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Tender

C17CSAE/701556406 - Medium Weight Aerial Delivery (MWAD)

Ministry of Defence

F17: Contract notice for contracts in the field of defence and security

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-018508

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02cfba

Published 2 August 2021, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

Ministry of Defence

Walnut 2b, # 1229, MOD Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Contact

MWAD Commercial Team

For the attention of

Herberth Matthew

Email(s)

desc17csae-commercial@mod.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3001589273

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address(es)**General address of the contracting authority/entity**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence>

Electronic submission of tenders and requests to participate

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/go/91787884017ACDEBA3DC>

Further information

Further information can be obtained from the above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from

The above-mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to

The above-mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

I.3) Main activity

Defence

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities:

No

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1) Description

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority

C17CSAE/701556406 - Medium Weight Aerial Delivery (MWAD)

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Supplies

Purchase

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Carterton, Oxfordshire, UK.

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom
- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Duration of the framework agreement

Duration in years: 7

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between £30,000,000 and £50,000,000

II.1.5) Short description of the contract or purchase(s)

The Army requires the ability to airdrop equipment and vehicles to an all-up mass of 16,000kg from the Airbus A400M Atlas aircraft (A400M) to enable Air Manoeuvre, Theatre Entry, Land Force Sustainment and Humanitarian Operations. This requirement will be delivered by platforms (onto which combat supplies and vehicles can be restrained), incorporating parachutes and ancillary equipment to enable their extraction from the A400M and safe delivery into drop zones.

Requirements also include (but not limited to) spares provisioning, level 4 contractor repairs, Design Organisation (DO) and/or Coordinating Design Organisation (CDO) responsibilities, initial training, technical documentation management, and Post Design Services (PDS).

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

- 35000000 - Security, fire-fighting, police and defence equipment

II.1.7) Information about subcontracting

The tenderer has to indicate in the tender any share of the contract it may intend to subcontract to third parties and any proposed subcontractor, as well as the subject-matter of the subcontracts for which they are proposed

II.1.8) Lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.9) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope

The requirement is to deliver an estimated 40 (forty) initial, complete MWAD platforms up to 32 feet in length along with associated parachutes and ancillary equipment, capable of delivering payloads between 3000kgs to 12,000kgs, for dispatch from the A400M. The MWAD system must be compatible with the A400M. The contractor shall hold DO/CDO status for the entire system, including all associated assemblies (parachutes and ancillary equipment).

The requirement includes provision of an in-service support solution including Level 4 repair activities (level 1-3 repairs and maintenance will be carried out by the Authority), initial

ground training, technical documentation management, System Safety Management, Post Design Services (PDS) and provision of spares. The duration of the contract shall include a manufacture and transition phase followed by a 7 (seven) year support phase from Initial Operating Capability (IOC) (plus Options to extend by an additional 3 years).

As the MWAD procurement relates to the provision of goods and services used for military purposes, the Authority will comply with the Defence & Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR 2011). The procurement will operate under the Competitive Negotiated Procedure (CNP).

The Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP) will be used to manage the DPQQ and Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) process, including evaluation. Access to the DSP is required to complete the DPQQ and it is recommended that access is requested via Supplier Registration Page.

Following DPQQ evaluation, the Authority intends to invite a maximum of 4 (four) respondents to the initial ITN phase. Wherein, following submission and assessment of the tender submissions, all technically and Commercially compliant bidders will be invited to a ground trial phase. Subject to the Authority's trials assessment decision, a negotiation phase may follow.

The Authority reserves the right to award the Contract to the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) in accordance with the scoring criteria following evaluation of the tenders and ground trials without undertaking a negotiation phase.

In preparation for the ground trials phase, down-selected tenderers will be required to loan the MOD a complete system (including all associated parachutes, assemblies and ancillary equipment) on a free of charge basis, to undertake ground trials at RAF Brize Norton. The outcome of the ground trials will contribute to the determination of a Preferred Bidder. Contract award will then be dependent on the approval of an Authority led business case that will take into account the results of the trials and the preferred bidders' tender. Post contract award, the contractor will be required to support air trials and achieve system acceptance. The placement of the order for the MWAD platforms will follow this system acceptance.

The Authority anticipates issuing the ITN in November 2021 followed by a bidders' conference to be held in the UK in December 2021. Ground trials conducted by ATEC at RAF Brize Norton are forecast for Q4 2022 – Q1 2023, FBC approval and contract award are forecast for mid 2023 followed by declaration of Initial Operating Capability (IOC) in 2024.

The Authority trades using the electronic 'Contracting, Purchasing & Finance' system (CP&F). Before completing the DPQQ, any interested parties should ensure that they have

the ability to trade electronically and the willingness connect to the CP&F System in the event of being successful.

A Cyber Risk Assessment has been conducted for this requirement to ascertain the level of Cyber Risk present. The result of this assessment is that a Cyber Risk level of 'Very Low' exists and therefore successful respondents invited to ITN will need to hold a Cyber Essentials [Plus] certificate and undertake a Cyber Risk Assessment on their proposed supply chain. Respondents can verify their readiness to comply with opportunities bearing this Cyber Risk Level by completing a Cyber Risk Assessment using RAR code: 310664309.

To note: The issue of this Contract Notice (CN) or any future ITN or ITN material is not a commitment by the Authority to place a contract as a result of this competition or at a later stage. Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken prior to any offer and subsequent acceptance of contract, is a matter solely for your commercial judgement. The Authority has conducted previous industry engagement using Defence Contracts Online (DCO), with a Request for Information (RFI) published 20/11/2020.

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between £30,000,000 and £50,000,000

II.2.2) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of these options: In addition to the previously stated contract duration, the Authority may at its sole discretion extend the contract by a maximum of 3 years (taken in single or multiple year intervals).

The Authority may also at its sole discretion purchase complete or part systems in addition to the number previously stated.

II.2.3) Information about renewals

This contract is subject to renewal: No

II.3) Duration of the contract or time limit for completion

Duration in months: 120 (from the award of the contract)

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions relating to the contract

III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required

As stipulated within the DPQQ and later within the ITN.

III.1.2) Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them

As stipulated within the DPQQ and later within the ITN.

III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded

As stipulated within the DPQQ and later within the ITN.

III.1.4) Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject, in particular with regard to security of supply and security of information

The successful personnel will be required to obtain the necessary security clearances following award of contract. Further detail regarding the processes to be followed and conditions to be applied will be included within the ITN.

III.2) Conditions for participation

III.2.1) Personal situation

Criteria regarding the personal situation of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: The Authority will apply all the offences listed in Article 39(1) of Directive 2009/81/EC (implemented as Regulation 23(1) of the Defence and Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 in the UK) and all of the professional misconducts listed at Article 39(2) of Directive 2009/81/EC (see also Regulation 23(2) in the DSPCR 2011) to the decision of whether an Economic operator is eligible to be invited to tender.

Economic operators will be required to sign a declaration confirming whether they do or do not have any of the listed criteria as part of the pre-qualification process.

Economic operators who have been convicted of any of the offences under Article 39(1) are ineligible and will not be selected to bid, unless there are overriding requirements in the general interest (including defence and security factors) for doing so.

Economic operators who are guilty of any of the offences, circumstances or misconduct under Article 39(2) may be excluded from being selected to bid at the discretion of the Authority.

Criteria regarding the personal situation of subcontractors (that may lead to their rejection) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Suppliers Instructions How to Express Interest in this Tender:

1. Register your company on the eSourcing portal (this is only required once)

- Browse to the eSourcing Portal
- Click the “Click here to register” link
- Accept the terms and conditions and click “continue”
- Enter your correct business and user details
- Note the username you chose and click “Save” when complete
- You will shortly receive an email with your unique password (please keep this secure)

2. Express an Interest in the tender

- Login to the portal with the username/password
- Click the "PQQs Open to All Suppliers" link. (These are Pre-Qualification Questionnaires

open to any registered supplier)

- Click on the relevant PQQ to access the content.
- Click the “Express Interest” button in the “Actions” box on the left-hand side of the page.
- This will move the PQQ into your “My PQQs” page. (This is a secure area reserved for your projects only)
- Click on the PQQ code, you can now access any attachments by clicking the “Settings and Buyer Attachments” in the “Actions” box

3. Responding to the tender

- You can now choose to “Reply” or “Reject” (please give a reason if rejecting)
- You can now use the ‘Messages’ function to communicate with the buyer and seek any clarification
- Note the deadline for completion, then follow the onscreen instructions to complete the PQQ
- There may be a mixture of online & offline actions for you to perform (there is detailed online help available)

If you require any further assistance please consult the online help, or contact the eTendering help desk.

III.2.2) Economic and financial ability

Criteria regarding the economic and financial standing of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: (a) Appropriate statements from the economic operator's bankers or where appropriate, evidence of relevant professional risk indemnity insurance;

(b) The presentation of balance-sheets or extracts from the balance-sheets, where publication of the balance-sheet is required under the law of the country in which the economic operator is established;

(c) where appropriate, a statement, covering the three previous financial years of the economic operator, of: (i) the overall turnover of the business of the economic operator; and (ii) where appropriate, the turnover in respect of the work, works, goods or services which

are of a similar type to the subject matter of the contract.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: Contained within the DPQQ Guidance Notes.

III.2.3) Technical and/or professional capacity

Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Economic operators are expected to hold, or be willing to obtain Defence Approved Organisation Scheme (DAOS) accreditation in accordance with MAA Regulatory Article 5850.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: Defence Approved Organisation Scheme (DAOS) accreditation in accordance with MAA Regulatory Article 5850.

Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of subcontractors (that may lead to their rejection)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Contained within the DPQQ Guidance Notes.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated

IV.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate

Envisaged minimum number 2 and maximum number 4

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates: Following assessment of the DPQQ responses the Authority shall invite the four highest scoring economic operators that also meet the minimum threshold to tender for the requirement.

Where there are less than four economic operators that meet the minimum threshold the Authority reserves the right (at its sole discretion) to invite less than four economic

operators to tender or, cancel the procurement exercise.

Further information on the criteria used for scoring each DPQQ question, the minimum threshold and allocating a final score can be found in the DPQQ and DPQQ guidance notes attached to this opportunity.

IV.1.3) Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated: yes

IV.2) Award criteria

IV.2.2) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction has been used: no

IV.3) Administrative information

IV.3.1) File reference number attributed by the contracting authority

C17CSAE/701556406

IV.3.2) Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract

no

IV.3.3) Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document

Time limit for receipt of requests for documents or for accessing documents: 12 September 2021 - 5:59pm

Payable documents: no

IV.3.4) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

12 September 2021 - 11:59pm

IV.3.6) Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up

English

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about European Union funds

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

VI.3) Additional information

The Contracting Authority intends to use the Defence Sourcing Portal e-Tendering system in this procurement exercise, please visit www.contracts.mod.uk for full details and to register your interest in this procurement.

Instructions How to Express Interest in this Tender:

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- Accept the terms and conditions and click “continue”

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- You can now use the 'Messages' function to communicate with the buyer and seek any clarification
- Note the deadline for completion, then follow the onscreen instructions to complete the PQQ
- There may be a mixture of online & offline actions for you to perform (there is detailed online help available)

If you require any further assistance please consult the online help, or contact the eTendering help desk.

VI.4) Procedures for appeal

VI.4.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Air Support, Walnut 2b, #1229

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