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K1A 0S5

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**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

Vendor/Firm Name and Address

Raison sociale et adresse du
fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur

Issuing Office - Bureau de distribution

Weapons Systems Division/Division des systèmes
d'arme

11 Laurier St. / 11, rue Laurier

8C2, Place du Portage

Gatineau

Québec

K1A 0S5

Title - Sujet RFI for Pistol Modernization RFI for Pistol Modernization	
Solicitation No. - N° de l'invitation M7594-224467/D	Amendment No. - N° modif. 007
Client Reference No. - N° de référence du client M7594-224467	Date 2023-02-02
GETS Reference No. - N° de référence de SEAG PW-\$\$BM-039-28894	
File No. - N° de dossier 039bm.M7594-224467	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 2023-02-06 Heure Normale de 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: Grosser, Keith	Buyer Id - Id de l'acheteur 039bm
Telephone No. - N° de téléphone (873) 355-2334 ()	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

Amendment 007 is raised for the following:

1. To answer questions from Potential Bidders

Question 17:

Will past RFI submissions still be utilized for this RFI?

Answer 17:

Canada will consider all industry engagements, inclusive of previous RFI responses related to this procurement in the development of the final Request for Proposal.

Question 18:

During the industry day for a previous version of this RFI, industry was told that the MSP would not be part of this procurement. Can the government confirm that this is still the case?

Answer 18:

Canada confirms that the MSP will not be part of this procurement.

Question 19:

Can the government confirm how many contracts may be awarded? i.e. Could a supplier be award a contract for one product, but not the other three?

Answer 19:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make this decision at a later date.

Question 20:

Would the government accept a single bid submission for any resulting RFP that contain multiple ancillary options? I.e. could we bid one pistol, but multiple RDS, Weapon lights and holster options? This would give the government multiple ancillary options while at the same time reducing the cost to the supplier from submitting multiple bids.

Answer 20:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make this decision at a later date.

Question 21:

It was previously expressed by industry that there was concern on how the technical specifications for the RFI were determined. The RFI was and still is bias to one specific Canadian supplier (Rampart International) with four specific products pre-determined (Glock weapon, Aimpoint RDS, Streamlight weapon light and Safariland holster). Rampart carries all four product lines and are exclusive to two of them (Glock and Aimpoint). Annex F: Acronyms and definitions, (Page 116 -117), Locking Mechanisms (holster) actually shows a picture of the Safariland ALS. The specifications written as is, violates numerous Canadian Free Trade Agreement and Canadian Standard Acquisition Clauses and condition. Can the government explain how the technical specifications were determined?

Answer 21:

Canada's requirements were developed in order to meet the RCMP's operational needs. It is Canada's belief that there are multiple pistols, RDS, and LED Weapon lights that can meet the stated specifications. The image of the current RCMP duty holster was included in Annex F in order to identify the different components of a holster.

Question 22:

What role did Price Waterhouse Coopers LLC play in previous version of this RFI and what part are playing in the current RFI?

Answer 22:

The services of PwC have been obtained by the RCMP to offer project support, with a specific focus on project management.

Question 23:

Annex B, state that all technical specifications are mandatory (MT), while the rated technical requirement specifications (RT) uses the word should and only awards points if the specification is met, thus making it mandatory. Why is the government using a technical evaluation criteria (rated) if all technical specification must be met?

Answer 23:

Only bids that meet the mandatory technical criteria will be subject to point rating technical criteria. Bidders must meet the mandatory technical evaluation criteria in order to be found technically compliant otherwise they will be considered non-compliant and their bid will not be given further consideration. Bidders who do not meet one or more Rated Technical Criteria will not achieve the corresponding points, but will not be eliminated from the process as a result.

Question 24:

Can the government clarify on how the basis of selection will be made?

Answer 24:

Canada will confirm the basis of selection in the RFP.

Question 25:

Annex A, 1.0 Bundle Specifications states that all items must have an operating temperature of -40 C to +48 C. The RDS and Weapon light utilizes different battery types. Can the government confirm that the batteries stipulated within the RFI can meet these operating temperatures?

Answer 25:

Canada will be evaluating the pistol bundle (the pistol, LED weapon light and RDS attached along with their associated batteries) against the mandatory requirements. The battery will not be evaluated as a standalone item.

Question 26:

RFI 3. Procurement Activities and Considerations states "Canada may award a resulting contract(s) with an initial firm period of ten (10) years (quantity 24,000 followed by irrevocable options (two (2) five (5) year optional periods with quantities of 1,000/year for the first option period, for a potential contract period of twenty (20) years". These objectives would be hard to maintain without permitting manufactures to adjust pricing and potential advancement modification to the holster.

Answer 26:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make this decision at a later date.

Question 27:

RFI 5. 2.4.3 Evergreening Services states "The Contractor must notify Canada at least 6 months in advance of any intent by any of the product manufacturers to cease production, introduce a new generation, concerns about product obsolescence or of the intent to significantly alter any of the items to include the pistol, RDS, LED weapon light, holster or training pistol". Doesn't this statement contradict the above mention statement (RFI 3.)?

Answer 27:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make this decision at a later date.

Question 28:

RT 2.4.5 mentions "grip module" as an equivalent to "frame", yet RT 2.12.1 only mentions "frame". Can the government confirm that a "grip module" would be considered a "frame" throughout the entirety of the RFI and any RFP or RFSO that might result from the RFI?

Answer 28:

Canada confirms that the term "grip module" is equivalent to "frame".

Question 29:

Can the Government clarify 'imperfections' per 2.2.2.3.C as our manufacturing process can leave visible marks on some parts that do not hinder the function?

Answer 29:

Canada defines "imperfections" as irregularities in fit, finish, and colour that are considered outside the norms of industry standard.

Question 30:

Would the Government add the industry standard of round count to the training pistol minimum warranty requirement per 2.2.4.G (warranty period of ten (10) years or 10,000 rounds, whichever comes first).

Answer 30:

Canada confirms that an extension from 60 to 90 days on warranty returns from licensing is acceptable. The following change will be made:

"The RCMP Armoury must be accepted as the warranty centre (depot) for the pistol and any warranty claims and warranty parts be kept at or be made available to the RCMP armoury within 90 calendar days of request"

Question 31:

Can the Government confirm the accuracy requirement and testing process as there are three (3) different accuracy requirements stated throughout the RFI. Section 2.2.2 on page 34 states 6in. at 27.34 yards, MT 2.11.2 on page 54 states 2in. at 27.34 yards, and RT 2.2.2 on page 60 states 4in. at 27.34 yards.

Answer 31:

Canada confirms that Section 2.2.2 is the accuracy requirement of the pistol and Section 2.11.2 is the point of aim vs point of impact evaluation between the RDS and the iron sights.

Question 32:

Our pistol has a carbon steel recoil spring guide that provide the same or better corrosion protection as stainless steel. Would Government consider changing the requirements listed in RT 2.3 to be performance based (corrosion resistant) vs material specific?

Answer 32:

RT 2.3 requires that the recoil spring assembly should be manufactured of solid metal which could include stainless steel or carbon steel.

Question 33:

We understand per 2.5.9 the pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol magazines base plate. Can the Government alter the requirement to allow the lanyard loop to be part of the grip and not interfere with the magazine form/fit/function (industry standard)? If not, can the Government provide a diagram of this requirement.

Answer 33:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.5.9.

Question 34:

We understand per 2.8.4 the magazines must have witness holes that align with each cartridge in the magazine starting at cartridge number four (4). Can the Government accept witness holes for every round starting at cartridge number two (2)?

Answer 34:

The minimum for magazine witness holes remains every four however if a vendor wished to provide witness holes at every two, it is acceptable. The following change will be made to MT2.8.4:

"The pistol's magazine must have witness holes that aligns with each cartridge in the magazine starting at a minimum of cartridge number four (4)."

Question 35:

We understand Per 2.8.3 Magazines must be stainless steel. Would the Government consider changing the requirements listed in RT 2.8.3 to be performance based (corrosion resistant material and coating) vs material specific?

Answer 35:

MT2.8.3 is not material specific. It states: "The pistol's magazines must be manufactured of a material that is rust and corrosion resistant (i.e. plastic or stainless steel)."

Question 36:

We understand per 2.8.5 the pistols magazine must have a baseplate that protrudes a minimum of 2.54mm up to a maximum of 6.35mm from the front of the pistols grip. We ask the Government to remove or alter this requirement as it is not a modern design found in current pistols and precludes the ability to utilize modern pistol and magazine accessories such as extended base plates and magazine funnels. Alternatively, we ask the Government consider having the baseplate protrude from the sides instead of the front if this requirement cannot be removed.

Answer 36:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.8.5 as it is an operational requirement.

Question 37:

We understand per RT 2.10.7 the pistol must feature a safety incorporated into the trigger shoe to prevent the trigger's rearward movement without physical pressure on the trigger. The "tab" trigger safety is primarily a drop safety that is more than 30-year-old technology and this requirement cannot be found within the SCOPE portion of the document. Robust internal safety mechanisms exist in modern firearms that prevent the weapon from discharging without physical pressure on the trigger and are drop safe without the use of a "tab" safety incorporated into the trigger shoe. Would the government accept this alternative to a safety incorporated into the trigger shoe or confirm that the addition to the requirements is an error?

Answer 37:

RT 2.10.7 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete.

Question 38:

We understand per 2.11. the front sight must be black in color and have either a yellow or orange colored glow-in-the-dark photoluminescent outline surrounding a green colored tritium phosphor-filled glass lamp in the center (round dot). Could the Government please clarify and provide an example.

Answer 38:

Canada will maintain MT 2.11 as: "The pistol's front sight must be black and must have a yellow or orange coloured glow-in-the-dark photoluminescent outline surrounding a green tritium phosphor-filled glass lamp in the center (round dot)."

Question 39:

Traditionally U.S. and Canadian Law Enforcement use a standard high visibility 3-dot sighting system with standard tritium dots that appear white in the daylight and glow green at night. Tritium dots are normally green or orange in color and when used in a 3-dot sighting system the dots appear white in the daylight and glow green or orange at night. Other variants of three-dot night sights feature highly visible photo luminescent paint outlining the tritium dot to quicken front sight acquisition along with tritium black-painted rear sights that reduce glare while it quickly draws the shooters eyes to the front post in all lighting conditions along with a "U" or "Square" notch cut rear sight which also aids in front-sight acquisition and focus. Would this hi-visibility set-up be acceptable and meet the requirements of 2.11.1? (see attached file for picture)

Answer 39:

Canada will determine if proposed solutions meet stated mandatory requirements during the evaluation phase of the procurement. Evaluations will be conducted as per the applicable annexes in the RFP.

Question 40:

We understand per 2.11.3 that the pistols front sights must have a square front post with a width measuring between 3.05mm and 3.68mm, can the Government expand the maximum width to 3.9mm?

Answer 40:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.11.3.

Question 41:

We understand per 2.12.2 the training pistol must come with the submitted weapon light attached to it in the same manner as submitted service pistol. Can the Government confirm the training pistol configuration as being the same as the submitted service pistol would mean the RDS also be mounted and zeroed?

Answer 41:

The training pistol must come with the weapon light, however, inclusion of the RDS is performance rated as per section RT 2.12.2.

Question 42:

We understand per RT 2.13.1 the slide should be manufactured of stainless steel. This directly follows the training pistol requirements. Can the Government confirm if this requirement is for the service pistol, training pistol, or both? Most training slides are made from aluminum with steel inserts.

Answer 42:

Canada confirms that RT 2.13.1 applies only to the duty pistol.

Question 43:

Per MT 5.4 we understand the case needs to have a foam insert, we are happy to provide the foam insert, but wanted to note there are more cost-effective options. Would the Government consider removing the foam insert requirement and allow for a simple foam insert?

Answer 43:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 5.4.

Question 44:

Per RT 2.4.1 the pistol should also be available in a FDE finish on all visibility exposed surfaces when the pistol is fully assembled. Can the government confirm if this is a requirement or if this is an error and the desire is for an all-black firearm?

Answer 44:

Canada confirms RT 2.4.1 as: "The pistol should also be available in a FDE (Flat Dark Earth) finish on all visibly exposed surfaces when the pistol is fully assembled. Visibly exposed surface parts include grip frame housing, back straps, frame, slide and magazines."

Question 45:

Per RT 2.4.5 the pistol should have a steel insert molded to the frame (grip module) to further prevent distortion when gripped or when accessories are mounted. Can the government confirm if this is a requirement as it is not stated within the SCOPE? Will a removable fire control unit be acceptable?

Answer 45:

A removable fire control unit is acceptable under RT 2.4.5, as long as the pistol meets MT 2.4.5.

Question 46:

Per Bidder Set-up Responsibilities on page 97 the items must be delivered to Canada no later than thirty (30) days after bid closing. Can the Government consider extending this to 90 days from bid closing to allow for licensing and customs restraints?

Answer 46:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make this decision at a later date.

Question 47:

We understand per MT 3.8 The RDS weight must not exceed 60 g (2.1 oz.) including the battery, would the Government consider increasing the weigh requirement slightly to 2.5 oz in order to increase competition? Would the Government also consider a modular RDS that is capable of being converted from a closed emitter to open depending on operator preference or mission in relation to MT 3.4

Answer 47:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not be changing MT3.8 or MT3.4. MT3.8 will be maintained at, "Including the battery, the RDS must weigh no more than 62 g (2.19 oz.)"

Question 48:

MT 4.11 states "The weapon light lens must be made of heat resistant glass. Can the government confirm what written documentation would be acceptable? Would a Certificate of Conformance suffice?"

Answer 48:

Canada confirms a certificate of compliance or conformation would suffice.

Question 49:

We understand per MT 4.3 that the light cannot protrude beyond the muzzle; if the holster contains the pistol with a light, the length of the light should not impact the overall concealability if it protrudes beyond the muzzle to a reasonable degree. Could the Government consider waiving or revising this requirement and the maximum length requirement per MT 4.2.3 (+/- 0.5in.)?

Answer 49:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 4.3 as it is an operational requirement.

Question 50:

We understand per MT 4.8 the required runtime is 1.5 hours; would the Government consider reducing that time to 1.0 hours in order to maximize competition and remain within current commercial battery limitations? Can the Government explain how this test will be performed?

Answer 50:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 4.8. The Bidder must provide written documentation that demonstrates how this requirement is met. Documentation must include a manufacturer's specification sheet or test results from an accredited independent, third party testing facility.

Question 51:

SOW reference spare parts and maintenance kits, however no list is provided. Additionally, half way through the SOW they are then referenced as optional spare parts and maintenance kits. Can the government clarify what spare part and maintenance kits are required and what are optional?

Answer 51:

The desired list of optional spare parts and maintenance kits will be outlined in the basis of payment as part of the final RFP

Question 52:

SOW 2.2.2.3 Conditions of Pistols and Ancillaries states "Canada reserves the right to perform any inspection and testing (destructive and/or nondestructive) considered necessary to ensure the material and services conform to the specified requirements. Testing may include, but not be limited to, workmanship, quality, material, and compliance to specifications. Should it be determined that the deliverables do not meet the specifications as per the contract, the Contractor must replace all defective equipment and spare parts defined in the contract at no cost to Canada". Can the government confirm that it is their intention to perform inspections and testing at the manufactures facility? Industry standard permit visits, inspections and observing testing and manufacturing with an authorized visit request.

Answer 52:

No, this refers to Canada's quality control process.

Question 53:

MT 6.9 states "The holster must have a locking mechanism that can be serviced by a user (i.e. cleaning, disassembly, and adjustments)". Can the government review this requirement as it would invalidate our warranty?

Answer 53:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will change MT 6.9 to, "The holster must have a locking mechanism that can be serviced by a user (i.e. cleaning, and adjustments)".

Question 54:

MT 6.12 states "The holster must protect the magazine release from inadvertently releasing the magazine while in the holster". Can the government confirm that the user will never have to dump their magazine while the weapon is in the holster? Also, can the government state what testing protocols and third party test facilities would be deemed acceptable?

Answer 54:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT6.12. When preparing the submission, the use of in-house testing is acceptable to confirm compliance with RCMP-UEP SP-2 2022 Standard Practice (SP) for Evaluation of Pistol Holster Retention Mechanisms and RCMP-UEP SP-3 2022 Standard Practice (SP) for Evaluation of Pistol Holster Belt Slide Attachments.

Question 55:

We understand per RT 6.1 the bidder should have plain clothes holster available in a left- and right-handed configuration. Can the government confirm if this is a requirement as it is not stated within the SCOPE?

Answer 55:

RT 6.1 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete.

Question 56:

Deliver Armourer Training, Deliver Basic Firearms Instructor Training, Deliver Armourer Refresher Training and Deliver Basic Firearms Instructor Refresher Training.
Can RCMP provide the instructors room and board at both locations?

Answer 56:

Canada will not provide travel, room, and board.

Question 57:

2.1.4 Maximum Overall Height. The pistol must have a maximum overall height of 141 mm (5.55 inches) measured from the top of the slide to the bottom of the pistol grip with the magazine and RDS removed.
2.5.6 Gloves. The pistol's trigger guard must enable a user to fire the pistol while wearing RCMP standard issue gloves.

Allowing a maximum height of 5.56" will increase RCMP's competitive bids during the proposal phase. Specify what RCMP's standard issue gloves are.

Answer 57:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will change MT 2.1.4 to, "The pistol must have a maximum overall height of 142 mm (5.56 inches) measured from the top of the slide to the bottom of the pistol grip with the magazine and RDS removed."

Part Two - Please see response to question in amendment 004

Question 58:

2.5.9 Ceremonial Lanyard Loop. Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol magazine's base plate.

Allowing the ceremonial lanyard loop to be attached to the frame and/or grip backstrap will increase RCMP's competitive bids during the proposal phase.

Answer 58:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make the following change:

Amendment to MT 2.5.9 to read "Each pistol must be provided with one additional magazine base plate that has an attachment point for a ceremonial lanyard loop."

Question 59:

2.5.10 Beveled Magazine Well. The full circumference edge at the entrance of the magazine well must be beveled or flared in order to aid in the insertion of a magazine.

1. Does the client have a standard for measurement or example of this requirement?
2. As an example, does the beveled edge in the image below meet this requirement or is the client looking for a more pronounced beveled edge? (see attached file for pictures)
3. Is RCMP looking for the addition of a magazine well accessory (see attached file for pictures) to fill this requirement?
4. If a magazine well accessory is RCMP's preferred option, will the added height be exempt from the maximum height requirement of 2.1.4 of 5.55"?

Answer 59:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.5.10. Canada will not be providing an example and does not have a standard for measurement at this time.

Question 60:

2.8.2 Magazine Capacity. The pistol's magazine must have a minimum capacity of fifteen (15) rounds. This conflicts with Annex B (MT 2.8.1), which states the pistol must have a minimum of seventeen (17) rounds.

Answer 60:

Canada confirms that the pistol's magazine must have a minimum capacity of fifteen (15) rounds. Related sections of the final RFP will be amended accordingly.

Question 61:

2.11.2 Point of Aim. The pistol with iron sights and the pistol with RDS must shoot duty ammunition to point of aim within a 5.08 cm (2 inches) radius at 25 m (82.02 yards).

1. Do all shots need to fall within a 4 in. group or do they need to fall in the center of the group within a 2 in. radius?

2. Can the rear sight be adjusted to meet this requirement, if needed, or does the pistol need to meet the spec out of the box?

Answer 61:

Part 1 - MT 2.11.2 will be evaluated as follows:

"This requirement will be evaluated as follows:

1 - Iron Sights:

1a) The evaluator using the pistol shooting Winchester SXT 147 gr. duty ammunition supported on a sandbag will shoot one (1) group of five (5) rounds using the iron sights at 25 m (27.3 yds).

1b) An average of the grouping for the pistol with iron sight will be taken to assess whether the pistol meets the requirement.

2 - Red Dot Sight:

2a) The evaluator using the pistol shooting Winchester SXT 147 gr. duty ammunition supported on a sandbag will shoot one (1) group of five (5) rounds using the RDS at 25 m (27.3 yds)

2b) An average of the grouping for the pistol with RDS will be taken to assess whether the pistol meets the requirement."

Part 2 - Canada will not be adjusting the sights and will evaluate pistols with specs out of the box.

Question 62:

2.12.1 Training Pistol Specifications. Does RCMP have a requirement for an optics cut on the training pistol? If so, does it need to have the same co-witness characteristics of the duty pistol? Only Annex C, RT 2.12.2, references any requirement for an RDS on the training pistol. There is no requirement for a training pistol RDS in any other Annex.

Answer 62:

RT 2.12.2 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete.

Question 63:

MT 2.5.9 Ceremonial Lanyard Loop. Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol magazine's base plate.

1. Can this option be an "ADD ON" accessory, when required, or must it be a permanent feature?
2. Does RCMP require this loop to be present on all 3 magazines or 1 per kit?
3. Allowing the lanyard loop to be on the pistol grip and/or grip backplate will increase RCMP's competitive bids during the proposal phase.

Answer 63:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make the following change:

Amendment to MT 2.5.9 to read "Each pistol must be provided with one additional magazine base plate that has an attachment point for a ceremonial lanyard loop."

Question 64:

MT 2.8.1 Magazine Capacity. The pistol's magazine should have a minimum capacity of seventeen (17) rounds. Should this state a minimum capacity of 15 rounds? Annex A (2.8.2) and Annex C (MT 2.8.1) both state 15 rounds

Answer 64:

Canada confirms that the pistol's magazine must have a minimum capacity of fifteen (15) rounds. Related sections of the final RFP will be amended accordingly.

Question 65:

RT 2.10.7 Tabbed Trigger/Safety. The pistol should feature a tabbed trigger/trigger safety. Please explain what is meant by a "tabbed" trigger/trigger safety.

Answer 65:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will add the following definition to the glossary:

"Tabbed Trigger/Safety - A safety feature that prevents the pistol from discharging due to inertia or if the trigger is subjected to any pressure that isn't a direct pull."

Question 66:

MT 2.11.4 Rear Sight. The pistol's rear sight must have each of the following:

- a) A square or u-shaped notch;
- b) A surface that will reduce glare to assist a user with front sight focus; and
- c) A notch width between 4.57mm (0.180") and 5.46mm (0.215").

Allowing a minimum of 0.145" will increase RCMP's competitive bids during the proposal phase.

Answer 66:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.11.4.

Question 67:

MT 2.8.1 Magazine Capacity. The pistol's magazine should have a minimum capacity of fifteen (15) rounds. This conflicts with Annex B (MT 2.8.1), which states a minimum of seventeen (17) rounds.

Answer 67:

Canada confirms that the pistol's magazine must have a minimum capacity of fifteen (15) rounds. Related sections of the final RFP will be amended accordingly.

Question 68:

RT 2.7.1 Trigger Pull Weight. The pistol's trigger pull weight should be between 2.38 kg (5.25 lbs) and 2.72kg (6.0 lbs). Conflicts with Annex A (2.7.1) and Annex C (MT 2.7.1), which state a minimum of 2.27 kg (5.0 lbs.) up to a maximum of 3.18 kg (7.0 lbs.).

Answer 68:

RT 2.7.1 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete.

Question 69:

RT 2.12.2 Training Pistol RDS. The training pistol should come with the submitted RDS attached to it in the same manner as the submitted service pistol. This is the only reference for an RDS requirement for the training pistol. If required, add requirement specifics to the other Annexes. Does the training pistol need to have the same cowitness characteristics of the duty pistol?

Answer 69:

RT 2.12.2 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete. If provided, the training pistol must have the same co-witness as the duty pistol.

Question 70:

In the Draft SOW MT 2.1.4 which sets the criteria for overall height. Can this dimension be reviewed to allow for pistols to be evaluated that don't currently fit this dimensional requirement? Can it be expanded to 5.85"?

Answer 70:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will change MT 2.1.4 to, "The pistol must have a maximum overall height of 142 mm (5.56 inches) measured from the top of the slide to the bottom of the pistol grip with the magazine and RDS removed."

Question 71:

In the Draft SOW MT 2.7.1 and MT 2.7.3 set the criteria for trigger pull and firing pin indent respectively. Can these two specifications be reviewed to allow for pistols to be evaluated that don't currently fit this specification? Can the trigger pull be 5.5 lbs. to 7.0 lbs. and can the firing pin indent be a minimum of 0.0105" to 0.115"?

Answer 71:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.7.1 and MT 2.7.3.

Question 72:

In the Draft SOW MT 2.11.4 sets the criteria for the rear site. Can these specifications be reviewed to allow for pistols to be evaluated that don't currently fit this specification? Can the rear site notch specification be changed to allow for a notch width of .140"?

Answer 72:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 2.11.4.

Question 73:

Can PWGSC and its Client, the RCMP, please define what marking round they currently use?

Answer 73:

Canada currently uses the Simunition family of marking cartridges.

Question 74:

In the Draft SOW MT 5.1 and MT 5.9 set the criteria for the pistol case dimensions and the marking on the exterior of the case itself respectively. Can these specifications be reviewed to evaluate pistol cases that don't currently fit this dimensional specification, and will the client accept a case with the manufacturer's name on it?

Answer 74:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 5.1 and MT 5.9.

Question 75:

We understand per 6.3 the holster must have a minimum retention level rating of RCMP-UEP SP 2-2022. Can the Government provide this standard for review?

Answer 75:

Response provided in amendment 004

Question 76:

The performance Evaluation Criteria (Mandatory) makes numerous references to document RCMP-UEP SP2-2022 and RCMP-UEP SP3-2022. Can the government provide a copy of these documents?

Answer 76:

Response provided in amendment 004

Question 77:

MT 2.5.6 Gloves. The pistol's trigger guard must enable a user to fire the pistol while wearing RCMP standard issue gloves.
Specify what RCMP's standard issue gloves are.

Answer 77:

Response provided in amendment 004

Question 78:

We suggest the RCMP only consider bidders who have provided a minimum of 200 handguns with at least one accessory to a minimum of 3x Canadian Law Enforcement agencies over the last 5 years. At a minimum it should be a point rated requirement.

Answer 78:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later date.

Question 79:

Point weighted testimonials from current Canadian police users should be considered by the RCMP. This should take into account the complexity, length of time and size of agency. Experience should be point rated.

Answer 79:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later date.

Question 80:

Financial evaluation criteria and weight was not shared. Will the RCMP evaluate the cost to sustain the pistols over their lifetime? If so, will you award points and how?

Answer 80:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later date.

Question 81:

It appears the RCMP would like bid submission samples as well as separate evaluation samples. Can this be confirmed?

Answer 81:

Canada's bid submission requirements are outlined in "Annex C: Performance Evaluation" and will be a single submission. Further information will be outlined in the RFP.

Question 82:

If separate samples are required for bid submission and evaluation, will either be purchased by the RCMP?

Answer 82:

Canada requires a single sample submission for evaluation purposes and will not be purchased by Canada.

Question 83:

2.2.2.4 Identification Labels The Contractor must ensure that all items, inclusive of maintenance kits and optional spare parts, are identified by a serial number/ ID number provided by the manufacturer. The number must be applied directly on the equipment or equipment parts in the form of either a label, bar code or be engraved on each component assembly, which is in accordance with the Firearms Act on Firearms Marking Regulations SOR/2004-275 (ref <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca>).

As the RCMP requires all major components (slide, barrel, frame) to have a service life of 20,000 rounds we are requesting that the RCMP require these items to be identified with unique serial numbers and not simply part numbers

Does the RCMP want the pistol cases and holsters to have part numbers on the physical products?

Answer 83:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later date.

Question 84:

2.2.4 Warranty and Returns The Contractor must specify the Manufacturer's warranty for all materials and workmanship, and provide documentation to support the same. Documentation should include specifics of the warranty for each item. The following represents the minimum warranty period and considerations that the contractor must provide to Canada: a) The service pistol must have a warranty period of ten (10) years or a minimum warranty service life of 10,000 rounds, whichever comes first;

We are suggesting that the RCMP require a minimum warranty service life of at least 20,000 rounds which is the service life requested on all major components as well.

Answer 84:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change "2.2.4 Warranty and Returns".

Question 85:

2.5.9 Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol magazine's base plate.

Our pistol has a secure and removeable lanyard loop that can be installed and removed quickly and easily from the pistols frame by the end user or armoury personnel. (See picture attached file) A permanently secured lanyard loop installed on the magazine base plate is not common practice for patrol pistols. It could be a serious snag hazard when drawing the weapon or when holstered and getting in and out of vehicles. Additionally, a permanently installed lanyard loop on the magazine base plate could cause issues with magazine retention equipment.

We are recommending this language be changed to "Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol frame or magazine base plate."

Answer 85:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make the following change:

Amendment to MT 2.5.9 to read "Each pistol must be provided with one additional magazine base plate that has an attachment point for a ceremonial lanyard loop."

Question 86:

2.5.10 The full circumference edge at the entrance of the magazine well must be beveled or flared in order to aid in the insertion of a magazine.

We are recommending that the flared mag well should be an integral part of the pistol frame or grip and not be an added feature i.e., screwed on attachment that could come loose or become a snag/danger. Having an attachment adds parts to the pistol and could require replacement at unknown intervals.

Answer 86:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and modify MT2.5.10 to, "The full circumference edge at the entrance of the magazine well must be beveled or flared and be integrated into the pistol's frame (grip module) in order to aid in the insertion of a magazine."

Question 87:

2.9 The pistol must have a Picatinny MIL-STD-1913 compatible rail system that is integrated into the pistol's frame dust cover.

Our Manufacturer's accessory rail will accept and accommodate all major pistol weapons lights and other attachments when the user follows the manufacturer's installation guidelines. The Picatinny MIL-STD-1913 rail design provides no added benefit for the mounting of a weapons light/attachment, particularly for the size of light being requested. The Picatinny MIL-STD-1913 rail increases the weight of the pistol and adds unnecessary complexity. The design of the Picatinny MIL-STD-1913 rail also allows users to incorrectly install weapons light attachments forward of the pistol's muzzle, something not preferred by the RCMP. As such, we request that the language for this section be changed to: "The pistol must have a rail system that is integrated into the pistol's frame forward of the trigger guard that is compatible with common and widely available weapons lights and other accessories."

Answer 87:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT2.9.

Question 88:

Annex C – Deliverables Table – Requires as a deliverable the pistol with 3 or more grip components.

Please clarify if a stand-alone pistol frame (or standard size grip module) is considered a single grip component. For example, we could provide a frame constituting a standard size, and accessories that adjust the grip size to fit two additional grip sizes, thereby satisfying this requirement.

Answer 88:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later date.

Question 89:

RT 2.3 The recoil spring guide should be manufactured of solid metal.

The recoil spring guide being manufactured of solid metal is unnecessary and adds no value.

The RCMP is requesting a polymer firearm. A polymer recoil spring guide offers the same benefits of the pistol itself:
Strength

Light weight
Self-lubrication
Flexibility
Corrosion resistance

Our Manufacturer's polymer recoil spring guide rod is made of a high strength high heat polymer which includes a glass resin mixture that exceeds the performance of a steel rod. All polymer frames flex considerably during the firing process, and as a result the polymer recoil spring guide rod has been proven to operate better than a steel rod under these conditions.

A steel recoil spring guide rod would be appropriate for a steel framed pistol where there is no flexing, however that is not warranted in this procurement.

The RCMP Air Marshall program utilizes a pistol with a polymer recoil spring guide rod. It has been used with no known failures over the last 5+ years.

We request that this specification be removed in its entirety as it is unnecessary and could be detrimental to the function of the firearm. Alternatively, if this specification were to remain, we request that the points associated with this criteria be significantly reduced.

Answer 89:

RT 2.3 is point rated allowing all manufacturers to compete.

Question 90:

RT 2.4.5 – The pistol should have a steel insert molded to the frame (grip module) to further prevent distortion when gripped or when accessories are mounted.

Our manufacturer's pistol has steel inserts molded into the frame (grip module). These inserts serve a dual purpose of guiding and holding the slide as well as preventing the pistol frame from distorting when gripped or when accessories are mounted. (See picture in attached file)

Answer 90:

Canada has taken this information into consideration.

Question 91:

RT 2.5.1 - The pistol's grip should be manufactured to accommodate more than 3 hand sizes.

Our manufacturer's beavertail backstrap grip attachment will accommodate a larger hand and is better suited for users with uniquely large hands without changing the grip dimensions. Will the RCMP consider a beavertail backstrap grip attachment a unique grip size?

Answer 91:

MT 2.5.1 states "The pistol's grip must be manufactured to accommodate a minimum range of 3 hand sizes (small, medium, and large)." RT 2.5.1 is a rated requirement and gives all vendors the opportunity to compete and accommodate more than 3 hand sizes.

Question 92:

RT 2.13.1 The slide should be manufactured of stainless steel

Our manufacturer's handgun's metal slide and proprietary coatings are vastly superior to stainless steel. Stainless steel is an antiquated material for use in pistol slides. Studies have shown that stainless steel does not perform well in various operating environments, especially when exposed to salt water.

RCMP operates in environments where the pistols will be exposed to salt water. Having a stainless steel slide in these environments will substantially reduce the service life of a critical component of the firearm. As such, points should not be awarded for a stainless steel slide.

Points should be awarded to those who can demonstrate that their slide material performs better than stainless steel and is not adversely affected by salt water. If points are awarded for slide material, those points should only be awarded to pistols that have coatings which will allow the RCMP to use the pistol in all operational environments.

Answer 92:

Part 1 - Canada has taken this feedback into consideration and will provide more detail in the RFP.

Part 2 - The RCMP will utilize G96 or the Mil-Comm family of lubricant products.

Question 93:

Endurance Testing

We are recommending revising the endurance test fire/cleaning procedures to incorporate the following specifications:

A minimum of 2,000 rounds shall be fired through each pistol per day. Each 500-round cycle of fire shall be conducted in no less than 15 minutes and no more than 35 minutes. Each cleaning and lubricating phase shall last no less than 15 minutes to incorporate weapon cooling.

Consider requiring additional magazines to facilitate an efficient testing time. For example, 32 magazines loaded with 16 rounds (with a last magazine having a reduced load).

Magazines will be dropped onto a table during reloads to avoid unnecessary wear and tear.

After a set of 500 rounds, stop and cool pistols to room temperature for no less than 15 minutes. Use of compressed air down the muzzle of the barrel with the slide closed can be used to reduce this time by 5 minutes.

Once cooled, the pistol will be field striped, cleaned and lubricated according to the manufacturer's specifications.

After 10 sets of 500 rounds (5,000 rounds total) the pistol should receive a detailed armour level cleaning according to the manufacturers' recommended cleaning procedure.

Answer 93:

Canada will maintain the current endurance testing protocols as they are written.

Question 94:

Endurance Testing Definitions

What is the failure definition scoring criteria that the RCMP will use for the testing? Can you please share this information as it is necessary to determine the cause of a failure and how a failure will be scored.

For example, a class 2 stoppage is currently defined to include a "stovepipe" stoppage, however a "stovepipe" is typically user-induced (i.e., shooter having a weak grip on the pistol or slide speed interruption with the shooter's support hand). No points should be assessed against a pistol for user-induced stoppages.

Additionally, a class 2 stoppage is currently defined to include failures to go into battery. A failure to go into battery is a significant failure that should have greater points assessed than a failure to feed/eject. (See the question for additional clarification of this point).

Answer 94:

Canada will take this information into consideration.

Question 95:

Endurance Testing Points Criteria

We recommend that the RCMP consider clarifying the following in endurance testing specifications:

We believe the point allocations specified throughout the RFI should be closely reviewed and revised. While the "rated technical criteria" evaluation (Annex B, Part 2 at page 24) contemplates an award of 136 points for pistols that fire 20,000 rounds without incurring class 1, class 2, or class 3 events, it is unclear how these points will be awarded when the endurance testing protocol eliminates pistols that surpass a score of 136 points (which points are accumulated when a pistol experiences a class 1, 2 or 3 event).

Does a pistol have to experience zero (0) class 1, 2 or 3 events to achieve 136 points in the "rated technical criteria" evaluation? If so, a user-induced "stove pipe" (defined as a class 2 event) would result in a 0 point award for that category.

The 136 point penalty threshold for the mandatory endurance testing (wherein 1, 2 or 3 points are assigned for each class 1, 2 or 3 event, respectively) should also be revised. As currently written, a pistol can experience 67 failures to go into battery – a class 2 event resulting in 2 penalty points each occurrence – and still pass the test. We do not believe this is what the RCMP intends for its testing.

Answer 95:

"[RT2.1.1] The evaluator will record any weapon-related stoppages during the endurance trial (note: any stoppages determined to be ammunition-related defects will not be counted). The stoppages will be weighted as follows:

Class 1 Events will receive one (1) point

Class 2 Events will receive two (2) points

Class 3 Events will receive three (3) points

Note: Any pistol surpassing a score of 136 pts will be eliminated from contention."

Question 96:

Lubrication for use in testing

Break Free Mil Spec CLP is a common product that is preferred for cleaning and lubricating

No degreasers or scrubbing agents shall be used.

Points of lubrications should follow the manufacturers' recommendations for purposes of endurance testing (i.e., due to the repeated rounds fired during testing to ensure the barrel and the hood of the barrel are lubricated).

Answer 96:

Canada has taken this information into consideration. The RCMP will utilize G96 or the Mil-Comm family of lubricant products.

Question 97:

Considering that there is NO NIJ drop test standard for pistols WITH accessories mounted (lights and optic), we recommend that the RCMP conduct drop testing for the pistol with accessories (light and optics) installed using a MINIMUM drop height of 5 ft.

This is a realistic minimum height that a pistol could be dropped when climbing an obstacle or when considering all GBA+ body types.

Answer 97:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change the current protocol

Question 98:

We continue to recommend that the RCMP use the National Institute of Justice's (NIJ) latest pistol drop testing protocol (NIJ Standard 0112.04, Section 9.12, Pistol Drop Test). While we understand that the RCMP intends to conduct drop testing with accessories attached, it should also conduct drop testing on JUST the pistol itself, without accessories, using the NIJ's next-generation drop testing protocol - i.e., the latest and most stringent standard intended to provide officer safety.

Answer 98:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change the current protocol

Question 99:

The NIJ is a globally recognized authority with respect to Law Enforcement firearm safety standards and testing procedures.

Answer 99:

Canada has taken this information into consideration

Question 100:

We are recommending that the RCMP drop test at least 2 to 3 pistols per bid submission. Large US law enforcement agencies have drop tested up to 3x pistols during trials.

Answer 100:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later time.

Question 101:

We also recommend that the RCMP should conduct magazine drop testing to ensure operational continuity. Such testing should be conducted according to the latest NIJ standard: (NIJ Standard 0112.04, Section 9.13, Magazine Drop Test).

Answer 101:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will make a decision at a later time.

Question 102:

Please specify the number of evaluators and the specific testing protocols that will be used?

Answer 102:

The protocols are outlined in the Evaluation Annexes. The number of evaluators will be contingent on the number of bids received.

Question 103:

Will the RCMP allow manufacturers representatives to be present during testing?

Answer 103:

Manufacturers' representatives will not be permitted to be present during testing.

Question 104:

We are recommending that Ransom rests be used for the precision and accuracy portion of the testing to mitigate potential personal bias and experience with other models of firearms. The RCMP should allow manufacturers to submit inserts for the Ransom rests.

Answer 104:

Canada will maintain testing protocols as they are written.

Question 105:

Ransom rests should also be used for precision and accuracy testing during the endurance testing phase.

Answer 105:

Please see response to question 104.

Question 106:

What specific Ransom rest model will the RCMP utilize?

Answer 106:

Please see response to question 104.

Question 107:

MT 3.5 The RDS retention hardware must be made of steel.

We strongly recommend that the RCMP allow RDS retention hardware be made of high quality, high strength materials, such as 7075 aluminum. The Red Dot Sight manufacturer has tested prototypes of retention hardware made of both steel and aluminium and determined that steel routinely failed while aluminium exceeded drop testing specifications.

Alternatively, if the RCMP wishes to retain this specification, it should not be a mandatory specification because there is no reason for equivalent or superior materials to not be considered or scored lower.

Please advise what is meant by Retention Hardware. Is it the screw/nut and bolt that hold the sight on the milled slide?

Would the RCMP want a retention plate even though MT 3.1 refers to direct mounting to the pistol slide?

Answer 107:

Canada has taken this into consideration and will modify MT3.4 to "The RDS mounting screw(s) must be made of steel."

Question 108:

MT 3.8 Including the battery, the RDS must weigh no more than 62 g (2.19 oz.)

If the RCMP mandates that the retention hardware to be made of steel, then the weight of the system should be increased to 63g.

Answer 108:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 3.8.

Question 109:

MT 3.11 The RDS must be parallax free within 25m (27.3 yds).

Our Red Dot Sight manufacturer strongly recommends that the RCMP add “operationally” to avoid misleading statements that certain products are “parallax free.”

As such, we recommend that this specification be changed to state: “The RDS must be operationally parallax free within 25m (27.3 yds).”

Answer 109:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 3.11.

Question 110:

MT 3.24 The RDS must be waterproof to a rating of IPX7 as defined in ANSI/ NEMA FL 1-2009.

This requirement is far too low of a waterproof rating given the environments and conditions that the Red Dot Sight and weapon platform will be used in by the RCMP.

We are requesting that the RCMP consider a higher standard to this requirement as this is the primary sighting system for the weapon platform and it is critical that it perform optimally without being compromised by condensation or water entering the sight.

Answer 110:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change MT 3.24.

Question 111:

Please provide the following data:

RCMP-UEP SP 2-2022 (Standard Practice for Evaluation of Pistol Holster Retention Mechanisms)

RCMP-UEP SP 3-2022 (Standard Practice for Evaluation of Pistol Holster Belt Slide Attachments)

Answer 111:

Please see response to question 19 posted on previous amendment.

Question 112:

Annex D - Basic Manipulation 5 – Holster

Judging the holster based on the ability of the hand opposite the mounting side of the body (non-shooting hand) should not be judged on how "easy" it is. Proper security rated Duty Holsters are designed to be inherently difficult to be drawn by anything other than the user's shooting hand. This is how unauthorized access to the weapon is prevented. It should only be judged on if it is POSSIBLE to retrieve the weapon from the holster in the event that the shooting hand is disabled.

Answer 112:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will not change Annex D.

Question 113:

RT 6.1 The bidder should have plain clothes holster available in a left- and right- handed configuration.

What does the RCMP consider a "plain clothes" holster? Something that has security or passive retention? How would they like it secured to the user?

Answer 113:

Canada has taken this information into consideration and will provide more information on the specifications for the plain clothes holster in the RFP.

Question 114:

MT 5.4 The carrying case must include a foam insert that does not absorb water and is cut to secure and segregate the configured pistol with RDS and weapon light, and three magazines by a minimum of 1.91 cm (0.75") on all sides.

This requirement can be fully met with a Closed Cell foam structure which will provide relative impermeability to water. However, we strongly recommend considering the foam and the hard case as a full system. The result of this would mean that the case itself would be considered waterproof.

In order to ensure that the handgun and accessories are protected from hostile environmental/climate factors, we recommend adding the following to the hardcase requirements:

MIL-C-4150J, MILITARY SPECIFICATION FOR CASES: TRANSIT AND STORAGE, WATERPROOF AND WATER-VAPORPROOF

Adding this requirement will also allow for a Quebec-based Canadian manufacturer to participate in this solicitation and would not prevent any US or International manufacturers of pistol cases from participating.

Answer 114:

Please see response to question 16 posted on previous amendment.

Question 115:

Can you please provide copy below document made the reference to in RFI.

"Royal Canadian Mounted Police - G.S. 1045-336 Belt, Duty, Nylon dated 2018-05-02"

Answer 115:

A copy of the reference "Royal Canadian Mounted Police - G.S. 1045-336 Belt, Duty, Nylon dated 2018-05-02" will be included with the RFP.

ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITONS REMAIN UNCHANGED.

Question 39:

Traditionally U.S. and Canadian Law Enforcement use a standard high visibility 3-dot sighting system with standard tritium dots that appear white in the daylight and glow green at night. Tritium dots are normally green or orange in color and when used in a 3-dot sighting system the dots appear white in the daylight and glow green or orange at night. Other variants of three-dot night sights feature highly visible photo luminescent paint outlining the tritium dot to quicken front sight acquisition along with tritium black-painted rear sights that reduce glare while it quickly draws the shooters eyes to the front post in all lighting conditions along with a “U” or “Square” notch cut rear sight which also aids in front-sight acquisition and focus. Would this hi-visibility set-up be acceptable and meet the requirements of 2.11.1?

**Question 59:**

2. As an example, does the beveled edge in the image below meet this requirement or is the client looking for a more pronounced beveled edge?



3. Is RCMP looking for the addition of a magazine well accessory (see attached file for pictures) to fill this requirement?

**Question 85:**

2.5.9 Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol magazine's base plate.

Our pistol has a secure and removeable lanyard loop that can be installed and removed quickly and easily from the pistols frame by the end user or armoury personnel. (See picture below) A permanently secured lanyard loop installed on the magazine base plate is not common practice for patrol pistols. It could be a serious snag hazard when drawing

the weapon or when holstered and getting in and out of vehicles. Additionally, a permanently installed lanyard loop on the magazine base plate could cause issues with magazine retention equipment.

We are recommending this language be changed to “Each pistol must come with a ceremonial lanyard loop that can be attached to the pistol frame or magazine base plate.”



Question 90:

RT 2.4.5 – The pistol should have a steel insert molded to the frame (grip module) to further prevent distortion when gripped or when accessories are mounted.

Our manufacturer’s pistol has steel inserts molded into the frame (grip module). These inserts serve a dual purpose of guiding and holding the slide as well as preventing the pistol frame from distorting when gripped or when accessories are mounted. (See picture in attached file)

