



**RETURN BIDS TO:**

**RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À:**

Bid Receiving - PWGSC / Réception des  
soumissions - TPSGC  
11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier  
Place du Portage, Phase III  
Core 0B2 / Noyau 0B2  
Gatineau, Québec K1A 0S5  
Bid Fax: (819) 997-9776

**LETTER OF INTEREST  
LETTRE D'INTÉRÊT**

Comments - Commentaires

Vendor/Firm Name and Address  
Raison sociale et adresse du  
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution  
Systems Integration & Software Development Division  
(XG)/Div. d'Intégration des systèmes et du développement  
des logiciels (XG)  
Terrasses de la Chaudière 4th Floor  
10 Wellington Street  
Gatineau  
Quebec  
K1A 0S5

<b>Title - Sujet</b> AIT Project Procurement	
<b>Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation</b> W6381-180019/B	<b>Date</b> 2021-07-09
<b>Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client</b> W6381-180019	<b>GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG</b> PW-\$\$XG-624-39767
<b>File No. - N° de dossier</b> 624xg.W6381-180019	<b>CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME</b>
<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> <b>at - à 02:00 PM</b> Eastern Daylight Saving Time EDT <b>on - le 2021-08-20</b> Heure Avancée de l'Est HAE	
<b>F.O.B. - F.A.B.</b> Specified Herein - Précisé dans les présentes <b>Plant-Usine:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Destination:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Other-Autre:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Address Enquiries to: - Adresser toutes questions à:</b> NGUYEN, Mark Nam	<b>Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur</b> 624xg
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> ( ) - ( )	<b>FAX No. - N° de FAX</b> ( ) -
<b>Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction:</b> <b>Destination - des biens, services et construction:</b>  Specified Herein Précisé dans les présentes	

Instructions: See Herein

Instructions: Voir aux présentes

<b>Delivery Required - Livraison exigée</b> See Herein – Voir ci-inclus	<b>Delivery Offered - Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address</b> <b>Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>	
<b>Telephone No. - N° de téléphone</b> <b>Facsimile No. - N° de télécopieur</b>	
<b>Name and title of person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm</b> <b>(type or print)</b> <b>Nom et titre de la personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/</b> <b>de l'entrepreneur ( taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie)</b>	
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

# REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FOR

Department of National Defence  
W6381-170009 Automatic Identification Technology (AIT)

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## **PART 1 - INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Nature of RFI**

A Request for Information (RFI) is used when detailed information and feedback are required from suppliers. This RFI is neither a call for tender nor a Request for Proposal (RFP). No agreement or contract will be entered into based on this RFI. The issuance of this RFI is not to be considered in any way a commitment by the Government of Canada, nor as authority to potential respondents to undertake any work that could be charged to Canada. This RFI is not to be considered as a commitment to issue a subsequent solicitation or award a contract(s) for the work described herein. As a result, potential suppliers of any goods or services described in this RFI should not reserve stock or facilities, nor allocate resources, as a result of any information contained in this RFI. This RFI is simply intended to solicit feedback from industry with respect to the matters described in this RFI.

Although the information collected may be provided as commercial-in-confidence (and, if identified as such, will be treated accordingly by Canada), Canada may use the information to assist in drafting performance specifications (which are subject to change). Information provided may also be used to refine the procurement strategy, define other aspects of the requirement, and for budgetary purposes.

Participation in this RFI is encouraged, but is not mandatory. There will be no short-listing of potential suppliers for the purposes of undertaking any future work as a result of this RFI. Similarly, participation in this RFI is not a condition or prerequisite for the participation in any potential subsequent solicitation.

### **1.2 Purpose and Objectives**

The main objectives of the RFI are to seek information from suppliers on their ability to bid on the draft Statement of Work (SOW) within the attached draft RFP for the Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) project as well obtain any recommendations to improve the aforementioned SOW to ensure a successful procurement for the Government of Canada. Supplier responses will inform a final RFP to be released in December 2021.

## **PART 2 - RESPONDENT INSTRUCTIONS**

### **2.1 Schedule and Process Outline**

#### **2.1.1 Summer 2021 Question and Response Engagement and RFI Closing Date**

Canada is requesting responses to the questions contained in **Annex B – RFI Questions to Industry** no later than 23 July 2021. After reviewing the responses, Canada intends to post any requests for clarification and additional questions on 30 July 2021. Suppliers are requested to respond to these potential additional questions on or before 20 August 2021. Canada intends to prepare and post a summary report detailing the main findings and conclusions of the iterative question and response engagement. Responses to this RFI are to be submitted by email to the PSPC Contracting Authority identified herein. While earlier responses are encouraged, responses will be accepted up to the closing date of the RFI which is currently scheduled for 24 September 2021.

#### **2.1.2 Planned Solicitation Schedule**

The following schedule of tentative dates and activities are provided to assist in developing responses to this RFI:

Request for Information (RFI) published on buyandsell.gc.ca	25 June 2021
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Draft RFP published on buyandsell.gc.ca	25 June 2021
Responses received from suppliers to RFI questions	23 July 2021
Any additional questions posted on buyandsell.gc.ca	30 July 2021
Responses received from suppliers to any additional questions	20 August 2021
Final RFP published on buyandsell.gc.ca	7 December 2021
Contract award	October 2022

## 2.2 RFI Contact

All inquiries and written responses to this RFI should be submitted to:

### **Contracting Authority**

Mark Nam Nguyen  
Supply Team Leader  
E-mail Address: TPSGC.PADGATIA-APPBAIT.PWGSC@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

## 2.3 Enquiries

As this is not a bid solicitation, the Government of Canada will not necessarily respond to enquiries in writing or circulate answers to all potential respondents. However, respondents with questions regarding this RFI may direct their enquiries to the Contracting Authority identified herein.

## 2.4 Format of Responses Requested

Respondents are requested to provide a response to each question or request for information made in the attached **Annex C - Respondent Submission Form**.

Respondents should explain any assumptions they make in their responses.

The Respondent may submit any information it feels is an appropriate, useful and relevant contribution to this RFI.

## 2.5 Submission of Responses

Respondents are requested to submit via email one soft copy of their Respondent Submission Form; a copy of the template is provided in **Annex C - Respondent Submission Form**.

Interested Respondents may submit their responses to the PSPC Contracting Authority, identified in Section 2.2

Responses to this RFI will not be returned.

Responses to this RFI may be in either of Canada's official languages, English or French.

## **PART 3 – RFI INFORMATION**

### **3.1 Response Costs**

The Government of Canada will not reimburse any respondent expenses incurred by participating in this RFI.

### **3.2 Treatment of Responses**

#### **3.2.1 Early Responses**

Responses prior to the dates listed in 2.1.2 are encouraged. The scheduled date of 20 August 2021 to receive responses from suppliers to any additional questions is a set date to allow time to reflect upon the information received. However, further questions and information will be reviewed up until the final closing date of the published RFI.

#### **3.2.2 Use of Responses**

Responses will not be formally evaluated. However, the responses received may be used by Canada to develop or modify the procurement approach, as well as any documentation contained in this RFI. Canada will review all responses received by the final RFI closing date. Canada may, at its discretion, review responses received after the RFI closing date.

#### **3.2.3 Review Team**

A review team composed of representatives of Canada will review the responses. Canada reserves the right to hire any independent consultant or to use any Government of Canada (GOC) resources that it considers necessary to review any response. Not all members of the review team will necessarily review all responses.

#### **3.2.4 Confidentiality**

Respondents should mark any portions of their response that they consider proprietary or confidential. Canada will handle the responses in accordance with the Access to Information Act. (<http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/a-1/>)

### **3.3 Planned Contract Particulars**

#### **3.3.1 Contract Period**

The information gathered during the course of this RFI may be considered for an RFP, which is anticipated to result in the following contract arrangement:

- One Firm Fixed Price Contract for the Core Project Deliverables with a Contract Period of Six Years with up to Seven (7) one-year option periods to perform the In Service Support (ISS) portion of the Core Project Deliverables as well as any of the Non-Core Project Deliverables which will be performed using a Task based as-and-when requested process.

#### **3.3.2 Security**

Although it is still to be confirmed, the resulting contract is expected to contain the following security requirements and related clauses provided by the Contract Security Program.

##### **3.3.2.1 Security Requirement for Canadian Supplier:**

1. The Contractor/Offeror must, at all times during the performance of the Contract/Standing Offer, hold a valid Facility Security Clearance at the level of SECRET, issued by the Contract Security Program (CSP), Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC).
2. This contract includes access to Controlled Goods. Prior to access, the contractor must be registered in the Controlled Goods Program of Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC).
3. The Contractor/Offeror personnel requiring access to CLASSIFIED/PROTECTED information, assets or sensitive site(s) must EACH hold a valid personnel security screening at the level of SECRET, or RELIABILITY STATUS, as required, granted or approved by the CSP, PWGSC.
4. The Contractor/Offeror MUST NOT remove any CLASSIFIED/PROTECTED information or assets from the identified site(s), and the Contractor/Offeror must ensure that its personnel are made aware of and comply with this restriction.
5. Subcontracts which contain security requirements are NOT to be awarded without the prior written permission of the CSP, PWGSC.
6. The Contractor/Offeror must comply with the provisions of the:
  - (a) Security Requirements Check List and security guide (if applicable), attached at Annex \_\_\_\_;
  - (b) Security Requirement Checklist (SRCL) Supplemental Security Guide, attached at Appendix "A" to Annex "C" – Supplemental Security Guide
  - (c) Industrial Security Manual (Latest Edition).

NOTE: There are multiple levels of personnel security screenings associated with this file. In this instance, a Security Classification Guide must be added to the SRCL clarifying these screenings. The Security Classification Guide is normally generated by the organization's project authority and/or security authority.

### **3.3.3.2 Security Requirement for Foreign Supplier:**

For the exchange of Canada Protected / Classified information, the contractor and/or any and all subcontractors must be from a country with which Canada has an international bilateral industrial security instrument or will have such an instrument with Canada by the end of the bidding period. The Contract Security Program (CSP) has international bilateral industrial security instruments with the countries listed on the following PSPC website: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/esc-src/international-eng.html#s9>

All CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets, furnished to the Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall be safeguarded as follows:

1. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall, at all times during the performance of the Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract, hold a valid Facility Security Clearance (FSC), issued by the NSA/DSA of the supplier's country, at the equivalent level of SECRET in accordance with the National legislation, regulations and policies of the supplier's country.
2. All CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets accessed by the Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall NOT be safeguarded at the Foreign recipient's sites.
3. Contractors or subcontractors, who examine, possess, or transfer (i.e. access) controlled goods (\*refer to Note) that are domestically controlled by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) while carrying out the work under the contract, or subcontract, are required to register with the Controlled Goods Program (CGP) of PSPC prior to any contract being awarded, unless exempted from CGP

registration as defined by the Controlled Goods Regulations.

Throughout the duration of the contract and subcontract, the foreign recipient contractor and subcontractor must adhere to its respective national policies pertaining to the examination, possession, or transfer of controlled goods and must immediately report to its responsible National Security Authority (NSA) all cases in which it is known or there is reason to suspect that controlled goods, furnished or generated pursuant to the contract and subcontract have been lost or disclosed to unauthorized persons (entities not registered with the CGP or entities not excluded from CGP registration), including but not limited to a third party government, person, firm, or representative thereof. Controlled goods which are lost or compromised while handled outside of Canada, should be immediately reported to the Canadian Government Authority owner of the controlled goods, for example the Canadian Department that issued the controlled goods to the foreign recipient contractor and subcontractor, as part of the contract and subcontract. Additionally, controlled goods that are lost or disclosed to unauthorized persons which are subject to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations of the United States of America, will require the NSA or the Canadian Government Authority owner to report the situation to the U.S. exporter or the U.S. Department of State's Directorate of Defense Trade Controls (DDTC).

\*Note: Controlled goods are goods, including components and their associated technologies (e.g., blueprints, technical specifications, etc.), that primarily have a military or national security significance, including "defense articles" that are controlled by the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) of the United States of America. The list of controlled goods can be found in the Schedule to the Defence Production Act.

4. CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets shall be released only to Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor personnel, who have a need-to-know for the performance of the Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract and who have a Personnel Security Clearance at the level of SECRET, granted by their respective National Security Authority (NSA) or Designated Security Authority (DSA) of the supplier's country, in accordance with the National legislation, regulations and policies of the supplier's country.
5. CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets provided or generated pursuant to this Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract shall not be further provided to a third party Foreign recipient Subcontractor unless:
  - (i) written assurance is obtained from the third-party Foreign recipient's National Security Authority (NSA) or Designated Security Authority (DSA) to the effect that the third-party Foreign recipient Subcontractor has been approved for access to CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets by the third-party Foreign recipient's NSA/DSA; and
  - (ii) written consent is obtained from the NSA/DSA of the supplier's country, if the third-party Foreign recipient Subcontractor is located in a third country.
6. Subcontracts which contain security requirements are NOT to be awarded without the prior written permission of their respective National Security Authority (NSA) or Designated Security Authority (DSA), in accordance with the National legislation, regulations and policies of the supplier's country / the Canadian DSA.
7. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall not use the CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets for any purpose other than for the performance of the Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract without the prior written approval of the Government of Canada. This approval must be obtained from the Canadian DSA.
8. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor visiting Canadian Government or industrial facilities, under this contract, will submit for approval a Request for Visit form to Canada's Designated Security Authority (DSA) through their respective National Security Authority (NSA) or Designated Security Authority (DSA).
9. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall immediately report to the Canadian DSA all cases in which it is known or there is reason to suspect that CANADA PROTECTED /

CLASSIFIED information/assets pursuant to this Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract has been compromised.

10. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall immediately report to its respective National Security Authority (NSA) or Designated Security Authority (DSA) all cases in which it is known or there is reason to suspect that CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets accessed by the Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor, pursuant this Contract / Standing Offer / Subcontract, have been lost or disclosed to unauthorized persons.
11. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall not disclose CANADA PROTECTED / CLASSIFIED information/assets to a third party government, person, firm or representative thereof, without the prior written consent of the Government of Canada. Such consent shall be sought through the recipient's National Security Authority/ Designated Security Authority (NSA/DSA) / Canadian DSA.
12. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor shall comply with the provisions of the International bilateral industrial security instrument between the supplier's country and Canada, in relation to equivalencies.
13. The Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor must comply with the provisions of the Security Requirements Check List attached at Annex \_\_\_\_\_.
14. In the event that a Foreign recipient Contractor / Offeror / Subcontractor is chosen as a supplier for this Contract, subsequent Country-Specific Foreign security requirement clauses shall be generated and promulgated by the Canadian DSA, and provided to the Government of Canada Contracting Authority, to ensure compliance with the security provisions, as defined by the Canadian DSA, in relation to equivalencies.

### **3.4 Follow-up Activity**

Canada may, in its discretion, contact any respondent to follow up with additional questions or for clarification of any aspect of a response. Canada may invite one, some, or all of the Respondents to discuss their response. Canada is not obliged to invite any Respondents for further discussions nor are any Respondents obliged to participate.

### **3.5 Legislation, Trade Agreements, and Government Policies**

The following is indicative of some of the legislation, trade agreements and government policies that could impact any follow-on solicitation:

- Canada Free Trade Agreement (CFTA);
- United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA);
- World Trade Organization – Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP);
- Federal Contractors Program for Employment Equity (FCP-EE).

## **PART 4 - REQUIREMENT**

### **4.1 Background**

The Department of National Defence (DND) maintains and manages Inventories and Tangible Capital Assets (including Machinery and Equipment, Ships, Aircraft and Vehicles, Leased Tangible Capital Assets and Work in Progress) with a current book value of approximately \$77B. Within this number are inventories accounting for \$5.8B, which comprise 85% of the Government of Canada's (GC) Public Accounts Inventories.

These inventories are managed through the Defence Supply Chain (DSC) which spans a number of organizations and globally dispersed locations with a depth and breadth of inventory equalling that of the

largest supply chains in industry. The DSC manages the vital flow of materiel from Commercial Suppliers and back, in the case of repairable items, through a complex network of storage, distribution, and maintenance facilities across three lines of supply that support defence operations in Canada and abroad. The DSC has not kept pace with Allies and industry standard supply chain labour saving technologies and process modernizations and continues to rely on labour intensive information system transactions and business processes.

The AIT Project will enhance operational support and improve the accuracy of Defence corporate reporting by acquiring and implementing automated data capture technologies and corresponding supporting Information Technology (IT) infrastructure across the DSC. This new capability will support the timely and accurate input of key Material Management (MM) data into the SAP based Defence Resource Management Information System (DRMIS), which is the Department's system of record for the acquisition, storage, maintenance and consumption of materiel. It will also reduce manual data-entry, improve data accuracy, enable timely and in-situ processing of transactions.

The AIT Project will, moreover, equip the DSC with a faster and more integrated capability that will increase materiel traceability and provide stakeholders with an accurate and timely view of materiel holdings (e.g., asset quantity, condition and location). This will improve the effectiveness of CAF operations, DND corporate materiel stewardship and the accuracy of DND's financial statements. It will also result in cost avoidance for DND due to a decrease in duplicate requests, human errors related to manual transactions, and inventory levels over time.

#### **4.2 Challenge Statement**

The DSC has not kept pace with advancing technology and allied or industry supply chain and inventory management best practices. It is heavily reliant on DND resources due the need to manually enter records and update data holdings. As such, the current DSC lacks the capability to produce a timely and accurate picture of Defence holdings and is prone to errors and burdensome to users. It also has the added challenge of information security to protect the integrity of ongoing global operations. The AIT Project and forthcoming RFP will address these deficiencies.

#### **4.3 Description of Requirements**

Canada has a requirement for a fully integrated and seamless, end-to-end AIT solution to support the DSC. To this end, Canada will procure inventory management and ITV end devices; fuel sensors, supporting hardware and software; and professional services for the configuration, implementation and support of these technologies at DSC locations across Canada and abroad and their integration with DRMIS.

#### **4.4 Supporting Documentation**

- Annex B to RFI - Questions to Industry\_EN\_Rev.2
- Draft Request for Proposal (RFP) W6381-170009 Automatic Identification Technology (AIT)
- Annex A – Statement of Work
- Appendix 1 – Definitions
- Appendix 2 – System Requirements and Specifications
- Appendix 3 - Endpoint Devices
- Appendix 4 - Service Locations
- Appendix 5 - Software and Platform
- Appendix 6 - Policies and Procedures
- Appendix 7 - Current DND Network and Application Architecture Diagrams
- Appendix 8 - Work-In-Progress and Planned Future Initiatives
- Appendix 9 - Contractor Key Personnel
- Appendix 10 - Reporting and Documentation Requirements
- Appendix 11 - Performance Management

- Appendix 12 - Financial Responsibility Matrix
- Appendix 13 - Mandatory\_Evaluation\_Criteria
- Appendix 14 - Point-Rated\_Evaluation\_Criteria
- Appendix 15 - Pricing Tables\_EN\_Rev.0

**Annex B – RFI Questions to Industry**

Refer to attached document.

**Annex C - Respondent Submission Form**

Please use the following as a template for developing the Respondent Submission Form, by adding or removing sections and questions as needed.

<b>Company Name:</b> <b>RFI Solicitation Number:</b> <b>Date:</b>	<b>Contact Name:</b> <b>Contact Email:</b> <b>Contact Telephone:</b> <b>Contact Address:</b>
<b>Section 1: &lt;Insert Section Name&gt;</b>	
<b>Question 1.1: &lt;Insert question here&gt;</b>	
<i>Please Provide response here</i>	
<b>Question 1.2: &lt;Insert question here&gt;</b>	
<i>Please Provide response here</i>	
<b>Section 2: &lt;Insert Section Name&gt;</b>	
<b>Question 2.1: &lt;Insert question here&gt;</b>	

*Please Provide response here*

**Question 2.2: <Insert question here>**

*Please Provide response here*