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11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

Place du Portage, Phase III

Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2

Gatineau

Quebec

K1A 0S5

**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

There are security requirements associated with this requirement

Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Professional Services Division (ZV)/Division des
Services Professionnels(ZV)

Les Terrasses de la Chaudière

10, rue Wellington, 4th floor

Gatineau

Quebec

K1A0S5

Title - Sujet IT Professional Services - Cybersec IT Professionnal Services - Cybersecurity	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation 47419-214911/A	Amendment No. - N° modif. 001
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client 47419-214911	Date 2021-04-13
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$ZV-006-39342	
File No. - N° de dossier 006zv.47419-214911	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT on - le 2021-04-27 Heure Avancée de l'Est HAE	
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: Desbois, Sylvain	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 006zv
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (819) 962-8660 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction:	

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

This amendment includes responses to questions received from potential bidders, modify information in regard to whose S/A (Supply Arrangement) holders can submit a proposal and correct the name of the SRCL attachment on Buyandsell.gc.ca

A. Questions / Answers

Question 1:

- a) Can you please invite our Company to the above-mentioned solicitation?
- b) We would like to be invited to this mandate, if our Company qualifies for this mandate.
- c) We are requesting to be added to the list of invited suppliers for Solicitation#47419-214911/A for TBIPS Cybersecurity Services, as seen on Buy&Sell.

Answer 1:

As indicated in Paragraph h) on the Summary section of the RFP on page 6, Only TBIPS SA Holders holding a TBIPS SA for Tier 2 at the time of bid closing, in all required resource categories in this solicitation and in the National Capital Region under the EN578-170432 series of SAs are eligible to compete.

See the Request for Proposal (RFP) amendment B 1. below for further details.

Suppliers can consult their credentials on the Centralized professional services ePortal at: <https://sspc-fournisseur-cpss-supplier.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/Indiquerouvertureession-ShowLogin-Eng.action>.

Should you require more information on how to become a qualified TBIPS Supply Arrangement Holder, please contact the Manager of the Informatics Method of Supply (IMOS) at: rcnmdai-ncrimos@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

Question 2:

Re: Attachment 4.2, Point-Rated Technical Criteria, CR4 and CR5

Our company is a majority women-owned Canadian business established in 1990 to primarily service the National Capital Region and the Government of Canada. We have a demonstrable history of providing highly capable Microsoft and Amazon certified resources in the Ottawa market without ever encountering a requirement to hold corporate partnerships. We have however sought out these partnerships and are working with AWS to become a Premier Partner. We have also asked to be included in the Microsoft Certification program corporately on several occasions for almost 11 years now (Our company first applied in 2010). On each occasion we have been advised by Microsoft that they are not accepting any more applications for partners – cloud or otherwise. As a result, local Canadian firms interested in attaining a Microsoft partnership have been unable to do so for a number of years.

As well, due to the maturity of the cloud market, these certifications have not been required. Precluding our firm, and the majority of other firms with a background in Cyber Security and Cloud Computing, from providing the support being sought after in this RFP because of corporate certifications would significantly limit the pool of responses for CBSA and potentially affect the overall project with the lack of expertise that comes from more specialized providers.

On previous Cloud projects, we have engaged cloud certified personnel to do the work, with no impact on the quality of service provided by not holding the specific corporate partnerships for the levels and competencies being requested in the rated criteria.

In spite of not holding the corporate certifications, our personnel have been invited to product releases with Microsoft and with AWS because of their individually demonstrated expertise, without any corporate benefit or advantage being lost or sacrificed.

Regardless, we have been more than able to provide certified and trusted Azure and AWS Cloud certified personnel to deliver the necessary advice and guidance required, that CBSA is seeking.

To date, we are not aware of any TBIPS Tier 2 requirements for cloud services that have eliminated firms for not holding these corporate partnerships. It seems evident that this requirement is for suppliers to be able to provide capable Cloud certified resources, which firms can demonstrate without these corporate certifications. This is not, after all, new technology. The private sector adopted this more than 10 years ago and we have not been required to hold the certifications listed to deliver the necessary services historically.

Would the Crown please consider removing criteria CR4 and CR5?"

Answer 2:

Canada has reviewed the request, however the requirement will remain unchanged.

B. RFP amendment

1. In Part 1 - General Information, section 1.2 – Summary

Delete Paragraph h), in its entirety

Insert the following (*changes in bold*):

- h) Only TBIPS SA Holders holding a TBIPS SA for Tier 2 at the time of bid closing, in all required resource categories in this solicitation, in the National Capital Region under the EN578-170432 series of SAs, **with a Facility Security Clearance (FSC) and a document safeguarding clearance at the Secret level**, are eligible to compete. The TBIPS SA EN578-170432 is incorporated by reference and forms part of this bid solicitation, as though expressly set out in it, subject to any express terms and conditions

Solicitation Number:
47419-214911

Amendment Number:
001

Buyer ID:
006zv

contained in this bid solicitation. The capitalized terms not defined in this bid solicitation have the meaning given to them in the TBIPS SA.

AND

2. On page 153, Annex C – Security Requirement Check List

Delete the information as follows, in its entirety:

ANNEX C
SECURITY REQUIREMENTS CHECK LIST
See attached document **47419-214911_SRCL-LVERS** on Buy&Sell
Contract Number 1000354911

Insert the following

ANNEX C
SECURITY REQUIREMENTS CHECK LIST
See attached document **ABE-PRODP_W_ZV-B006-B39342ATTA001.PDF** on Buy&Sell
Contract Number 1000354911

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE RFP REMAIN UNCHANGED