

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/033947-2023>

Award

531533.75

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-033947

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-041a75

Published 16 November 2023, 2:20pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email

emma.oakes101@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

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

531533.75

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72261000 - Software support services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Provision of BOSS Software and In-Service Support

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: £531,533.75

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 35711000 - Command, control, communication systems
- 72253000 - Helpdesk and support services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This procurement is for the in-service software support for 3x BOSS licences held by SACC DT, plus an additional licence

II.2.5) Award criteria

Criterion: Tactical Communications Group NAPNOC

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Additional years support, plus training package.

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 procedure without publication of a contract notice

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to negotiated procedure with prior 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
- New works/services, constituting a repetition of existing works/services

Explanation:

The Situational Awareness Command and Control Delivery Team (SACC DT), part of the UK Ministry of Defence (the Authority), intends to award a contract to Tactical Communications Group, LLC based in the USA for the provision of Battlefield Operations Support System (BOSS) software and in-service support under the Link 16 Terminal Support Project and Maritime Tactical Data Link Support Unit (MTDLSU). The Contract is for the purchase of 1x Tactical Communications Group (TCG) BOSS software licence including in-service software support, and in-service software support for the 3x BOSS software licences currently in-service. The contract will be awarded for 3 years duration, and the estimated value is £531,533.75 ex VAT.

In accordance with Regulation 4 of The Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provision of The Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 as amended (in particular by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450). It is considered that the award of the Contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (in accordance with the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 for technical reasons.

Simulation support and logic tools provide MTDLSU, part of SACC, the ability to produce

data input to and from a nominated Tactical Data Link (TDL) domain, this can either be from a live environment or within a stimulated environment. BOSS a TCG product is considered the only viable solution as this is the only software variant that has the technical breadth and scope to meet MTDSLU demands in one tool to minimise training and future support costs. The required capability that BOSS provides is not available from other tools, specifically the multi capability with VMF (Variable Message Format) radio control (being an important requirement of the Authority) being unique to the BOSS tool which is a key user requirement. This multi-Tactical Data Link capability is present and used by MOD in relation to existing Platforms. The BOSS software is required as it is the only sufficiently stable software available that replicates this functionality and allows MOD to conduct training on this type of data link.

Tactical Communications Group, LLC. is the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and is the sole owner of the Intellectual Property Rights of the BOSS software. The software support required by TDLSU can only be performed by Tactical Communications Group, LLC as only they hold the technical information, tools and technical expertise required to provide the in-service software support. The support cannot be performed without access to this technical expertise.

The Cyber Risk profile is N/A. The reference for the Risk Assessment is: RAR-843352599

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

SACC/00101

Title

Provision of BOSS Software and In-Service Support

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

16 November 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

Tactical Communications Group, LLC.

Tewksbury

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £531,533.75 / Highest offer: £531,533.75 taken into consideration

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

Situational Awareness Command and Control Delivery Team

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Country

United Kingdom