UK-BRISTOL: Development of software for military applications.

Section I: Contracting Authority
   I.1)Name, Addresses and Contact Point(s):
       DE&S CAST
       Abbey Wood, BRISTOL, BS34 8JH, United Kingdom
       Tel. +44 7976361308, Email: DESCAST-PYRAMID@mod.gov.uk
       Contact: Samantha McCann
       Main Address: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence
       NUTS Code: UKK11

      Further information can be obtained at: As Above
      Specifications and additional documents: As Above
      Applications must be sent to: As Above

   I.2)Type of the contracting authority and main activity or activities:
      Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

   I.3) Main activity:
      Defence

   I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entity:
      The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: No

Section II: Object Of The Contract: SERVICES
   II.1)Description
      II.1.1)Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority/entity: CESTIUS concept validation exercise
      II.1.2)Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance: SERVICES
         Purchase

         Region Codes: UKK11 - Bristol, City of
      II.1.3)Framework agreements: Not Provided

      II.1.5)Short description of the contract or purchase:
      Development of software for military applications. CESTIUS is a concept-validation exercise within PYRAMID that is designed to provide feedback on the usability and ‘openness’ of the technical solution by assessing the PRA Exploiter’s Pack through an experiment in component development. The experiment will be conducted by a component developer and will consist of the development a PYRAMID-Compliant software component using the PRA Exploiter’s Pack, capturing lessons learned on the experience of development, and supplying the component to a system integrator for integration testing. The value of these activities is in the findings of the experience which should provide confidence that the material enables suppliers to develop PYRAMID-Compliant systems. Consequently, the Authority is seeking responses that demonstrate a well-considered approach, e.g. the controls on the methods for conducting and observing the experiment. Responses will be considered against the proposals to capture and communicate the lessons learned from the assessment.

Any company successful at the DPQQ stage will be required to sign a License in order to receive a copy of the PRA Exploiter’s Pack to use during the ITT stage. Any company that is unwilling to sign the License will be unable to participate in the tender.

      II.1.6)Common Procurement Vocabulary:
         72231000 - Development of software for military applications.

      II.1.7)Information about subcontracting:
         The tenderer has to indicate in the tender any share of the contract it may intend to subcontract to third parties and any proposed subcontractor, as well as the subject-matter of the subcontracts for which they are proposed.
         The tenderer has to indicate any change occurring at the level of subcontractors during the execution of the contract.
      II.1.8)Division into lots: No
      II.1.9)Variants will be accepted: No

   II.2)Quantity Or Scope Of The Contract
      II.2.1)Total quantity or scope (including all lots, renewals and options):
      PYRAMID was designed to transform the way that avionics mission systems are developed and supported. It provides a route to increase resilience to threat evolution, agility of capability, and enables rapid software upgrades. PYRAMID is the fundamental pillar of the Air Mission Systems Strategy, built on the principle of systematic reuse of extensible and modifiable software. It is through PYRAMID that a reusable and open core mission system architecture is being developed by the UK for both current and future systems. This approach will enable systematic re-use, reducing cost of software development, support and time to implement capability enhancements while enabling greater interoperability across systems.
A PYRAMID Reference Architecture (PRA) and PRA Exploiter’s Pack is currently being designed and developed for an Open Mission Systems solution to support the development of deployment architectures and components. The PYRAMID Reference Architecture is being exploited through several UK MOD projects.
CESTIUS is a concept-validation exercise within PYRAMID that is designed to provide feedback on the usability and ‘openness’ of the technical solution by assessing the PRA Exploiter’s Pack through an experiment in component development.
CESTIUS will comprise three (3) elements:
a.   Develop PYRAMID-Compliant Software Component
b.   Provide Lessons Learned on Experience/Feedback on the PRA Exploiter’s Pack
c.   Deliver Component for Integration Testing and Support System Integration Activities

1.   The purpose of this advert is to identify a component developer who can develop one (1) PYRAMID-Compliant software component from the three (3) candidates below, using the PYRAMID Reference Architecture Exploiter’s Pack:

a.   Interlocks – This component in the weapon-release chain determines if interlocks are active or inactive to allow weapon release.
b.   Time Determination – This component is used to provide absolute and relative time to the system from a time-source.
c.   Simple Sensors (GPS, LINS, Temperature, Pressure) – This component is used to interface directly with the sensors and output the sensed data. Each type of sensor has a specific instance of a simple sensor designed for it.

2.   Upon completion of the component development, the winning Contractor will be required to provide a feedback report to the Authority, the output of which will be vested in the Authority on the following areas of interest. The Authority wishes to test:

a.   The usability of the PRA Exploiter’s Pack,
b.   The need for the PRA Exploiter’s Pack for a Component Developer,
c.   The benefits that the PRA Exploiter’s Pack has in setting requirements on the supplier,
d.   The appropriateness of business and commercial rules, and
e.   The appropriateness of compliance guidance.

3.   Finally, the developed software component will be delivered for testing within a simulated environment, hosted in the Air Integration Labs at BAE Systems Warton. The system integrator will test the following:

a.   The Component Developer’s compliance with PYRAMID
b.   The ability to integrate the PYRAMID-Compliant component into the target environment

Any company successful at the DPQQ stage will be required to sign a License in order to receive a copy of the PRA Exploiter’s Pack to use during the ITT stage. Any company that is unwilling to sign the License will be unable to participate in the tender.

In issuing this CN and engaging with the market, DE&S is not committing to carry out any procurement exercises in relation to any or all of the requirements stated in this CN. Equally, non-participation in this engagement will not be taken into account in any future procurement activities and will not preclude any organisation from submitting a tender in any future competition.

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         Estimated value excluding VAT:
         Range between: 500,000 and 1,400,000
         Currency: GBP

      II.2.2)Options: No
         II.2.3)Renewals: No
   II.3)Duration Of The Contract Or Time-Limit For Completion

Section III: Legal, Economic, Financial And Technical Information
   III.1)Conditions relating to the contract
      III.1.1)Deposits and guarantees required:
      A parent company or bank guarantee may be required

      III.1.2)Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them:
      As detailed in the Invitation to Tender

      III.1.3)Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:
      If a group of economic operators submits a bid, the group must nominate a legal entity to deal with the Authority and which will tender and enter into the contract.

      III.1.4) Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject, in particular with regard to security of supply and security of information:
      The Authority reserves the right to amend any condition related to security of information to reflect any changes in national law and government policy. If any contract documents are accompanied by a Security Aspects Letter, the Authority reserves the right to amend the terms of the Security Aspects Letter to reflect any changes in national law or government policy whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective marking applies or otherwise.
   III.1.5) Information about security clearance
      Candidates which do not yet hold security clearance may obtain such clearance until:2021-01-01 00:00:00.0

   III.2)Conditions For Participation
      III.2.1)Economic and financial capacity:
         Criteria regarding the personal situation of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers.
         The Authority will apply all the offences listed in Article 39(1) of Directive 2009/81/EC (implemented as Regulation 23(1) of the Defence and Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 in the UK) and all of the professional misconducts listed at Article 39(2) of Directive 2009/81/EC (see also Regulation 23(2) in the DSPCR 2011) to the decision of whether a Candidate is eligible to be invited to tender.

         A full list of these criteria are at http://www.contracts.mod.uk/delta/project/reasonsForExclusion.html#dspr

         Candidates will be required to sign a declaration confirming whether they do or do not have any of the listed criteria as part of the pre-qualification process.

         Candidates who have been convicted of any of the offences under Article 39(1) are ineligible and will not be selected to bid, unless there are overriding requirements in the general interest (including defence and security factors) for doing so.

         Candidates who are guilty of any of the offences, circumstances or misconduct under Article 39(2) may be excluded from being selected to bid at the discretion of the Authority.

      III.2.2) Economic and financial standing:
         Criteria regarding the economic and financial standing of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)
         (a) Appropriate statements from the economic operator's bankers or where appropriate, evidence of relevant professional risk indemnity insurance;
         (b) The presentation of balance-sheets or extracts from the balance-sheets, where publication of the balance-sheet is required under the law of the country in which the economic operator is established;
         (c) where appropriate, a statement, covering the three previous financial years of the economic operator, of:(i) the overall turnover of the business of the economic operator; and (ii) where appropriate, the turnover in respect of the work, works, goods or services which are of a similar type to the subject matter of the contract.

         Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
         Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: (if applicable)
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
         Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: (if applicable)
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
      III.2.3) Technical and/or professional capacity:
         Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

         (a) in the case of a supply contract requiring the siting or installation of goods, a services contract or a works contract, the economic operator's technical ability, taking into account in particular that economic operator's skills, efficiency, experience and reliability;
         (c) a statement of the principal goods sold or services provided by the supplier or the services provider in the past five years, or during a shorter period if necessary, and: (i) the dates on which the goods were sold or the services provided; (ii) the consideration received; (iii) the identity of the person to whom the goods were sold or the service were provided; (iv) any certificate issued or countersigned by that person confirming the details of the contract for those goods sold or services provided; and (v) where - (a)that person was not a contracting authority, and (b)the certificate referred to in sub-paragraph (c)(iv) is not available, any declaration by the economic operator attesting the details of the goods sold or services provided;
         (d) a statement of the technicians or technical services available to the economic operator to: (i) carry out the work under the contract, or (ii) be involved in the production of goods or the provision of services under the contract, particularly those responsible for quality control, whether or not they are independent of the economic operator;
         (e) a statement of the economic operator's: (i) technical facilities; (ii) measures for ensuring quality; (iii) study and research facilities; and (iv) internal rules regarding intellectual property;
         (i) a statement of the services provider's or contractor's average annual number of staff and managerial staff over the previous three years;
         (j) a description of the tools, material, technical equipment, staff numbers, know-how and sources of supply (with an indication of their geographical location when it is outside the territory of the EU) available to the economic operator to perform the contract, cope with any additional needs required by the contracting authority as a result of a crisis or carry out the maintenance, modernisation or adaptation of the goods covered by the contract;
         (m) in the case of contracts involving, entailing or containing classified information, evidence of the ability to process, store and transmit such information at the level of protection required by the contracting authority;
         (o) any other evidence of conformity to quality management systems standards which are equivalent to the standards referred to in sub-paragraph (n)(i);

         Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
         Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: (if applicable)
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
         Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of subcontractors (that may lead to their rejection)
         Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met:
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
         Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: (if applicable)
            As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
      III.2.4) Information about reserved contracts: Not Provided
Section IV: Procedure
   IV.1)Type Of Procedure
      IV.1.1)Type of procedure: Restricted

      IV.1.2)Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate:
                        Envisaged minimum number: 3 and maximum number: 4
         Objective Criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:
         As detailed in the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire
   IV.2)Award Criteria
      IV.2.1)Award criteria:
         The most economically advantageous tender in terms of
            The criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document

      IV.2.2)An electronic auction will be used: No

   IV.3)Administrative Information
      IV.3.1)File reference number attributed by the contracting authority: 701005378
      IV.3.2)Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract: No

      IV.3.3)Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document:

Date: 10/11/2020         Time-limit for receipt of requests for documents or for accessing documents: 12:00
         Payable documents: No

      IV.3.4)Time-limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate
         Date: 14/11/2020
         Time: 12:00
      IV.3.5)Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates: Not Provided
      IV.3.6)Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up:         English

Section VI: Complementary Information

   VI.1)This Is A Recurrent Procurement: No
   VI.2)The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No
   VI.3)Additional Information: The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement.The Authority reserves the right to amend any condition related to security of information to reflect any changes in national law or government policy. If any contract documents are accompanied by instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter), the Authority reserves the right to amend the terms of these instructions to reflect any changes in national law or government policy, whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective marking applies, or otherwise. The link below to the Gov.uk website provides information on the Government Security Classification.

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications

Advertising Regime OJEU:- This contract opportunity is published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU),the MoD Defence Contracts Bulletin and www.contracts.mod.uk
Suppliers must read through this set of instructions and follow the process to respond to this opportunity.
The information and/or documents for this opportunity are available on http://www.contracts.mod.uk.
You must register on this site to respond, if you are already registered you will not need to register again, simply use your existing username and password. Please note there is a password reminder link on the homepage.
Suppliers must log in, go to your Response Manager and add the following Access Code: Q3K3FC5XU9.

Please ensure you follow any instruction provided to you here.
The deadline for submitting your response(s) is detailed within this contract notice, you will also have visibility of the deadline date, once you have added the Access code via DCO as the opening and closing date is visible within the opportunity.
Please ensure that you allow yourself plenty of time when responding to this opportunity prior to the closing date and time, especially if you have been asked to upload documents.
If you experience any difficulties please refer to the online Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) or the User Guides or contact the MOD DCO Helpdesk by emailing support@contracts.mod.uk or Telephone 0800 282 324.

   VI.4)Procedures For Appeal
      VI.4.1)Body responsible for appeal procedures:
       DE&S CAST
       Abbey Wood, BRISTOL, United Kingdom
       Tel. +44 7976361308, Email: DESCAST-PYRAMID@mod.gov.uk

      Body responsible for mediation procedures:
          DE&S CAST
          Bristol, United Kingdom
          Tel. +44 7976361308, Email: DESCAST-PYRAMID@mod.gov.uk

      VI.4.2)Procedures for appeal: Not Provided

      VI.4.3)Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained:
             DE&S CAST
       Bristol, United Kingdom
       Tel. +44 7976361308, Email: DESCAST-PYRAMID@mod.gov.uk

   VI.5) Date Of Dispatch Of This Notice: 16/10/2020

ANNEX A