



SHARED SERVICES CANADA (SSC)

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

ITQ No.	R000076631	Date	February 9, 2021
Amendment No.	009	GETS Reference No.	PW-20-00939000

Issuing Office	Shared Services Canada 180 Kent Street, 13 th Floor Ottawa, Ontario K1P 0B6		
Contracting Authority (The Contracting Authority is SSC's representative for all questions and comments about this document.)	Name	Daniel Ellsworth	
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Closing Date and Time	February 26, 2021 @ 02:00 PM		
Time Zone	Eastern Standard Time (EST)		

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AMENDMENT NO. 009

ITQ Amendment no. 009 is raised:

- 1) To identify key dates; and
- 2) To answer questions posed by the potential respondents.

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) February 12, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST) (AMD#7)
Last day for Questions and Comments	January 26, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST)	February 2, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#2) February 9, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#7)
ITQ closing date and time	February 12, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST)	February 19, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#1) February 26, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#7)

Question 43:

“A Stream 1 CNS provider will likely be required to interconnect with multiple Stream 2 BANS vendors at each core POP, thus multiplying the challenges outlined above. With the noted challenges, risks and complexities that this model introduces, we strongly recommend that Streams 1 and 2 be redefined. We therefore request that CNS and ANS be merged into a single stream.”

Answer 43:

Canada will not make the requested change.

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Question 44:

“If Canada intends to conduct a full Network Strategy discussion that will cover the scope of the GCNS requirement, we respectfully ask that Canada hosts this discussion prior to the ITQ closing to ensure industry has had an opportunity to understand, ask questions and provide comments related to the strategy. This approach will provide the best outcome for Canada and this ITQ.”



Answer 44:

As stated in Amendment 005, Answer 11, the information currently available to the potential respondents for GCNS is sufficient to complete the response submission requirements of the ITQ. Additional details with respect to the next stages of the procurement process and the eventual plans for the contracting vehicles will be discussed collaboratively with our Qualified Respondents during the RRR phase under GCNS resulting from this ITQ. A Network Strategy discussion is not required to respond successfully to this ITQ.

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ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.

