

**Request for Information (RFI)**

**RFI001**

**For the supply of**

**ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD STRENGTH SURVEY METER SETS**

**OI/DECA002**

**CP&F Allocated Number 712605457**

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1. **Introduction**
   1. The Ministry of Defence (MOD) has a requirement to maintain a Radio Frequency Monitoring capability, therefore has a requirement to procure Electromagnetic Field Strength Survey Meters on behalf of the Operational Infrastructure Delivery Team (OIDT), part of Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S).
   2. OIDT are responsible for ensuring enduring capability as long as the capability is required by front line commands. OI DT are responsible for Tri-Service and pan-platform General Purpose Test and Measuring Equipment (GPTME), which is essential for the maintenance and setting to work activities of Land, Sea and Air equipment assets. GPTME is comprised of mechanical and electrical items capable of being used in support of more than one weapon system, platform or equipment.
   3. This RFI is not a bidding opportunity, it is a means by which industry can provide information. Any resulting procurement activity will be conducted in the first instance competitively.
2. **Background**

2.1. Radio frequency (RF) monitoring is required during monthly and 6 monthly scheduled maintenance and whenever there is an over exposure to electromagnetic fields (EMF) reported. These surveys are policy at sites with radar and transmitters producing high energy emissions, ensuring working areas are safe and that specified EMF levels are met at site boundaries. A number of safe systems of work and risk assessments across MOD specify a requirement for RF monitoring using this type of equipment.

1. **RFI intended outcomes**

3.1. This RFI aims to achieve the following outcomes:

* Explore the supply market.
  + Inform the procurement strategy that will deliver best value for Defence.
  + Enable the implementation of an enduring solution for commencement from potentially January 2025, subject to change.

1. **RFI Procedure**

4.1. The results and analysis of this RFI shall not constitute any form of pre-qualification exercise. Any formal procurement process will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Procurement Law.

1. **How to submit responses to this RFI**

5.1. Respondents should provide information in accordance with the format provided in Annex A in PDF, quoting the RFI reference on all documentation. Please provide your response via the Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP), responses will be accepted until 17:00 on Friday 27th September 2024. The Authority may decide to contact you directly to clarify any points raised in your response. If you require any further information, we invite you to submit final clarification questions via the DSP no later than Wednesday 25th September. We will respond by Friday 27th September. Please do not respond via email as this will not be considered.

5.2. You will need to register on the portal to submit a response. Instructions on how to register can be found at the link below:

[**https://www.contracts.mod.uk/esop/guest/go/public/registration**](https://www.contracts.mod.uk/esop/guest/go/public/registration)

5.3. Please do not submit additional documents such as company overviews as the

purpose of the RFI is to collect information related to the technical solution, so any additional documents will not be included in the review process. Responses should be limited to 800 words per section. Any responses received after the deadline will be passed to the subject matter experts for information, however they may not be included in the RFI review meetings which are to be held following the deadline.

1. **Confidentiality & Proprietary Information**

6.1 No information included in your response, or in discussions connected to it, will be disclosed to any other third party.

6.2. Proprietary information, where included, should be kept to minimum and must be clearly marked. For the purposes of this RFI, any documentation submitted should be classification OFFICIAL.

1. **Costs of preparing your RFI response**

7.1 Please note that this is a request for information only and should not be construed as a commitment from DE&S Deca that a Tender/Contract will be issued as a result of this market engagement. This RFI does not commit DE&S Deca to contract for any supply or service whatsoever. All costs/expenditure associated with responding to this RFI notice and participating in any subsequent discussions will lie solely with the participant.

1. **Contact**

8.1 All contact/clarification questions should be made through the Defence Sourcing Portal messaging function. Questions sent via any other means will not be responded to.

**Annex A**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **No** | **Question** | **Answer** |
| 1 | Company Name |  |
| 2 | Company Address |  |
|  |  |  |
| 3 | Name of Company representative  completing the RFI |  |
| 4 | Contact details (e-mail and telephone number) |  |
| 5 | Company web site address |  |
|  |  |  |
| 6 | Main products/services/line of business |  |
| 7 | Main market sector |  |
| 8 | Number of years in this market sector |  |
| 9 | Are you a Small Medium Enterprise? |  |
| 10 | Do you have ISO9001 or equivalent certification with relevant scope for the requirement? |  |
| 11 | Do you hold Cyber Essentials Certification? If not, are you in a position to apply for it? Please find more information here: [Cyber Essentials scheme: overview - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-essentials-scheme-overview) |  |
| 12 | Have you previously supplied goods/services to the Ministry Of Defence? |  |
| 13 | If yes to the above question, please specify what products these were in the comments box |  |
| 14 | Have you supplied data previously to enable NATO codification for MOD equipment in accordance with Defence Condition (DEFCON) 117 - Supply Of Information for NATO Codification and Defence Inventory Introduction? |  |
| 15 | Have you marked equipment for MOD previously, in accordance with DEFCON 644 - Marking of Articles? |  |
| 16 | Are you aware of the public services social value ACT 2012 which places the requirement on public authorities (MOD) to consider the economic, environmental, and social benefits of their approaches to procurement before the tender process starts. To confirm, the themes will be evaluated as part of the tender responses to an invitation to tender.  The below link provides further information:  [Procurement Policy Note 06/20 – taking account of social value in the award of central government contracts - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0620-taking-account-of-social-value-in-the-award-of-central-government-contracts) |  |
| 17 | The 3 social value themes MOD prioritise in the tender evaluation are:  Theme 2: Tackling economic equality.  Theme 3: Fighting climate change.  Theme 4: Equal opportunity  Can you confirm as per the links below that you would be able to respond to the model evaluation questions for the themes. If “No” to these themes; will you be able to respond to other themes; please state which themes?  [Social-Value-Model-Quick-Reference-Table-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fc8b8248fa8f547499d79b7/Social-Value-Model-Quick-Reference-Table-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf) |  |
| 18 | Are you able to supply a calibration procedure to MOD for the meter and associated probes?  If “No”  a. What is preventing you supplying the calibration procedures to the MOD, noting it would not be supplied to a 3rd party and held by MOD as required.  b. Can you provide datasheets detailing the specifications of the instrument functions it is required to perform? If yes, please provide copies. |  |
| 19a. | MOD are required to provide calibration certification to Defence Standard (DEF STAN) 05-55. Are you able to supply the system with a certificate of calibration from a UKAS accredited facility to ISO/IEC 17025:2017, for the correct scope of measurement?  Please provide a copy of your UKAS schedule of accreditation and a calibration certificate example. |  |
| 19b. | If “No” to question 18a.  Do you use a 3rd party calibration laboratory to provide a UKAS ISO/IEC 17025:2017 scope accredited calibration with certificate on your behalf?  If “Yes” to 18b 3rd party question  What is / are the name(s) of the company(ies) issuing the certificate? Please provide a copy of their UKAS schedule of accreditation and a calibration certificate example. |  |
| 19c. | If “No” to question 18a.  Are you able to supply the system with an ISO/IEC 17025:2017 scope accredited calibration with certificate performed by a foreign national International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) signatory? Please provide a copy of their schedule of accreditation and a calibration certificate example. |  |
| 19d. | If “No” to question 18a, 18b, 18c  How are you going to demonstrate competency and prove traceability of the calibration data reported to meet the requirements of BS EN ISO/IEC/17025? |  |
| 20 | Can you supply a valid certificate of calibration, with a statement of compliance to the agreed specification, for each serial numbered asset? Please explain what decision rule you will use to state compliance. |  |
| 21 | Regarding calibration periodicity, does the system operate to its specified performance for a period of not less than 12 months? Please recommend the required periodicity of calibration in the comments box if this is different than 12 months. |  |
| 22 | Will the equipment contain a lithium battery? If yes confirm a REACH compliant safety data sheet is available specific to the lithium battery. |  |

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| The following questions are related to **MANDATORY ELEMENTS** that will be required of suppliers as part of the acquisition structure. | | | | | | | | |
| **Question** | | | **Are you able to provide this requirement?**  **Answer**  **(Delete as applicable)** | **Remarks or qualification of response if required** | | | | |
| **23. Equipment Requirement – Specific Dimensional Limits** | | | | | | | | |
| 23a. Does the system consist of a monitor and one or a number of user removable, interchangeable probes? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23b. Is the system capable of measuring Electric (E) field strength, with the required number of interchangeable probes/instruments covering the frequency range of 100kHz to 50GHz? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23c. Is the system capable of measuring Magnetic (H) field strength, with the required number of interchangeable probes/instruments covering the frequency range of 100kHz to 1GHz? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23d. Does the system include a handheld monitor, operable by a single operator? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23e. The system must be stored safely within a self-contained hard case, with made to measure, foam lined slots for all comprising items. The case shall have a secure handle making it portable by a single person, also suitable for stowage on civilian and military aircraft. Are you able to supply a case meeting these specifications either directly or via a sub-contractor – please state which method? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23f. Can the system be operated by a user wearing gloves? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 23g.Does the system have the option of a probe extension, via kit / cable (standard comprising item)? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **24. Equipment Requirement - Working Environment** | | | | | | | | |
| 24a. Is the system capable of assessing the fields from unknown pulsed sources without recourse to calculations and pulse characterisation? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 24b. Does the system have ingress protection so that it is operable in adverse weather conditions (IP54 minimum)? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 24c. Does the system have brightness control(s) and is capable of being used in poor light conditions? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 24d. Does the system feature a TFT-LCD anti-glare display (480 x 272 pixels minimum) so it is readable during intense sunlight conditions? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 24e. Does the system’s standard configuration include interchangeable probes/instruments as comprising items, to monitor electric field range 100kHz to 3GHz and electric field range, via thermocouple technology, 300MHz to 50GHz? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **25. Equipment Requirement - Electronic Data** | | | | | | | | |
| 25a. Is the system capable of measuring field strength (Actual, Max and time average (user adjustable time) and a spatial average measurement capability)?  Units: V/m, W/m2, A/m | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 25b. Can the system provide the user with visual and audible warnings that can be disabled, when the (user adjustable) exposure threshold has been exceeded? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **26. Equipment Requirement - Electrical Data** | | | | | | | | |
| 26a. Does the equipment include a mains power cable, with interchangeable plug adaptors suitable for UK and international use, as a comprising it? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 26b. Does the system provide the user with a battery charge indication/warning on the monitor screen? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **27. Equipment Requirement - Mechanical Data** | | | | | | | | |
| 27a. Can the system operate between -10 °C to +50 °C temperature range? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 27b. Can the system be stored between -30 °C to +70 °C temperature range? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **28. Equipment Requirement - Software / Firmware / Connection to MOD IS Network** | | | | | | | | |
| 28a. Does the system have a Wi-Fi capability? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 28b. Does the system have Bluetooth capability? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 28c. Does the system have the capability to restrict any Bluetooth/wireless functionality without negatively affecting the monitoring operability? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 28d. Is the system equipment considered “Commercial Off The Shelf” (COTS) designs? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 28e. Does your company hold a current and valid ISO9001 accreditation with relevant scope and meet NATO Standard AQAP-2110? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 28f. Does the system instruments display the CE marking and any Notified Body identification, or UKCA equivalent? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **29. Equipment Requirement - Other** | | | | | | | | |
| 29a. The system requires contractor support for a (minimum) 5 year period on declaration of obsolescence of the equipment (Quoted from DEFSTAN 66-031) Please note that this does not constitute a support contract. Can you confirm that the system has this minimum level of support available? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29b. Can you deliver each individual system with individual unit Certificates of Conformity? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29c. Does the system conform to Directive 2014/30/EU? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29d. Does the system conform to British Standard (BS) EN IEC 61326‑1? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29e. Does the system conform to Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS)? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29f. Does the system conform to BS EN 61010-1? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29g. Does the system require any general Safety and Warnings information relating to supplied items, in electronic and physical form? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 29h. Is any component / constituent part of the system subject to trade restrictions i.e. ITAR etc? If “Yes”, please detail in the comments box. | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **30. Equipment Requirement – Accessory Item(s)** | | | | | | | | |
| 30a. The system requires the availability of a compatible, extendable tripod with carry case. Are you able to supply the system with these items? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| 30b. Are you able to provide (as an accessory) an interchangeable probe/instrument capable of monitoring magnetic fields as low as 100kHz? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **31. Equipment Requirement - Calibration** | | | | | | | | |
| 31a. Can qty16 of each of the required probes be staggered in their delivery from the others in order to put calibration dates out of sync? | | | **Yes/No** |  | | | | |
| **32. Equipment Requirement – Quantities** | | | | | | | | |
| **Description of Requirement** | **Qty Required** | **Please list the part number that meets this requirement** | | | **Off the Shelf or Manufacture?** | **Price break information** | **Please specify the lead time to supply this item** | **Please specify details of any known trade restrictions regarding this item** |
| 32a. Handheld EMF monitor, operable by a single operator, capable of measuring Electric (E) field strength, with required number of interchangeable probes/instruments. With hard, foam lined transportation case that will safely store EMF monitor and comprising items | 48 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32b. Compatible/removable probe/instrument, E field 100kHz-3GHz | 64 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32c. Compatible/removable probe/instrument, E field 300MHz-50GHz. (Must be thermocouple technology) | 64 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32d. Compatible/removable probe/instrument, H field 27MHz-1GHz | 41 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32e. Compatible/removable probe/instrument, H field 300kHz-30MHz | 41 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32f. Compatible/removable probe/instrument, H field as low as 100kHz | 11 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32g. Individual hard cases for all those probes/instruments, with made to measure foam lining for safe individual transportation and storage | 135 |  | | |  |  |  |  |
| 32h. Compatible, extendable tripod with carry case | 7 |  | | |  |  |  |  |