

**MARINE SUPERINTENDENCY EARLY MARKET ENGAGEMENT AND REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)**

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**Section 1 - Objectives**

1. **Objective**
	1. The objective of this Request for Information is to help the MOD to:
		1. To establish the scale and scope of the current marketplace for Marine Superintendency and to gain a clearer picture of the market and the level of technology maturity within industry.
		2. To obtain information from industry experts to inform the Statement of Requirements and the Procurement Strategy.
		3. Identify the necessary next steps in the project through analysis of the responses received and through potential meetings with questionnaire respondents.
2. **Acquisition**

3.1 It is anticipated that any future Marine Superintendency solution will be procured through competitive acquisitions.

3.2 The classification of the completed questionnaire must not exceed OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE. It is acknowledged that this may preclude disclosure of some projects and this should be highlighted if applicable. Please identify the classification of the completed submission where indicated at the start of the questionnaire.

1. **Participation**
	1. Participation of small-medium (SMEs) to large sized enterprises is encouraged.
2. **Submission of Responses**
	1. Please return the completed questionnaire to Hugo.Divers100@mod.gov.uk 12:00 hours on 25th September 2024.
	2. Responses received after 12:00 hours on 25th September 2024 will not be considered.
3. **Conditions**

6.1. This RFI does not constitute the initialisation or otherwise form part of any official procurement procedure. The MOD may, at its discretion and at any time, choose not to proceed with this procurement, but maintains the right to use any Information supplied for the purposes of future procurements.

6.2. The issue of this RFI is not a commitment by the Authority to place a contract because of this RFI or at a later stage.

6.3. The procurement of any goods or services described in this RFI may not necessarily take place as described or at all.

6.4. All responses to this RFI will be held and remain the property of the MOD once received.

6.5. The MOD shall have the right to use or have used any Information, supplied as part of this activity, for United Kingdom Governmental purposes. The aforesaid rights shall be free of payment. The MOD shall not release the identity of the supplier of Information received.

6.6. The MOD will only disclose information on a confidential basis where the respondent permits this within the response to this survey. As such, except for any permissions provided in response to this questionnaire. MOD shall request consent of respondents for any further disclosure to third parties, specifically detailing the third parties, the purpose of the disclosure and any relevant conflict of interest management arrangements.

6.7. The MOD reserves the right at its sole discretion to:

6.7.1. seek clarification in respect of your submission.

6.7.2. cancel this activity at any time or to re-invite participation on the same or any alternative basis, for any reason; and

6.7.3. make whatever changes it sees fit to the timetable and process for any reason.

6.8. Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken by the Respondent to participate in this activity, is a matter solely for their commercial judgement. The MOD shall not be liable for any costs, expenditure, work, or effort incurred by the Respondent in proceeding with or participating in this activity, including if the activity is cancelled or amended by the MOD. The Respondent shall bear all costs associated with participation in this activity, including but not necessarily limited to preparing and submitting questionnaire responses, providing responses to any clarification requests raised by the MOD, demonstrating capability or to conduct any follow up engagements; and

6.9. Participation is entirely without prejudice to any future procurement. Failure to participate will not preclude you from responding to any invitation to tender/negotiate or such other procurement procedure as may be applicable to the programme.

6.10. This Agreement and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation (including non-contractual disputes or claims) shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of England and Wales.

**Section 2 – Requirements and Specifications**

**1. Questionnaire**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Company Name** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Respondent Name** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Respondent Role** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Respondent Email** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Respondent Contact Number** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Security Classification of Questionnaire submission** | Click here to enter text. |

The Authority has a requirement for the provision of Marine Superintendency Services (MSS) in support of its Strategic Sealift Service or other ad hoc Maritime activity. The Contractor's objective is the protection of the Authority's interests by ensuring that chartered vessels are suitable for a particular task, and that cargoes are handled safely and securely. The requirement covers both a ‘business as usual’ low volume demand, oversight of special loads, and an additional ad hoc capability for times where a ‘surge demand’ needs to be met. This RFI is to request suitably qualified suppliers to provide the MOD with further understanding of the marine services market, as well as to measure supplier interest in future procurement’s. This will be used to develop robust requirements and potential procurement strategies.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Are you a Small-Medium Enterprise (SME)? | Yes / No |  |
| If yes…What is the size of your workforce? |  |
| 1a) Please select a descriptor that best describes the nature of your business? *Tick all that apply* |
| Prime Supplier | Direct and key contact with MOD, responsible for delivery of complete service capable of meeting requirements. |[ ]
| Integrator / Broker | Introduces sub-contractor(s) to be managed by the integrator to deliver the requirement.  |[ ]
| Sub-Contractor | Responsible for delivery of complete service to integrator. |[ ]
| Support Services | Provision of support to project and delivery of requirements. |[ ]
| Technical Services/Customer Friend | Provision of technical support and non-competitive advice to MOD. |[ ]

1b)        Please provide a high-level overview of your experience of Marine Superintendency activity including but not limited to examples of the following:

* 1. Preparation of Stow Plans, managing cargoes and cargo handling including Dangerous Goods.
	2. Conducting On-hire Surveys of Vessels, On-Hire Reports, Off-hire Inspections, Operation/Task Reports
	3. Providing specialist advice for loading, stowage and discharge of Project Cargo (such as dangerous goods, oversized and heavy lift loads).

***500 words max, or reference material may be provided***:

|  |
| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |
|  |

1c.  Please provide details of your experience with the MOD:

**300 words max, or reference material may be provided:**

|  |
| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |

**Section 3 – Engagement**

1a) Please provide a suitable lead Point of Contact and their contact details

|  |
| --- |
| Click here to enter text. |
|  |

**Annex A –Definitions**

**Do not apply.**

**Annex B – List of Acronyms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Acronym** | **Description** |
| **MOD** | **Ministry of Defence** |
| **MSS** | **Marine Superintendency Services** |
| **RFI** | **Request For Information** |
| **SME** | **Small-Medium Enterprise** |