



SHARED SERVICES CANADA (SSC)

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

ITQ No.	R000076631	Date	February 11, 2021
Amendment No.	011	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 26, 2021 @ 02:00 PM		
Time Zone	Eastern Standard Time (EST)		

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AMENDMENT NO. 011

ITQ Amendment no. 011 is raised:

- 1) To identify key dates; and
 - 2) To answer questions posed by the potential respondents.
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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) 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 51:

“Amendment 2, Q&A 3 revises the requirement for Annex C Requirement 3 to “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.”

Based on our reading, this means that Bidders are to provide a client reference that has a minimum of 10 sites with no more than 500 active users across those sites (e.g. average of 50 users per site). Information regarding number of users per site is considered by most clients to be commercially confidential. In addition, clients may have a larger number of smaller branch sites with low numbers of active users in each. This prescriptive requirement (clients who have 500 users overall but at least 10 sites, and Bidders are asked to provide 5 client references to meet this requirement) should be revised in order to provide high level information only that will demonstrate that Bidder’s are providing managed LAN services to multiple client sites and for a significant number of users.

We recommend that Canada revise to read “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 minimum cumulative total of 500 active users over all client sites 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.”



Answer 51:

Canada agrees to add the word minimum for further clarity as suggested.

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 **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)

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 **minimum** 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)

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Question 52:

“In consideration for the client references’ time and schedules, please confirm that in the event a Bidder provides a client references for multiple streams or requirements within a Stream, that Canada will consolidate their reference calls to a single call to that client.”

Answer 52:

Canada confirms that references used for multiple Streams or multiple requirements within a Stream will be contacted only once.

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Question 53:

“4.8.1 Respondents are invited to submit a Pre-Bid:

We would like to test the compliance of our content, but may not have all Streams completed by January 22nd. Is Canada willing to accept a pre-bid GCNS ITQ package for one stream only?

Will that preclude us from responding to other streams in our final submission?”



Answer 53:

The Pre-bid Compliance Check Process (PCCP) submission is not mandatory. It is up to the respondent to determine if they wish to submit a pre-bid response to check for compliance in a specific stream.

Canada will accept a pre-bid response for one Stream only.

Respondents will not be eliminated from a stream because they did not submit a pre-bid response for that stream in their pre-bid response submission.

It should be noted that the pre-bid submission deadline has been extended to February 12, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST).

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Question 54:

"If SSC decides to run a second qualification round in one or more Streams and the reference requirements change, will they allow vendors who have not previously responded to respond at that time?"

Answer 54:

Canada confirms that should it run a second round of ITQ qualifications in one or more Streams, vendors that did not submit a response will be allowed to submit one in the second qualification round.

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ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.