# Request for Information -712308450 V2

# Provision of Telemetry Systems for Naval military Divers

## Potential Opportunity

1. This RFI has be republished for the sole purpose of extending the closing date. All other information from the RFI published on 17th July 2024 remains unchanged. The closing date is now Monday 30th September 2024
2. The Salvage and Marine Operations (SALMO) Team, part of Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) within the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD), wish to inform potential suppliers of an intended procurement for the provision of Telemetry Systems for Naval Military Divers
3. This RFI Notice has been published, as an initial enquiry only, to obtain information from potential suppliers and/ or independent experts to develop a robust requirement and procurement/ commercial strategy.
4. This RFI is not a commitment to launch a formal procurement procedure or to ask potential suppliers to express an interest in the requirement.

## High Level Statement of need

1. A telemetry system is required by Naval Military Diving (NMD), Army Military Diving (AMD), MAB Military Diving (MABMD) and the Defence Diving School (DDS) to deliver Defence diving outputs post the OSD of the existing capability in 2027.

1. The user requires a Diving Life Support Equipment (DLSE) Telemetry capability that provides real-time data collection and monitoring capabilities for divers, enhancing diver safety and improving diving management of the diving project.
2. The diving telemetry system should provide real-time data collection, safety features, data logging, durability, compatibility and a user-friendly interface to enhance the diving experience and ensure diver safety. The system should be compatible with current in-service Diving Life Support Equipment (DLSE) and potential future replacements that are currently being investigated. It should offer wireless connectivity options, such as Bluetooth to enable seamless communication with diver worn systems as well as smartphones, tablets, or other external devices utilised on the surface by the surface crew.
3. The capability shall be specified, acquired, operated and maintained so that risks to users’ lives and health are As Low as Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) within the Military Diving Safety and Environmental Management System (SEMS) under JSP 286 Defence Diving Regulations, whilst also safeguarding the operational effectiveness and unique nature of tasks defined in the JSP 286 Defence Diving Guidance (the Defence Code of Practice) and BRd 2808 – Diver Underwater Tasks Manual.
4. Military Diving requires a rapidly deployable capability that can function worldwide, in austere operating locations, within variable quality of water and water conditions encountered in the world’s oceans, harbours, rivers, lakes and inland waterways (including moving water environments).
5. Subsurface Conditions. Military Diving will continue to operate in both the operational and training environments in worldwide diving locations. The diving conditions vary from benign (controlled environment training area) to challenging (flowing water and ice diving), with extremes of water temperature, varying levels of in water visibility and poor levels of water quality.
6. Surface Conditions. To meet worldwide military tasking, the capability must be operable in extreme and austere Surface Environmental considerations – humidity, dust, freezing, heat and solar exposure. Experience has proven that military tasks will often need to be conducted from improvised points of entry and platforms of opportunity making the ruggedisation and minimisation of equipment/transport packaging key to safe and effective employment.
7. Depth & Duration. Diving telemetry will have utility across both air and mixed gas diving DLSE. Therefore, it will be required to operate to meet the range of requirements across multiple user groups. The maximum depth requirement identified throughout this URD is 100m with a maximum duration requirement of 10 hours for location and 6 hours for diving data.

## RFI Notices and Key Dates

1. The Authority wish to conduct additional early with the market with the objective of gathering knowledge in these key areas:
   * To further engage and gain potential suppliers’ opinion on Market prices, and lead times.
   * To gain insight to the existing support arrangement and supply chain issues
   * Understand existing Servicing requirements.
   * Understand existing training packages and potential options for training courses.
2. All RFI responses must be submitted electronically via to [desshipscomrcl-salmo-multiuser@mod.gov.uk](mailto:desshipscomrcl-salmo-multiuser@mod.gov.uk). The Closing date is now Monday 30th September 2024

## Additional Information

1. This RFI will give potential suppliers the opportunity to comment on the proposed requirement and perhaps offer alternative solutions which might produce better value for money. Suppliers not providing a response, will not prevent their participation from any subsequent formal procurement activity.
2. Formal Questions that the authority is seeking responses on have been provided at Attachment A. Potential suppliers may respond in part or full to the question set.
3. Any resulting formal procurement procedure will be conducted competitively.
4. Potential suppliers will bear all costs associated with preparing and submitting the RFI responses. The Authority will not be liable for the costs of any work or effort incurred by potential suppliers participating in this RFI, including where the Authority decides not to launch a formal procurement procedure.
5. The Authority reserves the right to seek clarification or additional documents in respect of potential suppliers’ responses where necessary.
6. Potential suppliers’ responses to an RFI may be marked as commercially sensitive if they include technical, financial or other commercially sensitive information.
7. No RFI responses provided by potential suppliers will be carried forward, used or acknowledged for the purpose of evaluating the potential supplier in any subsequent formal procurement procedure.