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Planning

Applications are invited for the assessment of C-UAS (Counter-Drone) SAPIENT C2 Systems by the UK MoD RIC

Ministry of Defence

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-030631

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-037d90

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

Email

joe.barnes151@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

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

Applications are invited for the assessment of C-UAS (Counter-Drone) SAPIENT C2 Systems by the UK MoD RIC

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73436000 - Test and evaluation of military electronic systems

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The misuse of small uncrewed aircraft systems (sUAS) represents a significant and growing risk to operations and day-to-day Defence activity both in the UK and overseas.

The Rapid Innovation Cell (RIC), endorsed by the Military Capability Board, has been established as part of the UAS Capability Development Centre (UASCDC) to test and evaluate (T&E) mature C-sUAS capabilities and generate a managed Defence database of available capabilities. Through a regular programme of T&E events, the RIC will establish the efficacy of commercially available capabilities. It will also increase broader awareness of the C-sUAS market and support a more agile method of delivering capability to the front line.

To prevent capability gaps and ensure interoperability, it is intended that Defence C-sUAS systems will use the 'SAPIENT' open architecture. This will also ensure that our systems can evolve at the component level enabling the spiral development of capability.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 35613000 - Unmanned aerial vehicles
- 35730000 - Electronic warfare systems and counter measures

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

RIC Test Cycle #5

The RIC has established a series of Test Cycles. Each Test Cycle will focus on a particular subset of C-UAS systems.

Suppliers of mature C-UAS SAPIENT C2 products are invited to apply to have their product's performance assessed by the RIC. To apply you must complete an online questionnaire for your product. The product questionnaire will be available from 11:00am Monday 31st October, 2022, and responses must be fully completed and submitted by 11:00am Monday 28th November, 2022. Please complete a separate product questionnaire for each product that you wish to put forward for assessment.

Test Cycle #5, will focus on mature C-UAS products that conform to the following scope:

1. The product must be a CUAS Command and Control (C2) system consisting of software running on computer hardware with a graphical user interface.
2. The product must have valid SAPIENT interfaces such that it can successfully connect to multiple SAPIENT ASMs (Sensors and Effectors) simultaneously.
3. The minimum requirement is to be able to receive & display SAPIENT data from two different sensors and send valid SAPIENT tasks to one effector.

Your response to the product questionnaire will be carefully evaluated. Your product will be eligible for the next phase of testing if it meets our maturity requirements and is clearly within the scope described above. A full set of guidance and testing criteria are provided on the UK C-sUAS Defence Portal.

The RIC maintains a register of potential C-UAS suppliers. All potential suppliers registered with the RIC will receive access to the UK C-UAS Defence Portal. The online product questionnaire will be hosted on the UK C-UAS Defence Portal and is the only way to apply for testing with the RIC.

Please use the following web address to register with the RIC:

<https://uascdc.com/industry/open-supplier-register.aspx>

{Contact e-mail for enquiries: UASCDC-RIC@qinetiq.com, Tel: +44 (0)1684 895836}

II.2.14) Additional information

This PIN does not constitute the start of any procurement activity or resultant contract - it is for information only, to advise industry on the next stage of the trials programme and where further information can be sought. A questionnaire is completed at your own risk and, if successful, does not automatically enter you into the next phase. The Test Programme is subject to change.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

28 November 2022

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

N/A