

Frequently Asked Questions / Responses to Questions posed by interested Participants.

1) Do solutions require a foreign military national export license to be eligible for your consideration?

- **There are existing import and export laws that must be observed. Recommend deference to your national export licensing requirements. Following which, once confirmation of intent to participate is received, DND/CAF will address the Canadian supply import restrictions (if any) on the respective software.**

2) The schedule is very short for requesting an Export license if we are expected to demonstrate in Canada.

Moreover, the schedule may conflict with the NATO CWIX event which involves all the IRM&CM system providers. Can the evaluation event be postponed in September or later?

- **The event host acknowledges the scheduled dates for the conduct of CWIX (5-23 Jun 2024). Once the posting date of the advertisement (W6820-4502740874) expires on 23 May 2024, then discussions with all interested participants will commence, and aid in determining the appropriate date for said evaluation.**

3) Evaluation process:

· Does the software have to be setup by the vendor before the trial test phase planned for 10 days?

- **In short - No. Vendor software will be transitioned in as part of the event with the assistance of the evaluation staff (and local technical assistance as required), thus preserving the integrity of the event and protecting vendor proprietary information.**

· Is the software training period before the 10 days or during the trial test phase planned for 10 days?

- **Training will be part of the trials/test phase. Training is meant to be very basic i./e. introduction will serve the need. Staff will be flexible in assisting to the transfer of knowledge to users.**

· Is it expected that vendors (foreign /domestic) support the users/evaluation team during the whole period of trial phase?

- **Once vendor software is mounted, minimal vendor staffing is required. Expectation is that vendor assistance be on-call.**

· Annex A: Can we request a PC with a better graphics card (example NVIDIA RTX or alike)

- **Unfortunately, DND/CAF is limited in the ask for specific system configurations. The platform is as described.**

4) Will DND cover some costs or is it expected that the vendor has assume all the costs?

- **If hospitality is approved, DND/CAF will be covering costs of mid-day meal and coffee breaks.**

5) Do you have a process to erase the vendor solution software after the trial period?

- **DND/CAF will be using an augmenting server to host all vendor software, upon completion of the task (i.e. the report) proprietary information will be deleted; i.e. nothing will be retained by DND/CAF (i.e. GOC, (or organizations associated with)).**

6) Is there a debriefing planned for the vendors after the trial period, specifically how the respective solutions cope with Canada's IRM-CM requirements/needs?

- **Yes - it is DND/CAF's aim to provide "feedback" to the respective vendors. This feedback will focus on the performance of the vendors' respective submissions.**

- Can Canada clarify whether this process is being run by PSPC or by DND/CAF? Section 1.4.6 instructs vendors to direct enquiries exclusively to the PSPC Procurement Authority, but Section 1.4.9 provides information for a DND/CAF point of contact. Process is being run by DND.
 - **Apologies for the confusion. This event is being monitored by Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC). Notwithstanding Section 1.4.6 and 1.4.9, please direct all inquiries regarding the advertisement (W6820-4502740874), to the DND POC Debbie McCormack who will staff to LCdr Eldridge.**
- Does Canada plan on limiting the number of vendors that will be invited to attend the engagement event? If so, how many invites will be available and on what basis will Canada select which vendors to invite?
 - **There are no limits on the number of invitees. If the number of participants exceed our hosting capability, a second event will be conducted. If a second event is required Canada will use this means to update the poster (W6820-4502740874), and all previous participating vendor activities will be filed separately, and safeguarded, until all evaluations can be conducted as a single event. To reaffirm - ALL vendor activities will be evaluated at the same time and as part of a single event.**

- Can Canada clarify the deadline for vendors' responses? Annex C 2.0.1 states feedback is due 20 May 2024, but Section 1.4.8 states responses are due 24 May 2024. Closing date is 23 May 2024 11:59 pm EST
 - **Apologies for the confusion. Disregard the Ref Annex C 2.0.1 feedback date. The official closing date for “feedback” and “intent” to participate in the event described (W6820-4502740874), is 23 May 2024. Following which, an appropriate date (after the conduct of CWIX - 05 to 23 June 2024) for the conduct of the event described will be communicated via these means.**

- What is Canada asking vendors to submit by the 20/24 May 2024 deadline:
 - Is Canada asking for responses to the complete set of requirements in Annex B? If so, are you simply looking for Yes/No answers as to whether the vendor's solution supports each requirement, or are you also requesting a description of how the solution supports each one?
 - **Annex B, gives the vendors the opportunity to self-screen, therefore, not looking for Yes/No responses. This should give vendors the ability to determine if they wish to participate IAW the (W6820-4502740874, Annex B and C, i.e., requirements and intent to participate).**
 - Similarly, is Canada requesting responses to the complete set of questions in Annex C? Or are these questions merely for vendors' consideration in advance of the engagement event?