

February 24, 2012
RFP No. SCA52512R0006
Wireless Communication Services

U.S. Embassy
490 Sussex Drive
Ottawa, ON, K1N 1G8

The following questions were received in writing on February 24, 2012:

1. As it relates to the Standard Form (pages 2 & 3 in the RFP), could you confirm which sections we need to complete? It is our understanding that only boxes 30a, 30b and 30c need to be completed at this stage.

Answer: For the purpose of this RFP on Standard Form 1449 the Offeror is only required to address fields 30a, 30b and 30c.

2. Are electronic signatures acceptable or would you expect original ink signatures on this form? Electronic signatures in form a scan placed in lieu of a physical one would make the process on our side much faster.

Answer: No. Electronic proposal submission is not authorized and electronically signed proposals are not authorized.

3. Within Section 1, specifically the Indefinite Delivery/Indefinite Quantity Contract Schedule of Services, Block 20, starting on page 15 of the RFP, are Contractors required to provide responses to each item within this section?

Answer: By signing the proposal the Offeror agrees to conform to the requirements outlined in the entire solicitation including the requirements on page 15 of the RFP, Schedule of Services, Block 20. The Offeror is not required to address each requirement listed on page 15, but may include additional information as an addendum to the proposal.

4. Section 3.1 asks us to list Key Personnel, however, this section was not asked to be returned as part of our submission. Are we able to include this section without being deemed non-compliant?

Answer: Yes, the Offerors are required to complete and submit all pages included into the RFP package. The Offerors are welcome to include additional information in the form of an addendum to the RFP.

5. In terms of Section 2 - Contract Clauses, are Contractors able to provide feedback at this stage and include it in our response or should we wait until the negotiation phase to discuss potential changes to this section?

Answer: The Government welcomes feedback with regards to RFP clauses as part of the RFP submission. The Contracting Officer may determine to hold additional discussions for the purpose of accepting feedback and address questions with regards to the contract clauses included in Section 2.

6. For Section 3, Item A (10), can you please confirm that price list for accessories is only required for the accessories outlined on page 17 of the RFP under 1.1 Wireless Device Package?

Answer: Requirement outlined in Section 3, A (10) on page 34 shall include the items outlined in Schedule of Services, Block 20, 1.1 on page 17.

7. Section 3, Question 5 states “Evidence that the offeror/quoter has all licenses and permits required by local law (see DOSAR 652.242-73 in Section 2).” Can you please confirm what evidence you are looking for us to include as part of our response? We are a Canadian based service provider.

Answer: Department of State Acquisition Regulation 652.242-73 is provided in full text below: 652.242-73 Authorization and Performance.

(a) The contractor warrants the following:

(1) That it has obtained authorization to operate and do business in the country or countries in which this contract will be performed;

(2) That it has obtained all necessary licenses and permits required to perform this contract; and,

(3) That it shall comply fully with all laws, decrees, labor standards, and regulations of said country or countries during the performance of this contract.

(b) If the party actually performing the work will be a subcontractor or joint venture partner, then such subcontractor or joint venture partner agrees to the requirements of paragraph (a) of this clause.

(End of clause)

8. Section 2(b)(1) – Can you please confirm if you are looking for details on which subcontractors we use. As an example, we use a third party to support fulfillment and for collections. Do we need to provide details in our response regarding this? If so, what specific details are you looking for? Also, our devices are provided by manufacturers. They are not a subcontractor to us as we only provide services. Do you need details on device manufacturers as well?

Answer: The requirement outlined in Section 2(b)(1) applies to first-tier sub-contractors. The Government Funding Transparency Act of 2008 requires the Contractor to report information on subcontract awards. The law requires all reported information be made public, therefore, the Contractor is responsible for notifying its subcontractors that the required information will be made public.

Unless otherwise directed by the contracting officer, by the end of the month following the month of award of a first-tier subcontract with a value of \$25,000 or more, (and any modifications to these subcontracts that change previously reported data), the Contractor shall report the following information:

- Unique identifier (DUNS Number) for the subcontractor receiving the award and for the subcontractor’s parent company, if the subcontractor has a parent company.
- Name of the subcontractor.
- Amount of the subcontract award.
- Date of the subcontract award.
- A description of the products or services (including construction) being provided under the subcontract, including the overall purpose and expected outcomes or results of the subcontract.
- Subcontract number (the subcontract number assigned by the Contractor).
- Subcontractor’s physical address including street address, city, state, and country. Also include the zip code and district.
- Subcontractor’s primary performance location including street address, city, state, and country. Also include the zip code and district.
- The prime contract number, and order number if applicable.
- The applicable North American Industry Classification System code (NAICS).

9. Section 2 (b)(4) – Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards – can you please advise if this applicable to Canadian suppliers?
Answer: Yes, per FAR 4.1403 this clause is applicable in all solicitations and contracts of \$25,000 or more.
10. Section 2(b)(38) – Encouraging contractor Policies to Ban Text Messaging While Driving – are you looking to Contractors to confirm if they have a formal policy in place to enforce this?
Answer: In accordance with FAR clause 52.223-18, the offeror is encouraged to adopt and enforce policies that ban text massaging while driving (i) company-owned or rented vehicles or Government-owned vehicles; or (ii) Privately-owned vehicles when on official government business or when performing any work for or on behalf of the Government. The full text version of this clause may be accessed electronically at: <http://acquisition.gov/far/index.html> or <http://farsite.hill.af.mil/search.htm>
11. Section 2(b)(42) – Restrictions on Certain Foreign Purchases – as we are only a service provider, are you looking to us as the Contractor to confirm that device manufacturer’s meet this requirement?
Answer: This requirement applies to the Offeror’s first-tier suppliers as well as to the product(s) controlled by the Offeror.
12. Section 5(h)– Can you please confirm what is meant by “the simplified acquisition threshold”?
Answer: Current Simplified Acquisition Threshold is \$150,0000 U.S. Dollars.
13. Section 5(i)– Given we are a Canadian service provider and we do not manufacture the devices we sell, can you please confirm this section would not be applicable to us?
Answer: This requirement applies to the Offeror’s first-tier suppliers as well as product(s) controlled by the Offeror.
14. Section 5(l)– Given we are a Canadian supplier, can you please confirm this section would not be applicable to us? If you are looking to us to complete this section, please note we do not have TIN. Would you be expecting us to provide our GST/HST number, QST number, business identification number, or other?
Answer: TIN stands for the Tax Identification Number. Canadian Offerors are required to provide TIN or equivalent registration number(s) required by local tax legislation.
15. Given we are a Canadian supplier, can you please confirm the following sections would not be applicable to us: Section 5(d), Section 5(e), Section 5(f), Section 5(g), Section 5(h), Section 5(j), Section 5(k), Section 5(m), Section 5(n), Section 5(o).
Answer: In accordance with 52.212-3, an offeror shall complete only paragraph (b) of this provision *if* the offeror has completed the annual representations and certifications electronically at <http://orca.bpn.gov>. If an offeror has not completed the annual representations and certifications electronically at the ORCA website, the offeror shall complete only paragraphs (c) through (o) of this provision.

Sincerely,

//signed//

Michael St Clair
Contracting Officer
U.S. Embassy, Ottawa