

Question/ Answer

Procurement procedure: EMSA/OP/20/2016- Contracts for provision of RPAS Exploitation Data Center services in support of Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) operations

Question 01 (02 September 2016, 14:47):

Regarding licenses for the 3rd party libraries used by the proposed system, the contractor needs to own these licenses or can they be purchased by EMSA?

Answer to question 01 (07 September 2016, 17:45):

Licensing costs shall be included in the price offered in the bid as defined in §15 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I).

Concerning ownership of the licenses this will depend on the conditions of the licenses for the 3rd party libraries. The bidder should have at least the right to use the third party libraries for the contract with EMSA, also transferring the right to use the libraries to the Agency and its end users.

As stipulated in the draft framework contract (Tender Enclosure II, Article I.10.2) "Pre-existing rights used by the bidders in the operation of their systems do not have to be licensed to EMSA unless required for the further use of the results by EMSA." In case pre-existing rights need to be licensed to EMSA these should be listed in Annex III of the draft framework contract.

Articles I.10 and II.13 of the draft framework contract (Tender Enclosure II) laid down the terms concerning "EXPLOITATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE FWC" and "INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS".

Question 02 (09 September 2016, 15:31):

You will find a list of questions hereunder:

1. Do you confirm that, except the chat, there won't be any workflow between LGCS and the DC?
2. Is the RPAS DC supposed to interface with EMSA's DC THETIS?
3. RDC_PDT_REQ_14: Could you precise the expected workflow – between whom the chat would be used?
4. RDC_PDT_REQ_61: If we have to display the EMSA data layers in real time, what kind of performances do you plan to provide?
5. RDC_PDT_REQ_69: Are the requests of archived data only made by EMSA?
6. RDC_PDT_REQ_71: Does this Requirement describe all type of data we would have to archive? What are the archiving sizing assumptions? Does it have to include SAR images?
7. RDC_PDT_REQ_71: What does CRSP stand for?
8. RDC_PDT_REQ_71: Can you confirm these 5 seconds are calculated between the moment the data enters the DC and pops out the DC?

Answer to question 02 (15 September 2016, 15:00):

1. What is meant by “workflow”? The interfaces of the RPAS-DC are described in §2.4 in Appendix A. The S-2-S: *RPAS Data* interface between the RPAS Service providers (which could be the Local Ground Control Station depending on the service provider) and the RPAS-DC is defined in §2.4.4 of Appendix A. This interface will be further defined within the scope of this contract, as explained in RDC_PDT_REQ_60.
2. As part of RDC_PDT_REQ_64, the bidder will be required to “provide means to integrate the RDC data into EMSA systems”, which also includes the “Chemical concentrations (SOx, NOx)” data products and relevant metadata as defined in RDC_PDT_REQ_23. Whether this data will be integrated with THETIS or another system will be decided during the implementation of Module 1 defined in §5.2 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I).
3. The Chat/Messaging defined in §2.2.3 of Appendix A refers to the tool to be delivered as part of the contract. There is currently no specific workflow defined between the actors at this stage.
4. Performance and integration aspects of the EMSA Data layers interface (RDC_PDT_REQ_61 in Appendix A) will be discussed in an agile process during the implementation of Module 1 defined in §5.2 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I). EMSA will provide an ICD for the EMSA data layers interface with the relevant information.
5. Yes, the requests for archived data will only be made by EMSA to the contractor, although the requests may originate from an EMSA user.
6. *Does this Requirement describe all type of data we would have to archive?*
The RPAS-DC shall at least archive the data products defined in RDC_PDT_REQ_23.
What are the archiving sizing assumptions?
The bidder should consider the archiving requirements put forward in §3.1 of Appendix A. In addition, the bidder should consider a maximum of 5 RPAS flying on-task 6hours per day each, while collecting sensor data, e.g. collecting continuously at least the data products defined in RDC_PDT_REQ_23.
Does it have to include SAR images?
As mentioned earlier in this question the RPAS-DC shall archive the data products defined in RDC_PDT_REQ_23, including greyscale images as derived for radar sensors on the RPAS.
7. This is a typo, CRSP means RPAS-DC.
8. It is confirmed, although specifically “*from the S-2-S: RPAS Data interface [input interface §2.4.4] to a client [output interface §2.4.1] on a local network*” as defined in the RDC_PDT_REQ_71.

Question 03 (12 September 2016, 19:32):

[Company Name] is strongly considering bidding on the DATA CENTER tender. The DATA CENTER tender has much in common with part of the RPAS tender that is due for submission on 17/10/2016 and to which we plan on bidding.

We kindly request a postponement in the tender submission date (currently 26/9/2016) and would ask to submit it at the same time as the RPAS tender, on 17/10/2016.

Furthermore, we have few clarifications regarding the DATA CENTER tender:

1. RDC_PDT_REQ_1

We understand that the bidder shall provide services (Software); can we assume that this software will be installed on EMSA hardware and infrastructures?

2. RDC_PDT_REQ_58

Will MPR payload output be converted to the standard stated in REQ_58?

Or MPR payload output can be define as mentioned in REQ_66?

Answer to question 03 (15 September 2016, 15:00):

1. *Request for postponement.*

Although there are links between the two tenders, they are separate procurements. The tender submission deadline shall remain unaltered since it is not the intention to link the two procurements.

2. *RDC_PDT_REQ_1:*

As defined in §3.1.1.5 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I) the contractor shall provide the RPAS-DC (defined in Appendix A) as a service (defined in Appendix B). RDC_SRV_REQ_1 in Appendix B defines the service delivery model: "The contractor will be responsible to host, maintain, monitor, recover the service and a helpdesk for the RDC." The solution/software proposed in the bid will therefore NOT be installed on EMSA hardware and infrastructures but rather in an environment managed by the bidder and provided as part of the service.

3. *RDC_PDT_REQ_58:*

Whereas RDC_PDT_REQ_58 defines the list of minimum data standards to which the solution proposed by the bidder in his bid shall comply with, RDC_PDT_REQ_66 pertains to the preparation and maintenance of an Interface Control Document (ICD) which shall also incorporate the definitions of RDC_PDT_REQ_58. As stated in RDC_PDT_REQ_59 the bidder shall assume the *S-2-S: RPAS Data interface*, which includes the RPAS payload interface, will comply with the data standards in RDC_PDT_REQ_58. RDC_PDT_REQ_02 provides a visual representation.

Question 04 (13 September 2016, 16:46):

I would like some clarification of Point 19 of the Invitation to Tender document please. Are you saying that only economic operators from countries mentioned in point 19 (EU plus 8 others in Europe) are allowed to submit a bid on this tender?

Although [company name] is EU [country name] based, this particular software is developed by one our US Business units (part of [company name]) and contracts for its use are usually made with the American entity. Would this disqualify our bid?

Answer to question 04 (19 September 2016, 15:15):

It is possible to subcontract part of the contract, please see section 16 of the tender specifications. Since your company is based in an EU Member State, you are eligible to provide a bid for this tender. Should you wish to subcontract a part of the contract you will need to be able to show the proportion of the contract which will be provided by a subcontractor. However it should be noted that the full responsibility for the performance of the contract remains with the tenderer.

Question 05 (14 September 2016, 16:04):

The tender's checklist states "Tenderer's offer, including Appendixes C, D, E and F".

What should be in the mentioned "offer", that is not in de Appendixes, cover letters and other documents? Is there a template to be used?

Or does it mean to say "Tenderer's offer, consisting of all of the Appendixes C, D, E and F"?

Answer to question 05 (19 September 2016, 15:15):

The requirements as to the tender are provided in §15 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I) where it is described that the information in Part A to E are to be provided. Appendixes C, D, E and F are templates to be used to support the preparation of the offer for Part C, D and E. Information on Part A and B must also be provided as part of the tenderer's offer.

Question 06 (14 September 2016, 14:12):

Considering the proposal delivery:

[Question 1]: EMSA request the delivery of an electronic version of the proposal that can be delivered as CD/DVD or USB. Considering that EMSA requests one original and three copies, is it required to deliver the four proposals each one in one CD/DVD or USB?

[Question 2]: Each one of the four proposals (1 original + 3 copies) must be submitted in the set of two envelopes?

[Question 3]: Considering the Training: for Training outside of Lisbon (Portugal) is it the responsibility of the bidder to rent a place for the training?

[Question 4]: Considering the ownership of the solution after the end of contract, the infrastructure and software will remain in bidders ownership?

Answer to question 06 (20 September 2016, 16:30):

1. Referring to point 2 the invitation to tender, the bidder shall send 4 hard copies of the bid (one original + 3 copies) and one single electronic copy (CD,DVD or USB).
2. Referring to point 3 the invitation to tender, the bidder shall use two envelopes: the inner envelope shall contain the 4 hard copies of the bid and the electronic copy. The outer envelope shall contain the inner envelope. Detailed instructions are provided in the invitation to tender document.
3. As defined in §5.4.1.3 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I), “Training facilities are not the responsibility of the contractor”, therefore the bidder will not be required to rent the training facilities where the trainings will be take place.
4. The scope of this tender is to procure services as defined in the tender specifications and in Appendix B (Tender Enclosure I). Since the aim of this procurement procedure is to acquire services for the Agency, EMSA does not require ownership of software nor infrastructure during and after the end of the contract. Specifically, the bidder should refer to §19 of the tender specifications (Tender Enclosure I) and to Articles I.10 and II.13 of the draft framework contract (Tender Enclosure II) which laid down the terms concerning “EXPLOITATION OF THE RESULTS OF THE FWC” and “INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS”. Clarifications are also provided in the answer to Question 01 above (02 September 2016, 14:47).

Question 07 (14 September 2016, 16:48):

Question 5: Considering RDC_PDT_REQ_69., where the bidder needs to archive the data for 5 years and considering that the contract is for 3 years of service maximum, the question is: The bidder shall support the archive and storage of information for more 2 years?

Question 6: What is the size for each original stream for the RPAS flights?

Question 7: Considering the storage requirements and the necessity to store 5 flights of 6 hours each day (30 hours of video per day) our interpretation is 5.400 hours of video stored for the 6 months of online data. Our interpretation is correct? If no, can you clarify?

Answer to question 07 (20 September 2016, 16:30):

5. The contractor is only required to keep the data in the archive for the maximum duration of the framework contract plus 6 months, in accordance with Article I.3.4 of the draft framework contract (Tender Enclosure II). Appendix A of the tender specifications was corrected accordingly: RDC_PDT_REQ_69 should read “[...] The archived data may be stored offline ~~for 5 years.~~ [...]”.
6. The bidder is requested to calculate the possible amount of data to be handled based on the information provided in RDC_PDT_REQ_23 and RDC_PDT_REQ_71. Please see also point 6 of the answer to Question 2.
7. Your understanding is correct. Please note that the RPAS missions the Agency will be providing to the users will ramp up over time and therefore at the beginning the storage requirements will be significantly lower than 5 RPAS flying on-task 6hours per day each, as provided in point 6 of the answer to Question 2.

Requests for additional information regarding this tender should be sent by e-mail to the following address **Open202016@emsa.europa.eu**. Requests for additional information received less than six working days before the closing date for submission of tenders will not be processed.

The deadline for submission of the bids of this tender is **26 September 2016 20H00 (Lisbon local time)**.

The responsibility for monitoring the Agency’s website for replies to queries and/or further information remains with potential applicants.