

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/022662-2022>

Planning

VIRTUS Re-Compete

Defence Equipment & Supplies (MOD)

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-022662

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-035f12

Published 16 August 2022, 2:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Defence Equipment & Supplies (MOD)

Bristol

Contact

Rodney Gardiner

Email

rodney.gardiner114@mod.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 7815019118

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://des.mod.uk/>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

VIRTUS Re-Compete

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 18143000 - Protective gear

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The VIRTUS soldier system is a comprehensive system of integrated combat and protective gear developed by Source to cope with the challenges and needs of the modern infantry soldier in today's battlefield. It is the world's first integrated load carriage and protection system.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 2

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

Torso Sub System

Head Sub System

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Torso Sub System

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 18143000 - Protective gear
- 18931100 - Rucksacks
- 18934000 - Kitbags
- 18936000 - Textile bags
- 33735100 - Protective goggles
- 35113400 - Protective and safety clothing
- 35811300 - Military uniforms
- 35812200 - Combat suits
- 35812300 - Combat gear
- 35813100 - Helmet covers
- 35815100 - Bullet-proof vests

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Virtus Torso Sub System - This will be a Build To Print solution with Technical Data Packs provided by the Authority.

II.2.14) Additional information

Contract will be for 5 years + 5 x 1 Year Options

Estimated Value is between £62,000,000 and £210,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Head Sub System

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 18143000 - Protective gear
- 18444110 - Helmets
- 33735100 - Protective goggles
- 35812200 - Combat suits
- 35812300 - Combat gear
- 35813100 - Helmet covers

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Head Sub System - This will be a requirements based specification provided by the Authority.

II.2.14) Additional information

Contract will be for 5 years + 5 x 1 Year Options

Estimated Value is between £41,600,000 and £140,000,000

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

28 April 2023

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

On the 20 October 21 the Authority issued a notice of cancellation for the DPQQ for both the Torso Sub-System (TSS) lot and Head Sub-System (HSS) lot for VIRTUS.

Since this date, the Authority has been developing both the project and competition and we are now happy to be able to provide a short update.

The Authority estimates that a new Contract Notice will be published in April 2023, launching a competition with an initial DPQQ followed by an ITN issue estimated in July 2023. Note. Dates are subject to change as the project continues to develop and as the team manage the wider portfolio workload and departmental priorities.

The concept as this stage is for the ITN to be designed around two lots: the Torso Sub-System (TSS) being Specification based i.e. built to print, and the Head Sub-System (HSS) based on a Requirements set.

The Project Team will be conducting further market engagement at DVD, UTAC Millbrook, from the 21-22 September 2022 and invites all bidder enquiries for a meeting. Arrangements are to be directed to Rodney Gardiner.

Note. There will be limited availability for appointments, but post event meetings will be made available.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of this letter, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for all your work to date on Project VIRTUS.