



SHARED SERVICES CANADA (SSC)

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

ITQ No.	R000076631	Date	February 18, 2021
Amendment No.	015	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	March 5, 2021 @ 02:00 PM		
Time Zone	Eastern Standard Time (EST)		

INVITATION TO QUALIFY AMENDMENT NO. 015

ITQ Amendment no. 015 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) February 19, 2021 @ 11:59 PM (EST) (AMD#12)
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) completed
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) March 5, 2021 @ 2:00 PM (EST) (AMD#12)

Question 66:

The following changes are required to the ITQ in order to clarify questions received around Joint Ventures.

Answer 66:

Delete article 4.7.2 of the ITQ in its entirety:

“Each Respondent (including related entities) will be permitted to qualify only once. If a Respondent or any related entities participate in more than one Response, (participating means being part of the Respondent, not being a subcontractor), Canada will provide those Respondents with 2 FGWDs to identify the single Response to be considered by Canada. Failure to meet this deadline may result in all the affected responses being disqualified or in Canada choosing, at its discretion, which of the responses to evaluate.”

Replace 4.7.2 with the following:

“Each Respondent (including related entities) will be permitted to submit one response to the ITQ. If a Respondent or any related entities participate in more than one Response, (participating means being part of the Respondent, not being a subcontractor), Canada will provide those Respondents with 2 FGWDs to identify the single Response to be considered by Canada. Failure to meet this deadline may result in all the affected responses being disqualified or in Canada choosing, at its discretion, which of the responses to evaluate.”



Further, delete article 4.7.4 of the ITQ in its entirety:

“Any individual, sole proprietorship, corporation, or partnership that is a Respondent as part of a joint venture cannot submit another response on its own or as part of another joint venture.”

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Question 67:

“1.9.3 Joint Venture Respondents:

Can a respondent submit a response as a member of a joint venture for some streams and as a sole respondent for the other streams? If so, would we be permitted to submit more than one ITQ submission?”

Answer 67:

A Respondent can submit only a single response to the ITQ for any of the Streams (1 to 5) where the respondent can be an individual, a sole proprietorship, a corporation, a partnership or a joint venture. A supplier however can participate in multiple Respondent submissions in accordance with the previous statement.

For example, supplier A as a Corporation can submit a response for Streams 1 and 2 and can also be part of a response in a JV with supplier B for Streams 1 and 2.

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Question 68:

“Should two vendors form a joint venture for the purpose of meeting the requirements to qualify for Stream 2, and both vendors are independently able to meet the requirements for Stream 3:

- 1. Can the two members of the joint venture qualify independently for Stream 3 while qualifying for Stream 2 as a joint venture?
- 2. If the two members of the joint venture are not permitted to qualify independently for Stream 3, are the two members permitted to bid independently on future SOs/SAs for SD-WAN services?”

Answer 68:

1.Yes. For example, supplier A and supplier B can submit individual responses as Respondents to the ITQ for Stream 3. Supplier A and supplier B can then form a joint venture and submit a response to the ITQ as a joint venture Respondent for Stream 2.

2.No. Only Respondents that have qualified (Qualified Respondents) for Stream 3 can participate in any future solicitation issued to Stream 3 Qualified Respondents during the period of the procurement process.

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ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.

