

Strategic Tanker Transport Capability Air to Ground Communications

Request for Information (RFI) No. W847A – 240378

Amendment 001

This amendment is raised to:

- A) Extended the RFI closing date from December 4, 2023 to December 11, 2023; and
 - B) Answer questions raised by industry.
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A) Extend RFI Closing Date

Please note that the closing date for the RFI has been extended from December 4, 2023 to December 11, 2023 at the same time 14h00 Eastern Standard Time (EST).

B) Answer Questions Raised by Industry

QUESTION 001:

Can you advise how we should frame our response to the subject RFI given the award to SATCOM direct? [Satcom Direct Avionics awarded a three-year agreement to provide multi-orbit aeronautical connectivity for the Canadian government - SD Newsroom](#)

i.e. is any solution being considered by Canada constrained (or preferred) to use the pre agreed award?

Advise as we craft an appropriate response for Canada.

ANSWER 001:

The proposed contract/SO with SATCOM Direct was reviewed last summer and didn't contain this capability hence the purpose of this RFI.

QUESTION 002:

We would appreciate it if you may provide us a few clarifications with regards to the below solicitation:

- Is it intended for the "Interim Government of Canada Aircraft (GOCA)" or instead for the GOCA?
- Should it be for the "Interim GOCA", and given that the Interim GOCA is already fitted with a Satellite A2G device, the WBS Honeywell Jetwave, why is another such device being requested? Is it because of the Cabin WiFi?
- Should it be for the "Interim GOCA", would this requirement be also intended for the GOCA at some point in future?
- Should it be for the GOCA, wouldn't there be synergies by doing anything together with the GOCA modification?

ANSWER 002:

- Intended for both plus the backup to the final GoCA – as a minimum. We could consider more airplanes depending on future requirements, installation, annual user fees and cost per hour.
- Yes, we are looking for a capability that will provide more bandwidth while optimising costs (automatically switch to a less expensive network, when available, normally a ground network).
- Yes, but for the moment not sure if the WBS Honeywell Jetwave is the optimum solution
- Yes.

QUESTION 003:

The publication date on the Canadabuy website is November 10, 2023 however the document issue date is November 3, 2023; taking into consideration that the closing date is December 4th, 2023, could you explain what caused the delay in the publication of the RFI, and whether there will be an opportunity to extend the close date?

ANSWER 003:

There was a technical issue with publication which resulted in the difference in dates. As mentioned above, the closing date for the RFI is now December 11, 2023.

QUESTION 004:

Section 1.5 of the document states that "No agreement or contract will be entered into based on this RFI" however the information on the CanadaBuys website states "Contract duration: The estimated contract period will be 5 month(s), with a proposed start date of 2024/01/08." Could you explain the discrepancy in the information.

ANSWER 004:

The contract duration field is a default on Canadabuy. As stated in the RFI, no contract will be established as a result of this RFI. Please ignore this field, it is not applicable.

All other terms and conditions of this RFI remain the same.