



Reply to: Ian Richardson
Direct Dial: 0118 982 4703
Email: ian.richardson@awe.co.uk

01/02/2023

FAO:

Dear Sirs

Provision of Two E-Beam Physical Vapour Deposition Coaters: SECURITY ASPECTS LETTER

1. This letter sets out the Security Aspects that will be applicable in respect of the Coaters ITT and all related documentation, and in protecting Official Information/Material (Assets).

Official Secrets Act

2. This tender activity arises from a Ministry of Defence (MoD) requirement and the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911-1989 are applicable. Your attention is drawn to the requirement to protect, and not disclose without authorisation, any Official Assets you may receive or generate, irrespective of whether or not a contract or order is eventually placed.

Official Information/Material

3. All Aspects of the work under this requirement will be classified at a minimum of OFFICIAL, but the Aspects listed below are specifically OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE:

- i. Detailed requirements documentation

4. Any other OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE Aspects arising from this requirement will be identified to you as such. If any aspects of this requirement attract a higher classification, then an additional Security Aspects Letter and/or Security Conditions will be applicable.

Security Conditions

5. DEFCON 660 applies – see Annex A.





6. All persons engaged on your response to this tender activity are to have a minimum of BPSS security clearance or an equivalent acceptable to AWE, and Nationality Requirements¹ apply. Additional clearances will be required for any elements of this work which may attract a higher classification.
7. You may store, process and forward Official Information to a maximum level of OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE, on an information system that meets a minimum of the LOW Cyber Profile and using exchange mechanisms approved by AWE; this Condition also applies to any associated third parties or sub-contractors with access to OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE Aspects.
8. The security requirements for protecting Official Information/Material in the Official Tier are described in the “**Cyber Security for the AWE Supply Chain**” document, the current version of which can be found on the AWE website²; this document sets out the Control Framework that should be implemented to safeguard OFFICIAL or OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE assets.
9. You may sub-contract elements of this tender activity with the agreement of AWE. The Security Conditions set out in this letter must be cascaded to, and acknowledged by, any sub-contractor, in accordance with DEFCON 660; any Security Aspects Letters issued by you to a sub-contractor should be copied to SupplyChainSecurity@awe.co.uk.
10. Access to Official Assets by persons or companies employed or sub-contracted by you should only be granted in accordance with the “Need to Know” principle.
11. Neither you nor any associated third parties or sub-contractors may put Official Assets or any Aspect of this requirement (including, where relevant, the sourcing of material and/or equipment) at offshore risk³; or with any entities which are subject to Foreign Ownership, Control or Influence (FOCI ⁴) without prior AWE approval. If your company, or any associated third party or sub-contractor, is or becomes subject to FOCI you should inform AWE.
12. Neither you nor any associated third parties or sub-contractors may disclose or publicise the fact or any Aspect of this requirement without prior approval from AWE.

¹ Guidance on **Nationality Requirements** is available from AWE.

² See: <https://www.awe.co.uk/responsible-business/our-suppliers/supplier-assurance/>

³ **Offshore risk** covers the delivery of any part of this Requirement (including access to Official Assets) by individuals or entities based outside the UK.

⁴ An entity is considered to be **subject to FOCI** if AWE reasonably considers that it is or may be owned or controlled by a Foreign National or a Foreign Interest; or if a Foreign National or Interest has a Significant Interest; or is in partnership with a Foreign National or Interest; or if any Foreign National/government/ other entity has any ability to direct or decide matters affecting the management or operations of the entity including but not limited to acting in a manner which may result in unauthorised access to Official Information or may otherwise adversely affect the performance of MoD contracts or the interests of the United Kingdom. “**Foreign National**” is any person other than a UK citizen; “**Significant Interest**” is defined here as: 25% or more ownership of securities; tangible assets; or of debt liability; or an ability to control or influence the appointment of directors or officers.



Security Management

13. The AWE Bid Manager for this tender activity is:

Name: Sarah Webster
Email: AWEProcurement@awe.co.uk

14. You must inform the AWE Bid Manager immediately if there has been any breach or suspected breach of security in respect of Official Information/Material and be prepared to follow any incident management direction by AWE or its agents.

Return of Official Information/Material

15. On completion of the tender activity, all AWE-generated Official Assets should be returned to AWE, unless you have prior agreement that you may either retain or locally purge/destroy said assets.

Acknowledgement and Validity

16. Please confirm your understanding and agreement to these Security Aspects to the AWE Bid manager (AWEProcurement@awe.co.uk) , and to SupplyChainSecurity@awe.co.uk, by 03/03/23 at 1630GMT

17. This Security Aspects Letter is valid for the period of this tender activity.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Webster
Category Manager

Ian Richardson
Supply Chain Security Manager



ANNEX A: DEFCON 660 – OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE SECURITY REQUIREMENTS (Edition 12/15)

Definition

1. In this condition “Information” means information recorded in any form disclosed or created in connection with the Contract.

2. The Contractor shall protect all Information relating to the aspects designated OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE as identified in the Security Aspects Letter annexed to the Contract, in accordance with the official Security Conditions contained in the contract or annexed to the Security Aspects Letter.

3. The Contractor shall include the requirements and obligations set out in clause 2 in any sub-contract placed in connection with or for the purposes of the Contract which requires disclosure of OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE Information to the subcontractor or under which any Information relating to aspects designated as OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE is created by the subcontractor. The Contractor shall also include in the sub-contract a requirement for the subcontractor to flow the requirements of this clause to its subcontractors and through all levels of the supply chain to the lowest level where any OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE Information is handled.