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Award

ORAN Security Test Tools

National Physical Laboratory

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-030524

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-049d6a

Published 24 September 2024, 4:36pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

National Physical Laboratory

Hampton Road

Teddington

TW11 0LW

Email

gary.phillips@npl.co.uk

Telephone

+44 2089773222

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.npl.co.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

ORAN Security Test Tools

Reference number

UKTL_ORAN

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The NPL requirement is for security test tools to execute ORAN security test cases as per ORAN alliance specifications.

This procurement must integrate with existing lab infrastructure, deployment requirements and lab security posture.

The solution must include installation, support and training on the operation of the system.

The solution must provide comprehensive coverage of tests suites set out by the following:

- 3GPP 33.117 and SCAS 33.511
- ORAN Alliance TIFG Chapter 7
- ORAN Alliance Working Group 11

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: £554,712.99

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The NPL requirement is for security test tools to execute ORAN security test cases as per ORAN alliance specifications.

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II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- 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:

Mobile telecommunications, especially in emerging technologies such as Open-RAN (ORAN) is a very specialist area with a limited number of suppliers of test equipment. Keysight was selected by DSIT as a suitable supplier to address the radio test requirements of UKTL. Keysight has now been deployed and highly integrated into the UKTL network to address the immediate radio test requirements.

UKTL now need to evolve and expand the radio test requirements so to capture the new security test requirements coming from the ORAN standardisation bodies.

To avoid large expense of integrating new radio test vendors and also to capitalise on the existing investment (commercially as well as man hours spent integrating the Keysight solution) it is optimal to expand the existing solution for the specified test areas in the scope of works.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Title

ORAN Security Test Tools

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

24 September 2024

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

Keysight Technologies UK Ltd

610 Wharfedale Road, Winnersh Triangle

Wokingham

RG41 5TP

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: £554,712.99

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NPL Management Limited

Teddington

Country

United Kingdom