example: Contract #1: demonstrates 2 categories and Contract #2 demonstrates 3 categories.

It is very rare for a firm to have been awarded one let alone two contracts which meets all of the requirements listed (MTC1.a – MTC1.f). By allowing bidders to demonstrate cumulative experience for only MTC1.f, this will ensure a fair and open procurement process as well as providing the Crown with a true representation of potential vendors with the required corporate history to successfully fulfill the mandate of this RFP.

Answer 15:

Your recommendation was considered but MTC1 will remain unchanged.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.