

UK Satellite Based Augmentation System Precise Point Positioning (SBAS PPP)

Request for Information

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Contracts Finder and Find A Tender

Customer: Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and UK Space Agency (UKSA) Programme: UK Satellite Based Augmentation System Precise Point Positioning

Programme: UK Satellite Based Augmentation System Precise Point Positioning (SBAS PPP).

Date response required: 18th June 2024

Dear Supplier,

We would like to notify you of a potential future requirement, and by doing so we are keen to understand where the market stands in terms of our requirements below. This Request for Information (RFI) seeks to obtain the views of interested industry partners in respect to the technological solutions that have been identified and how these could be potentially brought to market.

Please note the following general conditions:

- This RFI will help us to refine the requirements.
- We reserve the right not to proceed with any further procurement activity or competition.
- All costs associated with the production of such a response either to this RFI or a further competition must be borne by the supplier. We will not contribute in any way to meeting production costs of any response.
- No down-selection of potential providers will take place because of any responses or interactions relating to this RFI.
- We expect that all responses to this RFI will be provided by potential providers in good faith to the best of their ability in the light of information available at the time of their response.
- No information provided by a potential provider in response to this RFI will be carried forward, used, or acknowledged in any way for the purpose of evaluating the potential provider, in any subsequent formal procurement process.

CURRENT SITUATION

To support the delivery of the October 2023 Government Policy Framework for <u>Greater Position</u>, <u>Navigation & Timing (PNT) Resilience</u>, the UK Space Agency have been commissioned to explore the options available to the UK that could deliver the benefits of a Satellite Based Augmentation System (SBAS).

Since leaving the EU, the UK opted not to continue accessing Europe's regional SBAS, the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS). In October 2023, the Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) announced a new Government Policy Framework for Greater PNT Resilience, to address the UK's future PNT needs which included developing a proposal for a solution to replace the UK's full use of EGNOS services.

A SBAS provides additional signals and services designed to support the Global Positioning System (GPS) Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) for use in the aviation sector and potentially other sectors. GPS and other GNSS do not provide the accuracy and integrity required to support aircraft in the landing approach phase of flight. A SBAS provides corrections to the GPS navigation data to increase accuracy and provides alerts to aircraft if the data provided by GPS satellites cannot be relied upon. In addition to the corrections provided by conventional SBAS, the scope of this work includes assessing additional GNSS corrections to possibly provide a Precise Point Positioning (PPP) service with decimetre accuracy.

The UK Space Agency has been leading on exploring a business case and is now in a position to obtain the views of the market on how to further progress the business case.

WHAT WE WANT TO ACHIEVE

We will be engaging with industry through this Request for Information document, webinar with Q&A and a questionnaire to collect responses. To ensure full transparency and openness with the process, full details will be published via UK Space Agency communication channels, UK Government Contracts Finder and Find A Tender platforms and invitation to known stakeholders.

To develop the Outline Business Case (OBC), the UK Space Agency will be producing a 'Potential for Future Opportunities' webinar which will aim to obtain the views of the market as to the feasibility and interest in a proposed programme of work.

It is the aim of this open early engagement to support the following outcomes:

- 1. To gain supplier awareness, engagement and opinion, resulting in a confidence around viability of commercial concepts
- 2. To obtain a live primary data source from the supply side market on PNT capability and the case for a SBAS.
- 3. To gain insight to the market possibilities and potential innovative solutions
- 4. To understand risks and issues not previously considered
- 5. To prevent unachievable options from reaching OBC stage

WHAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR

The UK Space Agency will also be hosting a webinar on Tuesday 4th June 2024 at 10am when the programme of work will be presented and provide the opportunity to address any questions. To attend the online webinar, **please register your interest** <u>here</u>. The link to the meeting will be emailed to registrants. Following this, the Request for Information submission window will be open until 18th June 2024.

If you are unable to attend the webinar, it will be recorded and we will circulate to all those registered. All questions received and answers given will be anonymised, collated and shared with those who have registered for the webinar.

To support this process, potential suppliers can help provide:

- Technical insight based on their knowledge and expertise on current developments for SBAS capability, to inform the feasibility of Options (to be discussed at the Webinar),
- Supplier technical insight will help inform the possible Commercial Operating Models, our relationships with the marketplace and integration required to deliver the SBAS vision.
- Provide indicative costs for SBAS related capabilities.

A questionnaire will be produced and issued in advance of the Webinar.

| DATE | ACTIVITY |
|---------------------|---|
| 03 May 2024 | Publication of the Request for Information |
| 04 June 2024 (10am) | SBAS Webinar Presentation with Q&A |
| 18 June 2024 | Deadline for submission of a RFI Questionnaire Response |
| 19-28 June 2024 | Analysis of RFI responses |
| 26 July 2024 | Confirm next steps to RFI Respondents |

OUR TIMETABLE

QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

- Suppliers may raise questions or seek clarification regarding any aspect of this RFI document at any time prior to the Response Deadline. Questions must be submitted via Email: UKSA-SBAS-PPP@ukspaceagency.gov.uk
- Each question will be responded to separately.
- To ensure that all suppliers have equal access to information regarding this request for information, responses to questions raised by suppliers will be published to all parties who confirm interest via email throughout the period where the RFI is live.
- Responses to questions will not identify the originator of the question.

CONFIDENTIALITY

All information provided may be considered by the UK Space Agency and other government departments for use in policy development. In providing the information requested in this document you confirm that you are providing written consent that the information provided may be shared with other departments, agencies, public bodies and subsidiaries owned by the above, and their advisors.

Information you provide in response to this Request for Information, including personal information, may be disclosed in accordance with any applicable law (including the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004), by order of a court or as required by anybody or inquiry which has the power to compel disclosure.

We will process your personal data in accordance with all applicable data protection laws.

To find out more please read our <u>privacy policy</u>. If you want the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please tell us but be aware that we cannot guarantee confidentiality in all circumstances.

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GENERAL CONTACT POINT FOR THIS RFI