



SHARED SERVICES CANADA (SSC)

Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) for Government of Canada Network Services (GCNS) Procurement Process

ITQ No.	R000076631	Date	January 26, 2021
Amendment No.	002	GETS Reference No.	PW-20-00939000

Issuing Office	Shared Services Canada 180 Kent Street, 13 th Floor Ottawa, Ontario K1P 0B6		
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Closing Date and Time	February 19, 2021 @ 02:00 PM		
Time Zone	Eastern Standard Time (EST)		

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AMENDMENT NO. 002

ITQ Amendment No. 002 is raised:

- 1) To identify key dates;
 - 2) To answer questions posed by the potential respondents;
 - 3) To advise potential respondents of the posting of Word versions of the ITQ Annexes A through H on Buy & Sell;
 - 4) To extend the deadline for submitting questions; and
 - 5) To extend the pre-submission deadline.
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Milestone	Original Date	Revised Date
ITQ release date	December 21, 2020	completed
ITQ Briefing Session	January 8, 2021	completed
Pre-bid submission date	January 22, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST)	January 29, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST) (AMD#1) February 5, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST) (AMD#2)
Last day for Questions and Comments	January 26, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST)	February 2, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#2)
ITQ closing date and time	February 12, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST)	February 19, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#1)

Question 2:

“At the time of submitting this question (Jan 18th) Canada still has not responded to a number of other important questions that we have posed related to how and if specific references can be used. These answers are required in order to build our pre-submission bid package which currently has a deadline of Jan 22nd. In addition, during the bidders briefing session, on Jan 8th, Canada committed to posting new forms (in excel format or other) that would make it easier for bidders to enter in the data required. These forms have yet to be posted and thus has slowed down our ability to collect the reference information required. Also with the bid being released on Dec 21st, just prior to the vacation period, has made it extremely difficult to mobilize our resources, until the new year, to begin the process of analyzing the requirements of this ITQ. The reference data being requested (especially if a bidder is interested in qualifying for more than one stream) is extremely onerous and we require more time to collect and document the reference information being requested.

With this in mind will Canada provide a two week extension to the Jan 22nd pre-bid deadline and a four week extension to the final ITQ? This is a very important solicitation for Canada and we strongly believe that these extensions will allow industry the time necessary to put forward not only the references being requested but also to optimize the partnership models/bidding entity that will be put forward for GCNS. We greatly appreciate Canada’s consideration of this request for an extension.”

Answer 2:

Annexes A through H are now posted on Buy & Sell in Word format to assist the respondents with building their submissions.

The pre-bid submission deadline is hereby extended to February 5, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST).

The ITQ closing date was already extended through Amendment 001 to February 19, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST). No further extensions are anticipated at this time.

Question 3:

“In Annex C Requirement 6 it states “The Respondent must have provided, as the Prime Contractor, a wireless Local Area Network Service to 5 customers with a minimum of 10 sites with a cumulative total of 500 active users for a period of at least 24 continuous months (which can include the implementation phase) in the last 5 years prior to the closing date of this ITQ”,

Please clarify that the customer reference put forward must be receiving a wireless LAN service from the respondent at a minimum of 10 separate physical addresses in Canada. The cumulative total of active users across all 10 + addresses must equal or exceed 500 users (or on average 50 users per site if exactly 10 addresses are put forward).”

Answer 3:

In ITQ Reference Project Form: Mandatory Experience Requirement #6 for Annex C, please delete the following:

Mandatory Experience Requirement #6 for Annex C
The Respondent must have provided, as the Prime Contractor, a wireless Local Area Network Service to 5 customers with a minimum of 10 sites with a cumulative total of 500 active users for a period of at least 24 continuous months (which can include the implementation phase) in the last 5 years prior to the closing date of this ITQ. (Respondents must provide 1 form per customer)

And replace with the following:

Mandatory Experience Requirement #6 for Annex C
The Respondent must have provided, as the Prime Contractor, a wireless Local Area Network Service to 5 customers with a minimum of 10 unique Customer Sites per customer with a cumulative total of 500 active users (across all Customer Sites for all customers) for a period of at least 24 continuous months (which can include the implementation phase) in the last 5 years prior to the closing date of this ITQ. (Respondents must provide 1 form per customer)



Question 4:

Based on the review of question 3 above, Canada is also going to provide further clarification to Annex C Requirement #5 as follows:

Answer 4:

In ITQ Reference Project Form: Mandatory Experience Requirement #5 for Annex C, please delete the following:

<p>Mandatory Experience Requirement #5 for Annex C</p> <p>The Respondent must have provided, as the Prime Contractor, a wired Local Area Network Service to one customer with a minimum of 10 sites with a cumulative total of 500 users for a period of at least 24 continuous months (which can include the implementation phase) in the last 5 years prior to the closing date of this ITQ.</p>

And replace with the following:

<p>Mandatory Experience Requirement #5 for Annex C</p> <p>The Respondent must have provided, as the Prime Contractor, a wired Local Area Network Service to one customer with a minimum of 10 unique Customer sites with a cumulative total of 500 users (across all Customer Sites for all customers) for a period of at least 24 continuous months (which can include the implementation phase) in the last 5 years prior to the closing date of this ITQ.</p>

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Question 5:

“Would appreciate if Canada could answer the question below.
Note: Many of the questions, we have posed, are time-sensitive. Canada has yet to answer a single question and this makes it extremely difficult for us to respond with the reference detail required. Would greatly appreciate an expeditious response.

The current deadline for Q&A remains for Tuesday Jan 26th. As per Amendment #1 Canada has extended the pre-bid submission package and the final ITQ submission by one week. Given the extension to these two key deliverables it would follow that the Q&A deadline would also be pushed one week. Will Canada extend the Q&A deadline by one week to February 2nd 2:00pm.”

Answer 5:

The deadline for submitting questions is hereby extended to February 2, 2021 @ 2:00 PM EST.

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ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.

