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18 February 2022

Dear Sir / Madam

**Invitation to Tender Reference** **703070451**

1. You are invited to tender for the Procurement of Hardware and Software to enable Information Exploitation in a further competition under Crown Commercial Services framework RM6068 Technology Products & Associated Services Lot 1

2. The requirement is set out in the Statement of Requirements.

3. The total budget is £650,293.00 (excluding VAT).

£650,293.00 for initial purchase.

4. You may raise questions about the tender and the requirement via the CCS eSourcing Suite. The deadline for asking questions is 10:00 on 25th February 2022. Please note that any questions raised, and the answers provided, may be shared with other interested suppliers.

5. Your tender must be submitted electronically via the CCS eSourcing Suite no later than 10:00 on 4th March 2022. You should allow sufficient time for submission as late tenders will not be accepted. A completed Tenderers Response Form should be included with the tender to answer all evaluation questions, include all completed documents and provide all requested prices.

6. The anticipated date for the contract award decision is 8th March 2022. Please note that this is an indicative date and may change.

Yours faithfully

**Eleanor Towler**

Commercial Manager

**Contents**

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* Invitation to Tender:

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* Draft Framework Call Off Order Form
* Framework Call Off Terms & Conditions and Schedules (per CCS webpage)
1. **Glossary**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Agent | means Crown Commercial Service |
| Authority or Contracting Authority | means the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, (referred to in this document as "the Authority"), acting as part of the Crown – also known as Ministry of Defence |
| Contract | means the contractually-binding terms and conditions set out in this ITT to be entered into between the Authority and the successful Tenderer at the conclusion of this Procurement; |
| EIR | means the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 together with any guidance and/or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department in relation to such regulations; |
| eSourcing Suite | means the online tender management and administration system used by the Authority; |
| Evaluation Score | means the score achieved by a Tender at the conclusion of the Evaluation process; |
| FoIA | means the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as amended and any subordinate legislation made thereunder from time to time together with any guidance and/or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department in relation to such legislation; |
| Regulations | means the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2015/102/contents/made> |
| Services | means the services that may be provided by Suppliers, as set out in the Statement of Requirements; |
| Supplier | means a Tenderer with whom the Authority has concluded a Contract; |
| Technical Evaluation | means the qualitative evaluation of a Tender undertaken during the Evaluation process; |
| Technical Score | means the score awarded to a Tenderer at the conclusion of the Technical Evaluation process; |
| Tender | means the Tenderer’s formal offer in response to the Invitation to Tender; |
| Tender Submission Deadline | means the time and date set for the latest uploading of Tenders. |
| Tenderer | means a framework supplier submitting a proposal to this Procurement;  |
| You or Your | means mean the tenderers organisation, or the organisation the tenderers represent  |
| We, Us or Ours | means the Authority or Ministry of Defence |

1. **Introduction**
	1. This Procurement will establish a contract for the purchase of Services described in the Statement of Requirements.
	2. The contract will be for 1 month
	3. The maximum contract value is £650,293.00
	4. This Contract will be between the successful Supplier and the Authority. This is a call off contract and as such the Authority cannot guarantee volumes of work.
	5. The Contract is being offered under the Crown Commercial Service Technology Products & Associated Services Framework Agreement (reference RM6068 – Lot 1) Terms and Conditions which will govern any resultant Contract.
	6. Only those suppliers on the stated framework and lot can submit a tender in response to this requirement.
	7. The Authority is managing this Procurement in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

1. **Terms of Participation**
	1. You must comply with the rules in this Bid Pack and any other instructions given by us. You must also ensure members of your consortium (if relevant), group companies, subcontractors or advisers comply.
	2. You may Submit one bid.
	3. Your bid must remain valid for 90 days after the bid submission deadline.
	4. You must submit your bid in English and through the eSourcing Suite only.
	5. You are able to bid with named subcontractors to deliver parts of the requirements. You must tell us about any changes to subcontractors or you may be excluded from this competition.
	6. We may make enquiries. For example, where you either submit a bid:
* In your own name and or as a subcontractor and or as a member of a consortium connected with a separate bid.
* In your own name which is similar to a separate bid from another bidder within your group of companies.

 This is so we can be sure that your involvement doesn’t cause:

* Potential or actual conflicts of interest.
* Supplier capacity problems.
* Restrictions or distortions in competition.
	1. We may require you to amend or withdraw all or part of your bid if, in our reasonable opinion, any of the above issues have arisen or may arise.
	2. Only you or, as applicable, your subcontractors (as set out in your bid) or consortium members (if relevant) can provide services through the contract.
	3. You must not attempt to influence the contract award process. For example, you must not ever directly or indirectly:
* Collude with others over the content and submission of bids. However, you may work in good faith with a proposed partner, supplier, consortium member (if relevant) or provider of finance.
* Canvass our staff or advisors about this competition.
* Try to get information from any of our and/or Contracting Authority staff or advisors about another bidder or bid.
	1. You must ensure that no conflicts of interest exist between you and us / Contracting Authority. If you do not tell us about a known conflict, we may exclude you from the competition. We may also exclude you if a conflict cannot be dealt with in any other way.
	2. You must keep the contents of this Bid Pack confidential (including the fact that you have received it). This obligation does not apply to anything you have to do to submit a bid or comply with a legal obligation.
	3. You must not publicise the deliverables or the award of any contract unless the Contracting Authority has given written consent. For example, you are not allowed to make statements to the media about any bid or its contents.
	4. We reserve the right to:
* Waive or change the requirements of this Bid Pack without notice.
* Verify information, seek clarification or require evidence or further information about your bid
* Withdraw this Bid Pack at any time, or re-invite bids on the same or alternative basis.
* Choose not to award any contract or Lot as a result of the competition.
* Choose to award different Lots at different times.
* Make any changes to the timetable, structure or content of the competition.
	1. We reserve the right to exclude you if:
* You submit a non-compliant bid.
* Your bid contains false or misleading information.
* You fail to tell us of any change in the contracting arrangements between bid submission and award.
* The change in the contracting arrangements would result in a breach of procurement law.
* For any other reason provided in this Bid Pack.
* For any reason set out in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
	1. If a misrepresentation by you induces the Contracting Authority to enter into a contract with you, you may be excluded from bidding for contracts for three years, under regulation 57(8)(h)(i) of the PCR 2015 or sued by the Contracting Authority for damages, the Contracting Authority may rescind the contract under the Misrepresentation Act 1967.
	2. If fraud, or fraudulent intent, can be proved, you may be prosecuted and convicted of the offence of fraud by false representation under s.2 of the Fraud Act 2006, which can carry a sentence of up to 10 years or a fine (or both).
	3. If there is a conviction, then your organisation must be excluded from procurement for five years under reg. 57(1) of the PCR 2015 (subject to self-cleaning).
	4. We will not pay your bid costs for any reason.
	5. The Contracting Authority will not be liable:
* Where parts of the Bid Pack are not accurate, adequate or complete.
* For any written or verbal communications.
	1. You must carry out your own due diligence and rely on your own enquiries.
	2. This Bid Pack is not a commitment by the Contracting Authority to enter into a contract.
	3. The Bid Pack remains our property. You must use the Bid Pack only for this competition.
	4. You allow us to copy, amend and reproduce your bid so we can:
* Run the competition.
* Comply with law and guidance.
* Carry out our business.
	1. Our advisors, subcontractors and other government bodies can use your bid for the same purposes.
	2. We will not share any information from your bid which you have identified as being confidential or commercially sensitive with third parties, other than stakeholders in the competition. We may however share this information, but only in line with the Regulations, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or any other law as applicable.
1. **Further Competition Timetable**
	1. The timetable below are intended timelines but, for a range of reasons, dates can change. We will tell you if and when timelines change.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Stage** | **Date and Time**  | **Responsibility** | **Submit to:** |
| Invitation to Tenderers Conference | Not Applicable to this procurement |  |  |
| Date for confirmation of attendance at Tenderers Conference | Not Applicable to this procurement |  |  |
| Final date forClarification Questions  | 25th February 2022  | Tenderers | CCS eSourcing Suite |
| Final Date for Requests for Extension to return date | 25th February 2022 | Tenderers | CCS eSourcing Suite |
| Authority issues Final Clarification Answers |  28th February 2022  | Authority | All Tenderers |
| Tender Return | 4th March 2022  | Tenderers | CCS eSourcing Suite |
| Tender Evaluation | 7th March 2022  | Authority | N/A |

1. **Completing and Submitting a Tender**
	1. To participate in this competitive tendering exercise, Tenderers are required to submit a Tender which fully complies with the instructions in this Bid Pack.
	2. Your bid must be made by the organisation that will be responsible for providing the deliverables if your bid is successful.
	3. You must enter your bid into the e-Sourcing Suite. Only bids received through the e-Sourcing Suite will be accepted.
	4. Make sure you answer every question. Each question must be answered in its own right. You must not answer any of the questions by cross referencing other questions or other materials e.g. reports located on your website.
	5. Tenderers are strongly advised to read through all documentation first to ensure they understand how to submit a fully compliant Tender.
	6. It is the Tenderer’s responsibility to ensure that a fully compliant Tender is submitted.
	7. Tenderers must ensure that they are using the latest versions of this document, as the documentation may be updated from time to time.
	8. For technical guidance on how to complete questions and text fields, and how to upload any requested attachments please see CCS Supplier Guidance <https://crowncommercialservice.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>
	9. Should any exclusions, assumptions, dependencies or caveats apply to your Tender or any of the goods and/or services that you would provide when delivering the requirements, these should be clearly indicated in the relevant areas of the Tender.

* 1. Submit your bid before the Bid Submission Deadline.
	2. Press the Submit Response button when your bid is ready, otherwise we will not be able to see it.
1. **Questions and Clarifications**
	1. If you have any questions you need to ask them as soon as possible after the procurement event is published as there is a deadline for submitting clarifications questions. This gives you the chance to check that you understand everything before you submit your bid.
	2. You need to send your questions through the eSourcing Suite. This is the only way we can communicate with bidders. Ensure your question is specific and clear and does not include your identity. This is because we publish all the questions and our responses to all bidders.
	3. If you feel that a particular question should not be published, you must tell us why when you ask the question. We will decide whether or not to publish the question and response.
	4. You can ask us questions about the competition but please do not attempt to ‘negotiate’ the terms. All contract awards will be subject to the terms and conditions identified in this Tender.
	5. The Authority reserves the right to contact Tenderers at any time for clarification on all or any part of their Tender during this Procurement and which is likely to require a prompt response.
2. **Tender Evaluation Summary**
	1. The Tender evaluation will assess the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) to The Authority based on the following calculation:

 Highest Total Evaluation Score from the following evaluation elements:

Commercial Qualification – Pass/Fail only and not included in the total Evaluation Score.

Financial Score – Worth 50% of the total Evaluation Score.

Technical Score – Worth 50% of the total Evaluation Score.

* 1. The Technical Score will be added to the Financial Score to determine the “Evaluation Score” for each Tenderer. This will be calculated on a Technical/Financial split of 50%/50%.

*Example calculation, for information purposes only and based on financial score worth 50% and Technical score worth 50% - figures for this procurement may differ.*

*In this example, Tenderer B has the highest total evaluation score and is the winning tenderer.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *Tenderer* | *Technical Score**(maximum 50)* | *Financial Score* *(maximum 50)* | *Evaluation Score* *(maximum 100)* |
| *Tenderer A* | *35* | *50* | *85* |
| *Tenderer B* | *45* | *45* | *90* |
| *Tenderer C* | *40* | *25* | *65* |

* 1. Any Tender which is considered non-compliant for any Commercial, Financial and Technical element or criteria will be excluded from the competition and not receive any Evaluation Scores.
	2. Scores will be rounded to two decimal places.
	3. In the event that multiple Tenderers achieve the exact same highest Evaluation Score, then the Tenderer with the lowest Total Price will be considered to be the Winning Tenderer. In the event that multiple Tenderers achieve the exact same highest Evaluation Score and have the exact same lowest Total Price, then The Authority reserves the right to request those, and only those, Tenderers to submit final and best Total Prices, with the lowest final and best Total Price considered to be the Winning Tenderer.
	4. Tenders will be evaluated based on the contents of their Tender response only. Tenderers should submit only one priced proposal. Technical Evaluation will be undertaken independently from Commercial and Financial Evaluations. Technical evaluators will have no knowledge of associated prices. Tenderers should ensure that there are no prices shown within any responses to, or supporting documents for, for technical criteria.
1. **Commercial Qualification Evaluation Criteria**
	1. The Commercial Qualification Evaluation will assess if all tendering and contractual requirements have been provided.
	2. A Tender will be considered non-compliant if:
* the Tender was not received by the due date and time.
* any required delivery dates cannot be met.
* all Framework Terms & Conditions have not been accepted.
* any other required documentation was not submitted.
1. **Financial Evaluation Criteria**
	1. Tenderers are required to complete the Pricing Table.
	2. The Financial Evaluation will assess the Total Price the Tenderer has offered to deliver all the requirements set out in the Statement of Requirements.
	3. Prices should be provided for each item listed in the Schedule of Requirements. The Total Price should be confirmed on Tender Annex A. This shall be the total maximum cost for the provision of all goods and/or services listed, as detailed in the Statement of Requirement, for the full maximum duration of the requirement, including any optional services and periods.
	4. The Total Price figure that will be used in the evaluation of Tenders shall be the total figure that is calculated from the prices Tenderers have provided for each item listed in the Pricing Table, for the full maximum duration of the requirement, including any optional services and periods.
	5. Tenderers are notified that when the contract is in place, payments for goods and/or services will be made after the goods and/or services have been fully delivered. For example, payment for purchase of an item will be made after it has been delivered and installed or payment for annual maintenance of a piece of equipment will be made at the end of the contract year during which the maintenance was undertaken.
	6. Where estimated Authority usage figures are shown on the Schedule of Requirements, the Total Price figure shall not be a guarantee of payments to be made under any resulting Contract
	7. A Tender will be considered non-compliant if:
* the Total Price is greater than the total available funding of £650,293.00; or
* the Tender does not indicate a Total Price; or
* the Tender has not provided prices for all items in the Pricing Table.
	1. The Tenderer with the lowest total price (provided the tender is fully compliant) shall be awarded the maximum Financial Score available. The remaining Tenderers shall be awarded a percentage of the maximum Financial Score available, based on their price relative to the lowest price submitted.
	2. The calculation used is the following:

 Lowest Price from a compliant Tender x maximum Financial Score available

 Tenderers price

*Example calculation, for information purposes only and based on maximum Financial score of 50% and Technical score of 50% - figures for this procurement may differ.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Tenderer*** | ***Price Submitted*** | ***Score Calculation*** | ***Maximum Score Available*** | ***Financial Score Awarded*** |
| *Tenderer A* | *£1,000* | *(£1,000 / £1,000) x 50* | *50* | *50* |
| *Tenderer B* | *£1,100* | *(£1,000 / £1,100) x 50* | *50* | *45* |
| *Tenderer C* | *£2,000* | *(£1,000 / £2,000) x 50* | *50* | *25* |

1. **Technical Evaluation Criteria**
	1. The Technical Evaluation will assess how much confidence the Tender gives The Authority, that the Tenderer can meet and deliver the requirements set out in the Statement of Requirements.
	2. The response to each criteria will be given points in accordance with the table below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Pass | Fail |
| In The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: | In The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: |
| clearly details how the requirements or criteria will be met in full and sufficient evidence has been provided, where applicable.  | does not clearly detail how the requirement or criteria will be met in full and sufficient evidence has not been provided, where applicable.  |
| clearly shows that any required volumes, timescales, standards or support will be met, where applicable.  | does not clearly show that any required volumes, timescales, standards or support will be met, where applicable. |
|  |  |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 100 – High ConfidenceIn The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: | 70 – Good ConfidenceIn The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: | 30 – Moderate ConfidenceIn The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: | 0 – Low ConfidenceIn The Authority’s opinion the Tenderers response to the requirements or criteria being assessed: |
| addresses and demonstrates a thorough understanding of all elements of the requirement or criteria, where applicable. | addresses and demonstrates a sufficient understanding of most of the requirement or criteria, where applicable. | addresses and demonstrates an understanding of some of the elements of the requirement or criteria, where applicable. | does not address or demonstrate an understanding of most or all of the requirement or criteria, where applicable. |
| provides a comprehensive, unambiguous and thorough explanation of how all of the requirement or criteria will be delivered, where applicable. | provides sufficient detail and explanation of how most of the requirement or criteria will be delivered, where applicable. | is weak in some areas and does not fully detail or explain how some elements of the requirement or criteria will be delivered, where applicable. | does not demonstrate the ability to deliver most or all of the requirement or criteria, where applicable. |
| details a thorough explanation of how the full volumes and timescales of the requirement or criteria will be met, where applicable. | shows sufficient ability to meet most of the volumes and timescales for the requirement or criteria, where applicable. | indicates that some of the volumes or timescales for the requirement or criteria will be met but may be lacking detail is some areas, where applicable. | does not show that most or all of the volumes or timescales of the requirement or criteria will be met, where applicable. |
| provides comprehensive details showing how all of the requirement or criteria will be managed with sufficient resource allocated and support provided for the full duration, where applicable. | provides sufficient information to show how most of the requirement or criteria will be managed with adequate resource allocated and support provided, where applicable. | provides details of how some of the requirement or criteria will be managed but leaves concerns about the resource and support provided, where applicable.. | does not provide details of how most or all of the requirement or criteria will be managed or that the required resource and support will be provided, where applicable. |
| comprehensively details how the requirement or criteria will be assured and how all quality or standards expected will be met in full, where applicable. | sufficiently details how most of the requirement or criteria will be assured and quality or standards expected will be met, where applicable.  | provides details of how some of the requirement or criteria will be assured but leaves doubt about quality or standards, where applicable. | does not demonstrate that most or all of the required standards or quality will be met, where applicable. |
| has comprehensively considered risks to delivery of the requirement or criteria and thoroughly explained how they will be eliminated or mitigated, where applicable.  | has considered risks to delivery of the requirement or criteria and adequately indicated how most will be eliminated or mitigated, where applicable.  | has considered risks to some of the requirement or criteria but leaves concerns that there are risks that have not been considered or may not be mitigated, where applicable.  | has identified and addressed few or no risks to delivery, where applicable. |

* 1. The points achieved will be multiplied by the corresponding weighting to provide an overall criteria mark.
	2. When the mark for each question has been determined they will be added together to provide a total mark for the Technical Evaluation.
	3. The evaluators are considered to be Subject Matter Experts (SME) on the Statement of Requirements. If an individual criteria is evaluated by more than the one SME, The Authority will review the points allocated by the individual evaluators before facilitating a group consensus meeting. During the meeting, evaluators will discuss their independent points until they reach a consensus regarding the points that should be attributed to each Tenderers answer to the questions.
	4. Once all technical responses have been evaluated the individual marks attributed to each response, excluding any pass/fail criteria, will be added together to provide a total Technical Mark.
	5. A Tender will be considered non-compliant if:
* the Tender receives a fail on any pass/fail criteria; or
* the Tender receives points which are below the threshold set for any individual criteria;
	1. Tenderers ‘Technical Score’ shall be calculated as a percentage of the maximum Technical Score available, based of the total Technical Marks received.

The calculation used is the following:

Tenderers Total Marks x maximum Technical Score available

 Total Marks Available

*Example calculation, for information purposes only and based on maximum Financial score of 50% and Technical score of 50% - figures for this procurement may differ.*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Tenderer*** | ***Total Marks*** | ***Score Calculation*** | ***Maximum Score Available*** | ***Technical Score Awarded***  |
| *Tenderer A* | *70* | *(70 / 100) x 50* | *50* | *35* |
| *Tenderer B* | *90* | *(90 / 100) x 50* | *50* | *45* |
| *Tenderer C* | *80* | *(80 / 100) x 50* | *50* | *40* |

* 1. The Technical evaluation questions/criteria that Tenderers should address within their Tender are:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Figure** | **Criteria** | **Points Available** | **Minimum Threshold** | **Weight** | **Mark Available** |
| A | Confirm that you can provide all the equipment as detailed within the SOR. | Pass or Fail | Pass | 100% | Pass or Fail |
|  |  |  |  | 100% | 100 |

1. **Award Decision**
	1. Following evaluation of Tenders in accordance with the evaluation process set out in this ITT, the Tenderer which offers the most economically advantageous Tender may be awarded a Contract.
	2. The Tender which receives the highest Evaluation Score, which is calculated as the highest combined Technical Evaluation Score and Financial Evaluation Score (provided the tender is considered fully compliant in all evaluation areas) shall be considered the most economically advantageous Tender.
	3. If the Winning Tenderer does not enter into the Contract following contract award, the Authority reserves the right to terminate that Contract and award the Contract to the next best placed Tenderer or to cancel or re-run the procurement.
2. **Other Information**

**Contract Documents**

Any contract resulting from this tender will be formed from the CCS Framework Order Form, Terms & Conditions and associated Schedules, including the Statement of Requirements and Pricing Table, incorporating prices submitted by the Winning Tenderer.

If the Winning Tenderer does not enter into the Contract following contract award, the Authority reserves the right to terminate that Contract and award the Contract to the next best placed Tenderer or to cancel or re-run the procurement.

**IR35**

IR35 off payroll working rules are not expected to apply to this requirement unless the Winning Tenderer indicates that the personnel who will be used to deliver Services will not be employed through their payroll. In those circumstances, a relevant assessment will be considered.

**Cyber Risk**

A Cyber Risk Assessment has been raised and the profile is Not Applicable. The reference is RAR-797986826.

A Supplier Assurance Questionnaire does not need to be completed.

Where a Supplier Assurance Questionnaire needs to be completed, Tenderers must complete and email this to UKStratComDD-CyDR-DCPP@mod.gov.uk, who will confirm cyber risk compliance. A copy of the completed questionnaire and the compliance email should then be included as part of the tender submission.

If a Tenderers Supplier Assurance Questionnaire score does not meet the level set in the Cyber Risk Assessment, this does not prevent submission of a Tender. In those circumstances, a Cyber Implementation Plan should be completed as part of the tender submission, to demonstrate what actions will be taken to meet the required Cyber Risk level. Provided the actions and timescales were considered acceptable to The Authority, the Cyber Implementation Plan would then be included as a requirement in any resulting Contract.

**Statement of Requirements**

**Statement of Requirements**

**Procurement of Hardware and Software to enable Information Exploitation for Operational Advantage (IX4OA).**

**Introduction**

The RN’s exploitation of big data is immature and disconnected, particularly in relation to Processing, Exploitation and Dissemination (PED) of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) data. A coherent data architecture is required to scale up and connect the stove pipes of activity and the numerous data sets in order to industrialise the exploitation of data to achieve insight, foresight and operational advantage over our adversaries. Information Exploitation for Operational Advantage (IX4OA) seeks to respond to the needs of the RN Operational Advantage Centre (OAC) and the wider Maritime analysis community. IX4OA will create a data science capability that will allow the analytical community to embrace modern technologies and processes to better enable the exploitation of current and new operational data sets to regain operational advantage over its adversaries.

**Background**

Royal Navy ISR capabilities are critical to enable the RN to achieve decision advantage and fight and win against an adversary. There is a growing demand for the collection, processing, exploitation and fusion of this data at faster than human speeds and outside of current silos and air gapped systems. There is also a greater demand for more unmanned ISR capabilities and platforms throughout the RN.

ISR data collectors and exploitation capabilities provide critical situational awareness, which helps the RN successfully deliver desired operational effects to complete assigned tasks and missions. The amount of data generated by current ISR capabilities has, however, already become overwhelming to the relatively small analytical community. All ISR data either collected directly by the RN or accessed through its various relationships and partnerships is potentially useful and may enable critical insight to be gained. But the processing and fusion of this vast amount of data through existing processes and capabilities has already overmatched the available PED resource. This situation will continue as the RN buys newer, even more potent sensors which will be enabled by significantly more capable digital networks. This “big data” challenge will only continue to grow as technology develops and future capabilities are procured. If the RN does not change and modernise its PED processes to meet the rapidly changing and growing demands, it will reach an ISR “tipping point”—the point at which intelligence analysts will simply run out of capacity to exploit the vast amounts of collected ISR data. This will result in the loss of both information and decision advantage over its adversaries resulting in significant operational risk and potentially mission failure.

IX4OA will provide a data rich environment in which defence organisations collaborate in a cloud based, site agnostic way – forming the heart of the OAC in a scalable manner. IX4OA is not proposing another big data experimentation network. By bringing together the already funded contributions of existing organisations it will achieve benefit rapidly and at reasonable cost. Through a collaboration using: Infrastructure and rich maritime picture data of Navy Digital’s Maritime Domain Awareness programme, the current threat intelligence of MIXG, the platform data of MCTA, the models and tactical evaluation processes of MWC, the research analytics and other data exploitation projects of DSTL whilst capitalising on the rich environmental data held by UKHO, existing investments can be much better exploited within each organisation, bringing their specialist skills and expertise together into one maritime data science community, all working on the same system and all benefiting from each other's efforts and activities.

IX4OA seeks to significantly reduce duplication of effort, enhance collaboration, enable knowledge and skill sharing whilst reducing support costs and streamlining data pipelines and data access.

The key tenet of IX4OA will be to adopt a DEVOPS philosophy. It is not envisaged that IX4OA will be a research demonstrator. Analysts will use IX4OA for their work in direct operational support to deployed RN units and commanders, working side by side alongside DSTL, Industry and Academia developing the next generation of analytics on the best available data in a collaborative and supportive environment. An application or tool developed on IX4OA using open source and industry standard code and processes and procedures will be able to be rapidly moved into the hands of operators through the use of existing, connected networks and exploited on numerous sS and Joint platforms. IX4OA seeks to regain the information advantage and will take (but be transparent about) risk in the knowledge that failure to do so will bring far greater operational risks. Using open-source coding software alongside industry standard tools and practices it is envisioned that all capabilities created on IX4OA will be shareable across other RN, sS and StratCom data platforms and initiatives.

**Requirement**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** |  | **Type** | **Notes** | **Qty** |
| **1.5m 10GB DAC Cable (EdgeCore/Accton or Generic Vendor compatibility)** | **Networking** | **Hardware** | **Network Cabling** | **40** |
| **3m 10GB DAC Cable (EdgeCore/Accton or Generic Vendor compatibility)** | **Networking** | **Hardware** | **Network Cabling** | **40** |
| **PCIE SAS Expansion Card** | **Backup Storage Enhancement** | **Hardware** | **Larger Backup capacity for increased data sets** | **4** |
| **Supermicro JBOD Server -- 4U + 36x 18TB SAS HDD** | **Backup Storage Enhancement** | **Hardware** | **Larger Backup capacity for increased data sets** | **2** |
| **5-Pack LTO-8 WORM Tapes** | **Backup Storage Enhancement** | **Hardware** | **Backup Media** | **20** |
| **HP SureBackup LTO8 Tape Library** | **Backup Storage Enhancement** | **Hardware** | **Tape Drive Expansions** | **2** |
| **NVIDIA AI Enterprise** | **VDI** | **Software** | **Licensing for GPU Usage** | **4** |
| **NVIDIA RTX vWS CCU Perpetual Licensing** | **VDI** | **Software** | **Licensing for GPU Usage** | **30** |
| **NVIDIA GRID Virtual PC CCU Perpetual Licensing** | **VDI** | **Software** | **Licensing for GPU Usage** | **50** |

**Deliverables**

Supplier to provide delivery by 31st March 2022

**Schedule of Requirements - Pricing Table**

|  |
| --- |
| **Deliverables in accordance with Statement of Requirements** |
| **Item Number** | **Description** | **Delivery Date****(exact dates to be confirmed on contract award)** | **Unit of Measurement** | **Quantity** | **Firm Price (£) Ex VAT –** **Per Item****(including any packaging, travel, delivery and importing)** | **Firm Price (£) Ex VAT** **-Total****(including any packaging, travel, delivery and importing)** |
| 1 | **1.5m 10GB DAC Cable (EdgeCore/Accton or Generic Vendor compatibility)** | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 40 |  |  |
| 2 | 3m 10GB DAC Cable (EdgeCore/Accton or Generic Vendor compatibility) | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 40 |  |  |
| 3 | PCIE SAS Expansion Card | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 4 |  |  |
| 4 | Supermicro JBOD Server -- 4U + 36x 18TB SAS HDD | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 2 |  |  |
| 5 | 5-Pack LTO-8 WORM Tapes | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 20 |  |  |
| 6 | HP SureBackup LTO8 Tape Library | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 2 |  |  |
|  7 | NVIDIA AI Enterprise | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 4 |  |  |
| 8 | NVIDIA RTX vWS CCU Perpetual Licensing | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 30 |  |  |
| 9 | NVIDIA GRID Virtual PC CCU Perpetual Licensing | 31st March 2022 | Per Item | 50 |  |  |
| All prices are firm prices, to be paid in £ (GBP/Pounding Sterling), not subject to any increase or exchange rates. Quantities shown are expected numbers and not a guarantee of amounts required or due. Quantity ordered under the contract may differ dependent on The Authority requirements.For the avoidance of any doubt, time of delivery 31/03/2022 is of the essence. If the Contractor fails to deliver the Goods or transfer ownership by or before 31/03/2022 the Authority shall have the right to terminate the Contract and no payments shall be due to the contractor. | **Total Price** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Item Number** | **Consignee Address (XY code only)** |
| All  | MCSU Stores, QinetiQ, Portsdown Technology Park, Southwick Hill Rd, Cosham, Portsmouth, Hants, PO6 3RU   |
| **Item Number** | **Payment Schedule** |
| X | Payment to be made following delivery  |
|  |  |