



MOD Request for Information

Section 1: Contract Title:

Title attributed to the Contract by the Contracting Authority

Country

Town

Title of notice

Section (DIO only)

Section 2: Contracting Authority

Name of Institution

MOD Organisation

Integrated Project Team (IPT)

Other Integrated Project Team (IPT): **Space Delivery Team**

Official Name: Click or tap here to enter text.

National ID:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Address Line 1: NH1, Spruce 1C, #1045,

Address Line 2: MOD Abbey Wood,

Address Line 3: Click or tap here to enter text.

Town: Bristol,

Postcode: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

Contact Person: DES Space-Comrcl1

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[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Section 3: Object of the Request for Information:

Contracting Authority's file Reference number: TBC

Weblink to where further documentation can be obtained: N/A

Short description of requirement: At this stage a request for Information (RFI) is being issued to inform MOD of the correct commercial approach to purchasing this data. The MOD is therefore requesting information from suppliers within the Space Domain Awareness (SDA) market to understand availability and cost of a single data purchase to inform research and development, to enhance the UK's awareness of events in space and further develop sensor data and digital and analytical techniques needed to grow the UK's domestic SDA capabilities.

Time-limit (2nd November 2022) (by 23:59 on):

02/11/2022

Information requested:

Project Background:

The MOD works with the UK Space Agency (UKSA) to develop the National Space Surveillance and Tracking (SST) capabilities to monitor and warn of hazardous space events and contribute to a wider SDA picture. From a MOD perspective, space is increasingly congested and contested, fuelled by a rapid increase in the number (and reducing cost) of objects in orbit. The MOD are working to bring together data and analysis from defence, civil and commercial space users to ensure UK satellites can continue to operate safely and sustainably. The UK is enhancing its national SDA capability needed to protect and defend the UK national interest in space. The SDA data is required now to maintain the UK's ability to monitor our interests and to provide services, such as collision avoidance information or "neighbourhood watch" to UK assets such as the Skynet constellation.

Envisioned Project Objectives:

The MOD is requesting information from reliable data suppliers, with extensive knowledge of SDA, to potentially procure single sets of SDA data. The intended use will be for MOD to assess how supplementary sensor data can be combined with current data sources to improve UK capability and to assess the quality of the SDA data available on the commercial market, from a range of both national and international.

The intended SDA data must be:

High quality: accurate and precise data on the position, velocity, trajectory and nature of space objects.

Timely: responsive sensor collection to data delivery time.

Assured: persistent observations and high data availability per object that will also allow for further characterisation of the object in addition to tracking information.

Lots:

The requirement scope has been divided into Lots for which suppliers can bid for single, multiple or all lots.

The Lots are defined as follows:

Lot 1 Characterisation (GEO)

Lot 2 Tracking (GEO)

Lot 3 Characterisation (LEO)
Lot 4 Characterisation (Other)
Lot 5 Tracking (Other)
Lot 6 Tracking (LEO) .

In order to inform the requirement, the MOD is requesting information from suppliers within this market area including (but not limited to):

Type of data sets available (within the scope of each of the Lots the supplier is able to provide)

Earliest Data timestamp

Estimated top-level cost for the data (within the scope of each of the Lots the supplier is able to provide).

Availability to provide this data within this financial year (FY) 22/23.

(Any information shared that is commercially sensitive must be marked appropriately).

Envisioned Project Scope:

Commercial space surveillance and tracking (SST) data is required to support real-time Space Domain Awareness (SDA) including satellite tracking and anomaly detection/alerting.

The Provider shall deliver the requisite data products for ingestion (via Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP)) into AURORA, the UK Space Operations Centre (SpOC) data coherence and processing system.

Once received, this data shall be analysed for better understanding for future data purchases.

The intent will be for the data to be uploaded onto the network via the SFTP.

The users in the SpOC will then download into the AURORA system which is hosted on MODCloud.

To note, this is not a physical purchase.

The estimated project timeframe for data to be received is no later than 30th March 2023.

Assumptions:

The intent of this requirement is a one-off purchase. It is assumed that there are multiple suppliers available to provide this type of data. It is assumed that suppliers will bid for different lots, and not all lots, although this is possible as stated above. The data will be classified at the lowest possible classification, primarily OFFICIAL level with higher classification data products usable only by further agreement.