

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

Customer: Joint Sensor & Engagement Networks (JSENS) Delivery Team, DE&S

Please submit your response via the following link to DSP (AWARD):

<https://award.commercedecisions.com/dsp/web/project/8a38d01f-dc90-44c2-9368-02f754e8cb32/register>

You will be required to make an account to submit a response. Individuals already registered with DSP (AWARD) do not need to re-register; they can use their existing DSP (AWARD) login details to respond to the RFI.

Date response required: 8th May 2024

This Request for Information (RFI) seeks information relating to the availability, technical maturity and capability of Command and Control (C2) systems for use within the Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) environment. This information will be used to inform the procurement strategy for C2 in the Land GBAD programme covering Capability Uplift Periods 2 and 3 (CUP2/3). CUP 2 estimated to take place between 2026-2030 and CUP 3 estimated to take place 2030 onwards.

Please note the following general conditions:

- This RFI is intended to assist the Authority in refining the requirements for C2 within the Land GBAD programme.
- Any information inferred or implied within this RFI is subject to change and may not represent the Authority's final decision.
- The Authority reserves the right not to proceed and to amend its approach regarding the elements of the Land GBAD programme described within this RFI.
- No information provided within this RFI shall constitute a commitment. Any procurement relating to the topics discussed within the RFI shall be managed separately and in line with UK government legislation and policy, as relevant.
- All costs associated with the production of such a response either to a RFI or a future procurement shall be borne entirely by the respondent. The Authority shall not contribute in any way to meeting production costs of any response.
- No down-selection of respondents will take place as a consequence of any responses or interactions relating to this RFI.
- No information provided in response to this RFI will be carried forward, used, or acknowledged in any way for the purpose of evaluating the respondent in any subsequent formal procurement process. All costs provided shall be to assist forward planning assumptions only and shall bear no consideration in any way in any future procurement.
- All information provided by respondents shall be treated as commercially sensitive and not shared with any third parties.

CURRENT SITUATION

To meet the increased variety and lethality of aerial threats, the Land GBAD Programme will provide

manoeuvrable Medium Range Air Defence (MRAD), Short Range Air Defence (SHORAD), and Counter Small Aerial Targets (C-SAT) capabilities, with integrated C2. It will also provide capabilities for All Arms to counter small Uncrewed Aircraft Systems (All Arms C-sUAS). The programme will be delivered through three Capability Uplift Periods, with the first increasing scaling of in-service systems and the latter CUP's delivering capability enhancement to meet the future requirement. CUP 2 is currently in the assessment phase of the Concept, Assessment, Development, Manufacture, In-service and Disposal (CADMID) cycle and exploring options for procurement of integrated C2.

OUR AIMS – WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

The aim of this RFI is to develop market knowledge of available C2 systems which are applicable to GBAD to support a procurement for delivery of integrated C2 within the timelines of the Land GBAD programme. At a more detailed level we seek information relating to the availability, technical maturity, and capability of C2 systems for use within the GBAD environment.

We are looking to gain an understanding of the current industry capability to effectively deliver layered and integrated Air Defence Systems within the CUP 2/3 timeframes. To support this, the Authority seeks to understanding the below information regarding C2 systems:

Q1- Please provide a description of your current C2 offering including:

- The primary features and functions of the available C2 systems (for example, Air Picture Display, Air Picture Compilation, Engagement Control, Fire Control, Command and Co-ordination, Planning Tools, Recording Facilities, Training Capabilities, Simulation and Specific Safety Functions). Please provide any relevant examples of where the C2 offering has been deployed by other customers, describing the system context as appropriate.
- Details of any unique selling points or special features that could aid the Authority's market knowledge.
- The mobility and vehicle integration options for the C2; providing indicative size weight and power requirements. Can the physical laydown of the C2 system be tailored to fit different size platforms.
- Is the design of current C2 offering modular and scalable, can it be tailored to different roles and deployment requirements? For example, number of operators and different options for host vehicle (box body, armoured vehicle, man portable systems).
- What is the expected or declared reliability and availability of the C2 offering?
- What is the proposed support solution for your proposed C2 offering?
- Has your C2 offering been designed and delivered against a recognised standard for system or software safety (e.g. IEC 61508)?
- Has your C2 offering been designed to meet any relevant environmental or EMC standards (e.g. DEFSTAN 00-35, DEFSTAN 59-411, MIL-STD-810, MIL-STD-461)?

Q2- Please describe the integration capabilities of you current C2 offering:

- Has your system implemented recognised interface standards (e.g. Asterix, Link 16, JREAP, GVA)

- Has your system been designed and implemented using an Open Solutions approach? If so, please describe?
- What would be the main packages of work required to integrate new weapon solutions and sensors to you C2 offering?
- What would be the main packages of work required to integrate new host platform/vehicle to you C2 offering?
- What information, support and tools would be required to integrate your C2 offering with Weapon Solutions, Sensors, and host platform/vehicle?

Q3- Please provide an indicative cost at VROM level (Very Rough Order of Magnitude) for the provision of a vanilla C2 node and any integration work required to integrate one type of sensor (e.g. AESA Active Electronically Scanned Array) and one type of weapon (e.g. Medium or Short-Range Missiles).

Q4- Please provide an estimate of typical delivery timeframes for equipment and non recurring engineering activities. Describe any factors which may affect scheduling and availability. Please also provide intended countries for production.

Q5- Please identify any elements of the existing C2 offering which are subject to export control measures. For example, the USA International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). When answering the above question, it should be noted that the supplier base for Land GBAD may not be limited to UK industry and that integration will likely require exchange of information and services with third party nations.

Q6- The Authority is considering facilitating structured opportunities to demonstrate capabilities of existing C2 products with a government provided synthetic environment within a UK facility. Whilst subject to change the current planning assumption is that these demonstrations will occur in Q1 2025. The Authority are open to opportunities for Industry visits/demonstrations at the Suppliers premises to support our market research. Please state your preference in participating in any early integration and demonstration opportunity as part of your response.

TIMETABLE

The RFI will be open for a 6-week period with a closing date of 8th May 2024.

SUPPORT CONTACT POINT FOR THIS RFI

Please direct all queries regarding access to the AWARD Helpdesk to the following email address: support@commercedecisions.com.

Note the above cannot help with questions regarding the RFI. Any questions regarding the RFI can be raised within the RFI portal once an account has been created.