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Ministry of Defence

Published date: 4 February 2022

Closed opportunity - This means that the contract is currently closed. The buying department may be considering suppliers that have already applied, or no suitable offers were made.

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Closing: 7 March 2022, 12pm

Contract summary

Industry

- Military research and technology - 73410000

Location of contract

BS34 8JH

Value of contract

£1,475,916

Procurement reference

tender_295712/1031040

Published date

4 February 2022

Closing date

7 March 2022

Closing time

12pm

Contract start date

13 May 2022

Contract end date

31 March 2023

Contract type

Service contract

Procedure type

Restricted procedure (above threshold)

► [What is a restricted procedure \(above threshold\)?](#)

Contract is suitable for SMEs?

Yes

Contract is suitable for VCSEs?

No

Description

The aim of this procurement is to award two contracts within the budgetary envelope set out in the notice. The military relies heavily on the Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS) for positioning, navigation, and timing (PNT), but GNSS signals are vulnerable to interference. In addition, many environments in which our military operates (inside buildings, in urban canyons, under dense foliage, underwater, and underground) have limited or no GNSS signal availability. To solve this challenge, the Alt Nav programme seeks to provide GNSS-quality PNT to military users regardless of the operational environment. This involves the merging of data within the navigation system design to prolong the availability of the PNT solution from traditional and emerging sources. The Data Merging task is the subject of this competition.

The proposed contractor(s) shall attend project management meetings to discuss information inclusive of but not limited to progress on technology development, exploitation studies, lessons learnt, details of architecture. The proposed contractor(s) shall provide a technology demonstration proving maturation of data merging technology to a Technology Readiness Level (TRL) of 6 (TRL descriptions can be seen in additional text within this contract notice), followed by a technical report for contract completion. The project meetings, final report and demonstration will address the following themes:

Theme 1 - Preparing for near-term exploitation of Alt Nav technologies on existing MoD applications; defining and solving the engineering orientated problems of real-life examples of Data Merging and Theme 2 - Reporting lessons learned from the first task into MoD's ongoing Data Fusion Research and Development activities. In the event that Data Source contractor(s) are not able to mature the Interface Control Documentation (ICD) on time - work with the Authority to select appropriate, industry standard ICDs and data fields e.g:

- Mil GPS - GPS ICD-153 (available from the UK GNSS PO)
- Open Signal GNSS - NMEA-0183
- Inertial Measurement Unit - STANAG 4572 Open System Architecture Interface to enable simulator laboratory testing of integrated INS/GPS equipment (e.g. using SPIRENT's Sim INERTIAL simulation capability (or equivalent)).
- Alt Nav Data Source - The ASPN interfaces from SET-309
- Illustrative Alt Nav Data source - based on STANAG 4278 Method of Expressing Navigation Accuracies and Draft STANAG 5645 GNSS Receiver Sensor Host ICD.
- The MoD's emerging Assured PNT characteristics

More information

Additional text

TRL Levels:

TRL 1 Basic principles observed and reported.

TRL 2 Technology concept and/or application formulated.

TRL 3 Analytical and experimental critical function and/or characteristic proof-of-concept.

TRL 4 Technology basic validation in a laboratory environment.

TRL 5 Technology basic validation in a relevant environment.

TRL 6 Technology model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment.

TRL 7 Technology prototype demonstration in an operational environment.

TRL 8 Actual Technology completed and qualified through test and demonstration.

TRL 9 Actual Technology qualified through successful mission operations.

Suppliers Instructions How to Express Interest in this Tender:

1. Register your company on the eSourcing portal (this is only required once)

- Browse to the eSourcing Portal <https://contracts.mod.uk/> (<https://contracts.mod.uk/>)

- Click the "Click here to register" link

- Accept the terms and conditions and click "continue"

- Enter your correct business and user details

- Note the username you chose and click "Save" when complete

- You will shortly receive an email with your unique password (please keep this secure)

2. Express an Interest in the tender

- Login to the portal with the username/password

- Click the "PQQs Open to All Suppliers" link. (These are Pre-Qualification Questionnaires open to any registered supplier)

- Click on the relevant PQQ to access the content.

- Click the "Express Interest" button in the "Actions" box on the left-hand side of the page.

- This will move the PQQ into your "My PQQs" page. (This is a secure area reserved for your projects only)

- Click on the PQQ code, you can now access any attachments by clicking the "Settings and Buyer

Attachments" in the "Actions" box

3. Responding to the tender

- You can now choose to "Reply" or "Reject" (please give a reason if rejecting)

- You can now use the 'Messages' function to communicate with the buyer and seek any clarification

- Note the deadline for completion, then follow the onscreen instructions to complete the PQQ

- There may be a mixture of online & offline actions for you to perform (there is detailed online help

available)

If you require any further assistance please consult the online help, or contact the eTendering help

desk.

The performance of the contract is subject to Contractor being able to hold information up to SECRET and obtaining Facility Security Clearance (previously known as List-X). Personnel performing the contract will also require Security Check (SC) at Contract Award.

About the buyer

Contact name

Thomas Shields

Address

MOD Abbey Wood, Spruce 1c,
Bristol
BS34 8JH
England

Telephone

07812 461417

Email

Thomas.Shields101@mod.gov.uk

Website

<https://des.mod.uk/> (<https://des.mod.uk/>)

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