

Call for tenders' details

Title: Study of future Galileo infrastructure optimisations for services provision.

Start date: 19/06/2013

Time limit for receipt of tenders: 10/09/2013

Contracting authority: European Commission, DG for Internal Market,

Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (GROW)

Status: Closed

Call for tenders question list

Call for tenders questions summary

#	Submission date	Publication date	Question subject	Question	Answer
1	06/08/2013 14:30	06/08/2013 14:34	security clearance	<p>We are preparing a bid together with industrial partners for the technical parts. In the consortium we came to the conclusion that, given the nature of the contract with the EC seeking advice on two strategic topics which will influence future requirements, it would be most beneficial if our company as independent player was to take the overall coordination and be responsible for the strategic recommendations.</p> <p>In our view, the stated ITT requirements for security seem rather strict, The SAL (e.g. REQ 11 "It may be necessary to negotiate contracts ...") seems to be a bit too broad for this short 6 month contract.</p> <p>At this stage Company X has no facility clearance and no personal clearance. Personal clearances could certainly be applied for the individuals planned to work for on the assignment.</p> <p>In practical terms we think that we could provide the expected value under the following construct: Classified information would be stored at a facility of a (security cleared) partner belonging to the consortium having the adequate</p>	<p>06/08/2013 Tenderers will be requested, as per Selection Criteria 2.4, to demonstrate and provide evidence of the fact that they are able to handle classified information up to and including CONFIDENTIEL UE in accordance with EC Security Regulations, GNSS PSI and Reference EU Documents (§1.1.4)."</p> <p>Considering the links between the different tasks and the importance of a global coordination (capacity to optimize the tasks and manage conflict and/or exchange of information inside the consortium), as required by the tender specifications, it is likely that the main contractor will be in contact with classified information. As a consequence it seems unavoidable that the prime contractor, as stated in the selection criteria, has to be able to handle classified information (FSC, PSC, see the SAL).</p>

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				<p>consortium having the adequate need to know. Access to classified information could be made available on an "as needed basis" either at EC premises (see P. 113 ANNEX B, 4.) or our security cleared partner's office. Any items touching on classified items would be provided directly through a (security cleared) partner. All the classified activities foreseen in the SoW of the ITT will be carried out by the adequate security cleared partner.</p> <p>We would therefore like to ask the following concrete question: Could the EC consider and allow not-cleared company to participate with the evidence that the classified part is totally managed by another company in the consortium (with adequate security clearance and need to know)?</p>	

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2	12/08/2013 11:24	14/08/2013 14:24	My company (an SME) has cleared staff with PSCs but uses secure facilities of another company with an FSC. This respects separation of data rules for storage/access to classified data for a Facility with more than 1 classified project	Please confirm that this arrangement is acceptable under this tender as meeting the requirement 'All industrial or other entities participating in classified contracts which involve access to information classified CONFIDENTIEL UE or above shall hold a FSC'.	14/08/2013 This arrangement is not acceptable for the following reasons: 1) Because there are strict rules of access on the basis of the need to know (more than one classified project is not acceptable) 2) Such arrangement inevitably creates unacceptable risks of split of responsibility with regard to potential breaches(s) of security.

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3	30/08/2013 13:45	30/08/2013 13:47	Request for Clarifications concerning the interpretation of security accreditation requirements stated in the ITT documentation	<p>Assuming that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the participation of a subcontractor is considered absolutely necessary to fulfill the technical requirements, according to the explicit prescriptions of the ITT; the subcontractor has processes in place to deal with UE Restricted information and has applied for UE Confidential security clearance, being in the path of obtaining both FSC and PSC for UE Confidential level (even if it is not possible to state a priori if it FSC and PSC will be achieved in time for the eventual start of the contract with EC); <p>The question is, if the following approach is considered viable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the subcontractor will provide its contribution to the Project, without the need of accessing any Galileo classified documentation requiring a UE Confidential clearance level; the Project partner responsible for subcontractor activities and equipped with required FSC and PSC, will filter out the information subject to UE Confidential level and overtake any specific activity originally subcontracted, which might 	<p>30/08/2013</p> <p>Tenderers' structural arrangement (ex with subcontractors/partners) shall guarantee that all classified information held, used, or generated in connection with the European GNSS Programmes shall be stored, handled and protected in compliance with the national EU rules governing the handling and exchange of classified information. Access to and handling of information classified CONFIDENTIEL UE or Similar or higher shall be restricted to entities having the requisite level of Facility Security Clearance and to individuals having the appropriate level of Personnel Security Clearance and a Need-to-know for the purposes of the European GNSS Programmes. In submitting their tenders, tenderers are requested to demonstrate that such security-related obligations are completely fulfilled.</p>

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				originally subcontracted, which might eventually require such a security clearance.	
4	30/08/2013 17:53	30/08/2013 17:54	simple question concerning the SAS in the Call for tender ENTR/279/PP/ENT/ADM/13/7081	In para. 9, page 113 we shall fill in to what "security-related notices or communications to the EC shall be addressed to". Can you tell us what information we are asked to fill in there?	30/08/2013 Annex B of the Security Aspect letter refers to Access to EC premises, after the signature of the contract. The information will be provided by EC to the future contractor. At this stage, possible submission of a tender, the tenderer will leave paragraph 9 empty.

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