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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

TPSGC/PWGSC

601-1550, Avenue d'Estimauville

Québec

Québec

G1J 0C7

Title - Sujet Science and Technology Support Science and Technology Support Contract	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation W6399-21LD57/A	Date 2022-01-13
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client W6399-21-LD57	GETS Ref. No. - N° de réf. de SEAG PW-\$QCL-052-18263
File No. - N° de dossier QCL-1-44139 (052)	CCC No./N° CCC - FMS No./N° VME
Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin at - à 02:00 PM Eastern Standard Time EST on - le 2022-01-24 Heure Normale du l'Est HNE	
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: Proulx, Jean-Renaud	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur qcl052
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (418) 905-0629 ()	FAX No. - N° de FAX () -
Destination - of Goods, Services, and Construction: Destination - des biens, services et construction: MINISTERE DE LA DEFENSE NATIONALE TBD	

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 Request for Information (RFI) is not a Request for Proposals (RFP), and no contract will be awarded following this posting.

Note to interested Supplier:

This Request for Information is neither a call for tender nor a Request for Proposal. 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 contract(s) for the work described herein.

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) and for budgetary purposes.

Respondents are encouraged to identify, in the information they share with Canada, any information that they feel is proprietary, third party or personal information. Please note that Canada may be obligated by law (e.g. in response to a request under the Access of Information and Privacy Act) to disclose proprietary or commercially-sensitive information concerning a respondent (for more information: <http://lawslois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/a-1/>).

Respondents are asked to identify if their response, or any part of their response, is subject to the Controlled Goods Regulations. 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.

Respondents will not be reimbursed for any cost incurred by participating in this RFI.

1. Purpose and Nature of the Request for information (RFI)

The present RFI is intended to request Industry comments, interest and input to guide the procurement strategy and definition of requirements for Project W6399-21LD57 of the Department of National Defense of Canada.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) solicits Industry in regards to future R&D services needs for as-and-when requested basis to support CANSOFCOM's testing and evaluation of specialized military equipment. The intent will be to have the contractor provide access to small quantities of the equipment items of interest to CANSOFCOM; prepare those items for testing; assist with the testing by providing necessary supporting infrastructure, specialist personnel, terrain, vehicles or other equipment; coordinate the maintenance or repair of these items during the conduct of the evaluation (if required) and then return and / or dispose of the items when testing is complete.

The objectives of this RFI are as follows:

- Help support a potential Request for Proposals (RFP);
- To seek the feasibility of the proposed concept.

2. Documents provided

Annex A – Statement of Work (SOW)

3. Questions to suppliers interested in this RFI

- 1) Would your company be able to provide the services described in the draft Statement of Work (SOW) in Annex A ?
 - If not, for what reasons ?
- 2) In the event that your company qualifies, which elements could encourage you to or prevent you from participating in subsequent requests for proposals? The value of the contracts, terms of the contracts, other? Please explain
- 3) Do you intend to set up a partnership or consortium involving other companies that would enable you to submit a joint proposal? Would you prefer to subcontract to cover the experience requested? Please explain your intentions
- 4) Do you have other concerns, comments or elements that you would like to bring to our attention as part of this RFI?

4. Presentation of the supplier's response to the Request for Information:

Interested Respondents may submit their responses to the PSPC Contracting Authority, identified below, by email :

Name: Jean-Renaud Proulx
Title: Procurement Specialist
Public Services and Procurement Canada.
Procurements division, Québec
Address : 1550, avenue d'Estimauville
Phone : 418-654-8847
Email : Jean-Renaud.Proulx@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca

This request for information is subject to change. If applicable, these changes will be published on the Government's Electronic Tendering Service. Canada asks respondents to regularly visit Buyandsell.gc.ca to verify any changes made.

Responses can be submitted in one of the two official languages of Canada (English or French).

Note: Since this RFI is not a request for proposals and since no contract will be awarded as a result of this publication, Canada reserves the right to see the responses upon receipt, i.e., Canada wants to be able to consult the responses before the closing date

5. RFI Closing Date

Responses to this RFI must reach the PSPC Contracting Authority identified above no later than January 24th 2022

6. Communications in posting period

All enquiries must be submitted to the Contracting Authority, preferably by email, at Jean-Renaud.Proulx@tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca, at least five calendar days before the closing date. Enquiries received after that time may not be answered

**ANNEX A: STATEMENT OF WORK
FOR
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT CONTRACT**

1.0 SCOPE

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this statement of work is to define the scope and requirements that apply to the provision of a task-based contract to support the Research and Development (R&D) and Test and Evaluation (T&E) of operational equipment items for the Department of National Defence (DND).

1.2 Background

The mandate of the Canadian Special Operations Forces Command (CANSOFCOM) Science and Technology program is to conduct applied science in support of capability development with the goal of informing the equipment procurement process. This may involve funding the development of promising prototype technology through Government of Canada laboratories, allied country organizations or with commercial entities. This may also involve identifying already existing commercial technology and determining if this technology represents a true increase in operational capability over the technology currently in use. Or this may involve determining how technology in the hands of adversaries could be used against CANSOFCOM, and how to counter that threat. To carry out this mandate, CANSOFCOM relies heavily upon multiple organizations, including military facilities, other Government of Canada research centers such as the laboratories managed by Assistant Deputy Minister (Science and Technology), the National Research Council, or academic research institutions, but also some commercial facilities held under contract. However, due to the volume of R&D being conducted, a requirement exists to put in place a contract with a commercial organization that can provide generalized support for the type of equipment Research and Development normally conducted by CANSOFCOM. This support will facilitate the rapid test and evaluation of promising prototype technology in near operational conditions using CANSOFCOM tactics, techniques and procedures, but using the contractors' facilities and capabilities.

1.3 Contract Overview

The goal of this contract is to provide services on as-and-when requested basis to support CANSOFCOM's testing and evaluation of specialized military equipment. The intent will be to have the contractor provide access to small quantities of the equipment items of interest to CANSOFCOM; prepare those items for testing; assist with the testing by providing necessary supporting infrastructure, specialist personnel, terrain, vehicles or other equipment; coordinate the maintenance or repair of these items during the conduct of the evaluation (if required) and then return and / or dispose of the items when testing is complete. It is anticipated that some testing and evaluation, specifically for airborne sensing equipment, will require the use of a dedicated aircraft specifically fitted with the airframe modifications, certifications and necessary equipment to carry out airborne evaluations of sensors in a representative integrated environment. As it is difficult to acquire such an aircraft at short notice, the contractor will be expected to have access to such an aircraft at the time of bid evaluation.

1.4 Applicable Documents

The following documents form part of this statement of work to the extent specified and are supportive of this statement of work when referenced. In the event of a conflict between the documents and the contents of this statement of work, then the contents of the national level regulations take precedence.

- Defence Production Act, Chapter D-1
- Radiocommunication Act (R.S.C., 1985, c. R-2)
- International Traffic of Arms Regulations

- Canadian Firearms Regulations

1.5 Acronyms

ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle
CANSOFCOM	Canadian Special Operations Forces Command
COTS	Commercial Off the Shelf
DND	Department of National Defence
ITARS	International Traffic of Arms Regulations
MOTS	Military Off the Shelf
R&D	Research and Development
T&E	Test and Evaluation

2.0 **AVAILABILITY**

The majority of the work conducted under this contract will be at the contractor's facilities. However, contractors may be required to travel to any place in Canada and the United States of America to support laboratory or field-based evaluations in government-owned facilities.

3.0 **REQUIREMENTS**

At a minimum, the contractor is expected to provide the following personnel resources on an as-and-when needed basis to support this contract. Note that these resources will not be required for every task authorization. Resources are as follows:

3.1 Project Manager – The contractor will be required to provide a project manager to plan for and manage all activities on the part of the Contractor for each task authorization under this contract.

3.3 Technical Writer – The contractor will be required to provide a technical writer proficient in generating statements of work, technical specifications or requirements documentation acceptable for use in government procurements.

3.2 Aeronautics Systems Engineer – The contractor will be required to provide an aeronautics systems engineer when required specializing in managing installation of sensing equipment and radios into an aircraft.

3.3 Electrical Engineer – The contractor will be required to provide an electrical engineer when required.

3.4 Mechanical Engineer – The contractor will be required to provide a mechanical engineer when required.

3.5 Small Arms Technician – The contractor must provide a small arms technician that can conduct small arms assembly, verification, repairs or modifications.

3.6 Data Collection Specialist – the contractor must provide a person to be used as a data collection specialist. This person will specialize in the collection, management, reduction and analysis of objective and subjective performance data.

3.7 Radio Technician – the contractor must provide a resource to be used as a radio technician. This person will specialize in the setting up, maintaining and trouble-shooting short distance radio networks and radio telecommunications equipment.

3.8 Driver – the contractor must provide at least a resource to be used as a driver of small and large cargo vehicles. This person will specialize in short haul transport of goods and people within the contractor's test ranges, and between various locations within Ontario or Quebec.

3.9 Image Technician – the contractor must provide at least a resource to be used as an image technician. This person will specialize in the still and moving photography, and post-capture imagery manipulations and software.

4.0 DELIVERABLES

Specific individual deliverables will be defined for each task authorization released under this contract in accordance with the Task Authorization process.

4.1 Test and Evaluation (T&E) Support Services

The contractor must provide the following T&E support services (as a minimum):

- a) Provide access to small quantities of sufficient numbers (eg: 1 to 50) of equipment items for trial purposes as stipulated in paragraph 1.4, some of which may be controlled under International Traffic of Arms Regulations and / or the Canadian Firearms Regulations. Equipment items can be as follows:
 - a. Firearms including bolt action rifles, automatic assault weapons, machine guns, grenade launchers or combat shotguns;
 - b. Small arms ammunition for the above;
 - c. Explosives such as wall or door breaching charges, energetic materials, propellants, incendiary agents, and their constituents;
 - d. Personal protective equipment such as body armour, armoured helmet systems, soft armour, concealed armour systems, etc.;
 - e. Military electronics such as soldier or small arms night vision systems, soldier-borne radios, soldier borne situation awareness or other portable computer systems, etc.;
 - f. Counter unmanned aerial system radars, sensors, or jammers and spoofers;
 - g. Imaging equipment such as day and night cameras, airborne sensors and electro-optical equipment, and computing equipment necessary for the same;
 - h. Directed energy weapons such as lasers, microwave emitters, etc.;
 - i. Small vehicles (eg: ATV's, etc.), and,
 - j. Any other equipment as specified by the technical authority.
- b) The contractor is not expected to have these items on hand at all times. The equipment items of interest that will be evaluated under each task authorization will be stipulated by the technical authority, and at that time, the contractor will be expected to provide access to the items for a period sufficient enough to carry out the evaluation.
- c) Prepare equipment items for test and evaluation as per manufacturer instructions, where appropriate. This would include assembly, function testing, disassembly or re-packaging the items for further shipping;

- d) Package and ship items to and from a military test location(s) designated by the Technical Authority;
- e) Coordinate the repair of items during the conduct of the testing as needed to ensure testing can be completed;
- f) Provide all necessary support personnel to include (but not limited to) equipment operators, a simulated “enemy force”, command and control personnel, data or communications personnel, data collectors, or range staff, depending on the nature of the planned evaluation as stipulated by the Technical Authority, and;
- g) Have experience with and be able to apply special operations forces tactics, techniques and procedures, where required using government furnished documents or equipment, in support of the test and evaluation of equipment items of interest.

4.2 Test and Evaluation Facilities

The contractor must have access to the following test and evaluation facilities at time of contract award:

- (a) An exterior small arms weapons range capable of supporting the firing of a variety of small arm calibers up to .50 BMG at targets from 50 meters up to 1 kilometer;
- (b) An indoor or outdoor reconfigurable Close Quarter Battle (CQB) or Military Operations in Urban Terrain (MOUT) facility. The MOUT facility should consist of at least one building of 2 stories, made of a material where blank rounds or simunition can be used safely (eg: cement, metal or cinder block construction), and provide daylight lighting and blackout lighting conditions.
- (c) A Breaching Charge test stand or other structure where both door and window breaching charges can be used. The Breaching Charge Test Stand should be inside an enclosed space for the use of such charges;
- (d) An airfield with runway length of up to 1,219 meters (4,000 ft), including a supporting heated hangar capable of housing the test and evaluation aircraft identified under the mandatory requirements above, and all other necessary airfield facilities for the conduct of flight operations using the test and evaluation aircraft.
- (e) An indoor 25m small arms shooting range.
- (f) An outdoor mixed terrain training area consisting of a mixture of forest and open field of at minimum 10 km² to permit the conduct of dismounted patrols for testing of soldier systems clothing and equipment, or for conducting tests of unmanned aerial systems or counter measures to be used against unmanned aerial systems.
- (g) A heated conference room in which briefings or planning can be conducted. The conference room should be able to sit up to twenty (20) people comfortably, must be fitted with a digital projector and screen or large display, and have a board room style table.
- (h) A secured weapons lock up / vault that complies with Royal Canadian Mounted Police prohibited weapons storage regulations. Vault must be sufficiently large to provide storage for up to twenty (20) small arms simultaneously.

- (i) A secured ammunition lock up (separate from the above) that complies with Royal Canadian Mounted Police regulations.

4.3 Test and Evaluation Fixed Wing Aircraft

At the time of bid, the contractor must already be in position to:

- (a) Provide an aircraft, aircrew, all required ground support and maintenance personnel, logistics personnel, consumables (eg: fuel and oxygen), planning and preparation for the conduct of self-supported aerial test and evaluation on an as-and-when requested basis;
- (b) The proposed aircraft used must be able to operate up to a minimum altitude of 25,000 feet above mean sea level (AMSL) in all instrument conditions, both day and night.
- (c) The proposed aircraft must have a flight endurance of at least five (5) hours continuous without the need to refuel.
- (d) The proposed aircraft must be able to carry up to two (2) passengers in addition to the operating crew and test equipment. The passengers should be able to sit at forward-facing workstations onboard the aircraft.
- (e) The proposed aircraft must be capable of being fitted with electro-optical imaging systems that are installed through holes cut into the bottom of the cabin floor (ex: LEICA PAV80), or installed outside of the cabin (ex: MX15HD Electro-optical/Infrared sensor ball), to be compatible with existing in-service equipment. The contractor is responsible for the installation of the imaging systems and supporting equipment and all certifications required for airborne operations.
- (f) The aircraft must be capable of carrying and supplying power to any necessary sensors and computer systems, data recording, or data processing equipment associated with the sensing equipment.
- (g) The aircraft must be capable of being fitted with a number of voice and data radios and associated antennas.

5.0 **SECURITY**

The majority of the work anticipated under this contract arrangement will be unclassified in nature. However, given the nature of some of the equipment that could be dealt with under this contract, or some of the tactics that will be used during operationally focused evaluations, it is possible that some data, performance test results, technical specifications, mission scenarios, techniques, tactics and procedures or equipment items can be classified to the level of Secret or utilize controlled goods. Each individual task authorization will designate the required level of security for that task.