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Award

## **In-service Support for the Ground Based Air Defence Battlefield Information System Application (GBAD BISA)**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-029124

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04077e

Published 3 October 2023, 2:44pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

#### **Email**

[desjsens-comrcl-dsp@mod.gov.uk](mailto:desjsens-comrcl-dsp@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/web/login.html>

#### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

#### **I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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### **Section II: Object**

#### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

##### **II.1.1) Title**

In-service Support for the Ground Based Air Defence Battlefield Information System Application (GBAD BISA)

Reference number

JSENS/00185

##### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 71336000 - Engineering support services

##### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

##### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Joint Sensors and Engagement Networks Team part of the UK Ministry of Defence (“the Authority”), intends to award a contract for a period of three years with one option year. The contract will be awarded to BAE Systems for the continued in-service support and provision of software licences and equipment for the Ground Based Air Defence Battlefield Information System Application (BISA). This support will continue the compatibility with the Bowman System of which it is hosted.

##### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

##### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £3,200,000

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Not provided.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Criterion: criterion weighting

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

1 year

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:

- absence of competition for technical reasons

#### Explanation:

The Authority considers that the single source procurement of this non-competitive contract falls within the circumstances set out in regulation 16 (1)(a)(ii) use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice for technical reasons as detailed below.

BISA is owned by BAE as a bespoke application developed solely for the use with the BOWMAN system. Procuring with a new suppliers would not be possible as the BISA software and licences are wholly owned by BAE. Security will also be an issue as BOWMAN is an American system and anything integrated into it would come under the ITAR ruling. As such, this would lead to increased time and cost to integration and disposal once out of service. BAE are the only supplier to have access to both GD(UK) and the various BOWMAN/DS2 test and reference facilities.

BAE are the GBAD BISA Developer and Design Authority, and as such hold the knowledge and expertise of the current fielded in-service capability and developmental history of the product over its lifetime. A continued contract with BAEs will assure the continued availability of GBAD BISA and its utility to the Military End User. The option represents the minimum scale of effort required to maintain a dedicated base In-Service support capability through the contractor. Proposed activities within the scope of the single source contract will mitigate the risks identified and continue the support solution accepted by Sponsors and Military End Users at ISD.

BAEs have exclusive rights to the Alternative Messaging System (AltMS) and Local Network Software (LNS) software components which are essential to the security of BISA. The licences under which the AltMS and LNS software is provided do not allow the MoD to seek support from a third party. The MoD has exclusive rights of the remaining software components; however, these rights cannot be exercised as the MoD does not possess the required technical material. This is further complicated by the fact it is not possible to view the different software components in isolation, as the existing GBAD BISA software is a single application, which is subsequently incorporated onto the BOWMAN platform and, as such, it is not possible to split out these software components, isolate them, and support them individually – in summary BISA is owned by BAE as a bespoke application and they are the only supplier who can provide enduring support and updates, they own the licences and the BISA software. BAE are the only supplier to have access to both GD(UK) and the various BOWMAN/DS2 test and reference facilities.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

3 October 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

BAE Systems

Guildford

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

#### **V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)**

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £3,200,000

#### **V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The Authority reserves the right to amend any condition related to security of information to reflect any changes in national law or Government policy. If any contract documents are accompanied by instructions on safeguarding, classified information (e.g a Security Aspects Letter), the Authority reserves the right to amend the terms of these instructions to reflect any changes in national law or Government Policy, whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective markings applies, or otherwise. The link below to the [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications) provides information on the government security classifications.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications>

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Defence Equipment and Support

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Defence Equipment and Support

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Not provided.

#### **VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

Defence Equipment and Support

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom