



NATO UNCLASSIFIED

Acquisition Directorate

Edel.Esparza@ncia.nato.int

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01 July 2021

**Notification of Intent to Request Quotations for
Urgent Obsolescence Management – Mitigation (UOMM) for CIS Security
Services**

RFQ-CO-115511-UOMM-3

Estimated Value: EUR 3.4M

The NCI Agency is seeking deployment of both the Network Intrusion Detection/Prevention Systems (NIPS) and Full Packet Capture (FPC).

The Agency anticipates issuing the formal Request for Quote (RFQ) by Q3 2021 with an anticipated Contract Award by Q4 2021.

NCI Agency Point of Contact: Mr. Edel Esparza

E-mail: RFQ-CO-UOM-M@ncia.nato.int

To: Distribution List

Subject: **Notification of Intent (NOI) to Invite Requests for Quotations for Urgent Obsolescence Management – Mitigation (UOMM) for CIS Security Services**

References: A. AC/4-D/(2019)0004 (INV)

1. Notice is given of the intent of the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency), as the Host Nation, to issue a Request for Quotation (RFQ) to provide the Urgent Obsolescence Management Work Package 0 related to CIS Security Services Technology Refresh under the Basic Ordering Agreement Plus (BOA+) procedures outlined in Reference A.



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2. Annex A of this Notification of Intent (NOI) is a summary of the project's requirements. To address an urgent obsolescence management requirement and facilitate technology refresh, the NCI Agency is seeking the deployment of both the Network Intrusion Detection/Prevention Systems (NIPS) and Full Packet Capture (FPC) systems. These requirements are being refined and detailed as part of the preparation of the UOMM Technical Refresh proposed BOA+ Award.
3. The reference for the RFQ is RFQ-CO-115511-UOMM-3 and all correspondence concerning this RFQ should reference this number.
4. The estimated investment cost for the services and deliverables included within the basic scope of the intended contract is approximately EUR 3,410,596. Funding for this project is provided by the Investment Committee.
5. The envisaged procurement procedure for this RFQ will be the BOA+ procedures. The successful quote, pursuant to the RFQ following this NOI, will be that quote which is the lowest price and technically compliant in accordance with the evaluation criteria prescribed in the RFQ.
6. The formal RFQ is planned to be issued in the Q3 2021, and the Contract Award is planned for no later than Q4 2021.
7. The draft Bidders List is attached at Annex B. Companies that have a signed and activated NCI Agency BOA and are not listed in Annex B may also contact the NCIA Agency POC at point 7b of this letter enabling the Firm to be added to the Bidders List. In addition, national responsible authorities are kindly requested that the NCI Agency be provided Declarations of Eligibility (DoE) not later than **1 August 2021**, of qualified and certified firms which are interested in quoting against this project and of which currently do not possess an active NCI Agency BOA.
 - a. In addition to the certification of the Firm's security clearance required under this NOI, the DoE should include the following information for each of the nominated firms:

Name of the Firm

Telephone number

E-mail address

Point of Contact

- b. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with the prospective Offerors and should be sent to the following address:

NATO Communications and Information Agency
Boulevard Leopold III, 1110, Brussels, BELGIUM
Attention: Mr. Edel Esparza – Senior Contracting Officer
E-mail: RFQ-CO-UOM-M@ncia.nato.int

8. Offerors will be required to declare a Quotation validity of six (6) months from closing date for receipt of quotes. Should the selection and award procedure exceed the RFQ Closing Date by more than six (6) months firms will be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their Quotations accordingly. Offerors may decline to do so, withdraw their Quote and excuse themselves from the RFQ process without penalty.
9. National authorities are advised the RFQ package is anticipated to be NATO UNCLASSIFIED; however, the RFQ and the contractual documents could contain references to other NATO documents classified as NATO RESTRICTED.
10. The successful Offeror will be required to handle and store classified information up to the level of NATO SECRET. In addition, Contractor personnel will be required to work unescorted in Class II Security areas and therefore, access can only be permitted to cleared individuals. Only firms maintaining such cleared facilities and the appropriate personnel clearances will be able to perform the resulting contract.
11. Requests for participation in this competition directly from firms without an active NCI Agency BOA cannot be considered and point 7 of this letter applies.
12. The NCI Agency Point of Contact (POC) for all information concerning this RFQ is Mr. Edel Esparza, Senior Contracting Officer who can be reached at email: RFQ-CO-UOM-M@ncia.nato.int
13. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

For the Director of Acquisition:

Edel Esparza
Senior Contracting Officer

Attachment(s):

Annex A – Summary of Requirements
Annex B – Draft Vendor List

**Annex A – Summary of Requirements
RFQ-CO-115511-UOMM-3
Urgent Obsolescence Management – Mitigation (UOMM) for CIS Security
Services**

Background

NATO's current Cyber Defence posture is based upon the NATO Computer Incident Response Capability (NCIRC) – Full Operational Capability (FOC). NCIRC FOC is a Cyber Defence capability, deployed in a 'hub-and-spoke' architecture.

Tier-2 Central Management infrastructure is the pillar on which every service within NCIRC is based for network, security, servers, workstations, virtualisation, storage, backup and monitoring requirements. It includes the centralized management of Network Intrusion Detection/Prevention Systems (NIPS) and Full Packet Capture System (FPC) devices deployed across NATO sites that are part of the NATO Enterprise (and referred to as Tier-3 Sites).

Introduction

The NCI Agency is seeking the services of a system integrator with significant experience in design and deployment of cyber security systems across multiple geographical locations. This particular project entails the replacement of equipment and systems that are at or near End of Life (EoL) or End of Support (EoS). Extensive travel across the NATO Enterprise is required in order to successfully complete this project. This project is referred to as Urgent Obsolescence Management Mitigation (UOMM).

These systems are part of the existing NCIRC which is operated centrally at Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) Mons, as well as components deployed both at the NCIRC Operations base in SHAPE as well as at various NATO sites.

Project Scope

Interested and eligible companies may provide quotations for the requirements as follows:

1. Tier-3 site deployments

In total there are 22 geographic locations of the Tier-3 enclaves in scope for deployment. Each site is different and detailed site surveys have already been prepared by a previous and no-longer engaged supplier.

The supplier will be required to travel to all sites to perform the installation processes, site activation and training.

The deployed solution will need to fully integrate to the Tier-2 Central Management facility in Mons.

The Agency will provide all equipment and spares as Purchaser Furnished Equipment (PFE), and will be responsible for all logistics and the Tempest testing of those components deemed necessary.

2. NCIRC Operational Deployment Support and Exercise Reference System (NODCERS)

The NODCERS platform is hosted in SHAPE, Mons. It is comprised of Tier-2 and Tier-3 components, and is only partially completed.

The supplier will ensure that NODCERS is built as a representative of the new Tier-2 deployments and include a Tier-3 test system. This will include the creation of all design documentation and testing in alignment with the Agency Integrated Validation and Verification (IV&V) Service Line.

3. Tier-2 Documentation and Operational Support

The Tier-2 deployment in SHAPE, Mons, is being replaced outside the scope of this RFQ due to Operational constraints. The scope of work for the Tier-2 deployments are limited to ensure a swift implementation of capability, but do not include any updates to the Operational Support Documentation.

The supplier will produce all of the required material such that the Agency can operate Tier-2 and Tier-3 under the approach of NATO Owned NATO Operated (NONO). This will include, but not exclusively: Service Design Package, Service Transition Plan, Service Support Plan/ Service Maintenance Plan, and Service Monitoring and Reporting Plan.

4. Integrated Product Services (IPS)

The implementation of the NATO Owned – NATO Operated paradigm will require a comprehensive Supportability package to be developed by the supplier, including (but not limited to) Manuals and Training, over and beyond the COTS documentation and data.