**Project APHSS – Automated Pallets Handling Storage System (APHSS) – Early Market Engagement (EME)**

The Defence Equipment & Support, Air Commodities – Airfield Team (hereafter referred to as the Authority) is considering a new support package for the current Automated Pallets Handling Storage System (APHSS) in order to provide a continued cost-effective support for this capability. This system is located within a Hanger at RAF Brize Norton and is used for the building, handling, storing and dismantling of air cargo palletised loads. The system includes the below components, all of which will be included within the scope of this requirement:

• Elevated Transfer Vehicle (ETV)

• Roller Decks

• Lift and Pallet Builds Stations (Single and Triple)

• Storage Decks

• Ball Decks

• Right Angle Decks

• Turntable

• Control Systems

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) has been issued to inform the market and for the Authority to understand the appetite of the market for this requirement, this will enable the Authority to refine the procurement strategy.

The Authority would like to understand risks, cost and delivery drivers associated with the following aspects of the requirement:

1. The provision of an In-Service Support Package. This support package is likely to include:
   1. Monthly equipment checks,
   2. 6 Monthly LOLER inspections,
   3. Quarterly scheduled maintenance works,
   4. annual equipment calibration work
   5. regular reporting activities to the Air Commodities Project team.
2. Ad-Hoc tasking for callouts for emergency repairs within a clearly defined response time which will be dependent upon the issue, as this capability is in continuous usage, requiring 24/7 output.

**Note.** Responsibility for the infrastructure that the APHSS equipment is housed in as well as the fire suppression system will not be included within the scope of this requirement.

**The Authority is looking to hold an Early Market Engagement Industry Day to discuss the requirement and provide potential Suppliers the opportunity to view and understand the APHSS equipment and its importance. This will be held at RAF Brize Norton. Please see the below details to register interest in attendance.**

This PIN is not a means to seek formal expressions of interest; that opportunity may become available in the future through the publication of a formal contract notice that will be published on the Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP).

**Proposed Timeline:**

Final date for Suppliers to confirm attendance at Industry Day – 17:00hrs 05/07/2022

Authority to receive questions for Industry Day from interested Suppliers: NLT 17:00hrs 13/07/2022

Industry Day 10:30hrs – 16:30hrs 20/07/2022

To express interest in attending the Industry Day, please provide a name, email address and telephone number to[**joshua.tregaskes100@mod.gov.uk**](mailto:joshua.tregaskes100@mod.gov.uk)and[**DESASAC-ComrclContact@mod.gov.uk**](mailto:DESASAC-ComrclContact@mod.gov.uk)with the Subject APHSS Industry Day.

Please note the following:

* This Industry Day will assist the Authority in developing an understanding of the markets appetite for the APHSS support requirement.
* We reserve the right not to proceed with this procurement. Nothing shall constitute a commitment to instigating a formal procurement process.
* Any and all costs associated with the production of such a response to an attendance at an Industry Day or any resultant competition must be borne by the Supplier. The Authority will not contribute in any way to meeting production costs of any response.
* No down-selection of Potential Providers will take place as a consequence of any responses or interactions relating to this Interest Day.
* The Authority expect that all responses at the interest day will be provided by potential suppliers in good faith to the best of their ability in light of the information available at the time of their response.
* No information provided by a Potential Provider in response to this Interest Day will be carried forward, used, or acknowledged in any way for the purpose of evaluating the Potential Provider, in any subsequent formal procurement process that may take place.
* Should a Potential Provider fail to attend the Interest Day, it will not affect any further participation in any possible future procurement for this capability.
* Any Questions regarding the APHSS system should be provider no later than 3 working day prior to the industry day to [Joshua.tregaskes100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Joshua.tregaskes100@mod.gov.uk).
* Any Questions received after this deadline may not be answered at the industry day.
* Maximum of 2 representatives per interest party.