



National Defence

National Defence Headquarters  
Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0K2

Défense nationale

Quartier général de la Défense nationale  
Ottawa (Ontario)  
K1A 0K2

**SOLICITATION AMENDMENT  
MODIFICATION DE  
L'INVITATION**

The referenced document is hereby revised; unless otherwise indicated, all other terms and conditions of the Solicitation remain the same.

Ce document est par la présente révisé; sauf indication contraire, les modalités de l'invitation demeurent les mêmes.

**Comments - Commentaires**

**RETURN BIDS TO:  
RETOURNER LES SOUMISSIONS À :**

By e-mail to: - Par courriel au :  
[DLP53BidsReceiving.DAAT53Receptiondessoumissions@forces.gc.ca](mailto:DLP53BidsReceiving.DAAT53Receptiondessoumissions@forces.gc.ca)

Attention: - Attention :  
Dong Le DLP 5-3-4-2

<b>Title - Sujet</b> Highway Bus Cruiser / Autobus Routier		<b>Amendment No. - N° modif.</b> 003
<b>Solicitation No. N° de l'invitation</b> W8476-236718/A	<b>Date of Amendment Date de modification</b> 2023 - 09 - 13	
<b>Address enquiries to: - Adresser toute demande de renseignements à :</b> Dong Le <b>E-Mail Address - Courriel</b> Dong.le@forces.gc.ca		
<b>Destination</b> See herein - Voir aux présentes		

**Instructions:** Municipal taxes are not applicable. Unless otherwise specified herein all prices quoted must include all applicable Canadian customs duties, GST/HST, excise taxes and are to be delivered Delivery Duty Paid including all delivery charges to destination(s) as indicated. The amount of the Goods and Services Tax/Harmonized Sales Tax is to be shown as a separate item.

**Instructions :** Les taxes municipales ne s'appliquent pas. Sauf indication contraire, les prix indiqués doivent comprendre les droits de douane canadiens, la TPS/TVH et la taxe d'accise. Les biens doivent être livrés « rendu droits acquittés », tous frais de livraison compris, à la ou aux destinations indiquées. Le montant de la taxe sur les produits et services/taxe de vente harmonisée doit être indiqué séparément.

<b>Delivery required Livraison exigée</b> See herein - Voir aux présentes	<b>Delivery offered Livraison proposée</b>
<b>Vendor/Firm Name and Address Raison sociale et adresse du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur</b>	
<b>Person authorized to sign on behalf of Vendor/Firm (type or print):   La personne autorisée à signer au nom du fournisseur/de l'entrepreneur (taper ou écrire en caractères d'imprimerie) :</b>	
<b>Name - Nom</b>	<b>Title - Titre</b>
<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>

<b>Solicitation Closes - L'invitation prend fin</b> At - à : 2:00 PM - 14:00  On - le : 2023 - 09 - 20  Time Zone - Fuseau Horaire : Eastern Daylight Time (EDT) Heure avancée de l'Est (HAE)
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**THIS SOLICITATION AMENDMENT IS RAISED TO:**

1. Provide clarification and answers to questions from potential suppliers.

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:**

<b>Question 1</b>	3.5 b) Windows: 1. The vehicle must be provided with a tinted windshield. Will the following meet DND requirements? a standard windshield that gets a 3.5" tint band on the curbside and a 7.5" tint band on the street side.
<b>Answer 1</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 2</b>	3.5 b) Windows: 4. All windows must be tinted thermo-panes safety glass (AS); Will the following meet DND's requirements? As part of the standard offering, the driver's window will be made of laminated, thermo-pane safety glass in lieu of tinted.
<b>Answer 2</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 3</b>	3.5 (iii) Windshield Wipers 2. The windshield wipers must be provided with artic wiper blades Will the following standard Canadian product offering of metal, wet type wiper arms meet DND's requirements in lieu of Arctic Wiper?
<b>Answer 3</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 4</b>	3.5 (iv) Windshield Wipers: iv. The vehicle must be provided with two rotating and pivoting interior sun visors Will the following blinds meet DND's requirements? The vehicle will be provided remote controlled scissor style roller windshield blinds in lieu of sunvisor. Sun visors are not available.
<b>Answer 4</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 5</b>	3.5 (v) Sunscreens: 1. The vehicle must be provided with three (3) rolldown sunscreens; Will the following blinds meet DND's requirements? The vehicle will be provided scissor type, pull-down sunvisors on the driver's side window in lieu of rolldown sunscreens. Rolldown driver's sunvisors are not available.
<b>Answer 5</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 6</b>	3.5 (vii) Escape Hatch 2. The escape hatch must have an opening that is at least 560 mm square. Will the following meet DND's requirement? The vehicle will be provided a roof hatch that exceeds the 560mm requested in the DND specification. We provide an open area that would be more than 400 square inches
<b>Answer 6</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority

<b>Question 7</b>	<p>3.5 (xi) Stepwell 6. The steps must be provided with ribbed step treads with a white leading edge.</p> <p>Will the following meet DND's requirements? Ribbed Flooring is RCA, RCA Flooring is no longer available, we will be providing Altro flooring request as required in section 3.5 viii. Altro flooring is slip-resistant.</p>
<b>Answer 7</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 8</b>	<p>3.5 (xvi) Divider xvi The vehicle must be provided with violation decals above the passenger access door and on the driver's air conditioning panel;</p> <p>Will the following meet DND's requirements? We do not provide a violation decal near an air conditioning panel, since the AC controller is built into the RH side of the driver's dash unit.</p>
<b>Answer 8</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 9</b>	<p>3.5 c) Vehicle Body Structure i. The vehicle must have fluted outside side panels fabricated from steel or Equivalent;</p> <p>Does the following description meet DND requirements? We will provide smooth-painted exterior panels manufactured from fiberglass in lieu of steel fluted panels as it is the standard coach design.</p>
<b>Answer 9</b>	Yes, acceptable by the TA as an Equivalent.
<b>Question 10</b>	<p>3.5 c) Vehicle Body Structure li The vehicle must be provided with a light-weight engine compartment door equipped with acoustical panels to reduce engine noise;</p> <p>Does the following description meet DND requirements? We will provide an engine door is made of fiberglass without an extra layer of sound insulation. This meets all applicable exterior noise standards per SAE Standard J366.</p>
<b>Answer 10</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 11</b>	<p>3.5 c) Vehicle Body structure Ix The vehicle must be provided with at least 12 mm plywood flooring with a continuous sound resistant barrier.</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide plywood flooring with 12mm thickness, without sound resistant barrier. A barrier is not required for a high-floor coach with baggage compartments located under the passenger floor. Please note that we meet all SAE Standard J366 applicable to an over-the-road motorcoach.</p>
<b>Answer 11</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 12</b>	<p>3.5 g) Passenger Seating viii Rear cross seats must recline a distance of at least 76 mm (3 inch);</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements?</p>

	We will provide the recline at the rear cross seat is limited to 50.8 mm (2 inches) to prevent interference with rear trim panels and frame.
<b>Answer 12</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 13</b>	<p>3.5 g) Passenger Seating ix Passenger seats must be provided with a 4 position reclining mechanism, with up to 178 mm (7 inch) of recline capability, with the exception of passenger seats immediately forward for the lavatory;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide passenger seats with a maximum of 6" recline, with the exception of the seats immediately forward of the lavatory and the rear cross seat that have a 2" recline.</p>
<b>Answer 13</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 14</b>	<p>3.5 g) Passenger Seating xi Passenger seats must be provided with aircraft type folding tray tables or Equivalent;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? Passengers seat are configured with snacke type food trays - Aircraft-type trays can only be provided with a reduced passenger seating capacity, a maximum of 54 passenger seats (reduding from 56 passenger) could be offered if airline-style snack trays are provided. - With 54 seats, airline-style snack trays there will be 14 rows of 2 passenger seats on LH side &amp; 13 rows of 2 passenger seats on RH side of coach.</p>
<b>Answer 14</b>	Airline-style snack trays must be provided. The bus capacity reduced to 54 passengers is acceptable to have airline-style snack trays installed.
<b>Question 15</b>	<p>3.5 k) Compartment Doors 1. The under body compartment must be provided with doors capable of swinging upwards at least 135° to the fully open position; 2. The doors must be provided with weather-proof seals; 3. The doors must have electric or air operated locks; and 4. The doors must be provided with gas struts or an Equivalent to hold the doors in the fully open position.</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? The vehicle is configured with the following standard J4500 coach design: - Compartment doors will be sealed pantograph vertical-lift types in lieu of swinging upwards. - The doors will have independent road- and curbside electric and manualkeyed locking systems. Each door will have: -Flush-mounted, hinged latch handles with integral FoMoCo keyed-alike locks which can override the dash-controlled electric door locks -Have stainless steel latch bars -Be counter-balanced with two springs -Have an automatic safety hold-open device in lieu of gas struts which is released by lifting the latch handle.</p>
<b>Answer 15</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority.
<b>Question 16</b>	<p>3.5 l) Rest Room iv The rest room must be provided with a towelette dispenser or Equivalent for hand sanitizing; vi The rest room must be provided with holding tanks for wash water and chemical flushing agent; ix The rest room must be provided with heaters for all tanks to prevent freezing.</p>

	<p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Standard Celeste hand sanitizer, in lieu of towlette dispenser. If a towlette dispenser is preferred, please advise which vendor and model.</li> <li>2. Without freshwater tank (not available with the current lavatory design)</li> <li>5. Lavatory heater for the secondary tank. A heater for the primary tank is not available with the current lavatory design.</li> </ol>
<b>Answer 16</b>	<p>Wall mounted dispenser is requested as per Purchase Description. The TA has no preference of vendor and model. Standard Celeste hand sanitizer is not acceptable.</p> <p>Lavatory design without freshwater tank is acceptable.</p>
<b>Question 17</b>	<p>3.5 m), 3.14 o) Public Address System, Junction Box viii The vehicle must be provided with WI-FI system; (o) The vehicle must be provided with a Wi-Fi router;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a Single Point Peplink MAX WI-FI MK2 system was provided. The vendor has advised that this system is now obsolete and recommends the replacement MAX BR1 Mini LTEA system with MAX-BR1-MINI-LC-FP system.</li> </ul>
<b>Answer 17</b>	<p>Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority</p>
<b>Question 18</b>	<p>3.5 m) Audio/ Video System i The vehicle must be provided with an AM/FM radio with a CD/DVD player with USB and Aux. port with public address system; ii All controls must be in the driver's area;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide a USB and Aux port audio inputs for the PA system as part of the optional media hub on the B-Post behind the driver and are not part of the AM/FM/CD/DVD Player dash unit itself.</p>
<b>Answer 18</b>	<p>Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority</p>
<b>Question 19</b>	<p>3.7.2 Fuel System (b) The fuel tank filler cap must be marked to identify the vehicle fuel.</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will be providing the vehicle configuration with fuel type decal on the inside of the fill door in lieu of on filler cap.</p>
<b>Answer 19</b>	<p>Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority</p>
<b>Question 20</b>	<p>3.8.1 c) Automatic Transmission c) The transmission must be provided with a neutral start safety switch.</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? Standard feature: We will provide as part of the standard coach configuration, ignition- and engine start switches. The standard coach is programmed to not start when the transmission is in gear and only when the coach is in neutral. Therefore, no additional switch is required.</p>

<b>Answer 20</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 21</b>	<p>3.14 j) Slave Receptacle j) The vehicle must be provided with manual reset thermal circuit breakers;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide a main power distribution system for our coaches that is protected by fuses and multiplex output with proper circuit protection in lieu of circuit breakers. This is the basic design for the coach's electrical system.</p>
<b>Answer 21</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 22</b>	<p>3.15 d) Spotlight ii The spotlight must be mounted at the rear of the bus centre and at least at eye level;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide coaches configured with a standard single high center mount stop light in addition to the lower stop lights on the outer lower rear of the coach.</p>
<b>Answer 22</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 23</b>	<p>3.15 h) Ceiling Lights i. The vehicle must be provided with one light in the ceiling over the stepwell and one light on the passenger side of the passenger access door;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide one dome lamp in the ceiling above the stepwell in the entrance area, as well as ceiling lights throughout the coach in the passenger area.</p>
<b>Answer 23</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 24</b>	<p>3.15 o) Passenger Reading Lights ii. The lights must be mounted in ball sockets or Equivalent.</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide mounted passenger reading lights that are nonadjustable, flush-mounted light fixtures, as part of the standard coach design.</p>
<b>Answer 24</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 25</b>	<p>3.15 p) Toilet Lights i. The vehicle must be provided with a dome light in the toilet and include one 24-volt night-light;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide our standard lavatory dome light that is not activated with the door operation. The light is programmed to be on at all times, while the coach is being operated and therefore no separate night light is required in the lavatory.</p>
<b>Answer 25</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 26</b>	<p>3.20 e) Filler Caps The vehicle must be provided with permanently marked filler caps, which identify the contents using international symbols or in French and English;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide a filler cap that is not large enough to add permanent instructions regarding fuel contents. We can offer a bilingual decal attached to the inside of the fill door.</p>

<b>Answer 26</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 27</b>	<p>3.20 f) Emergency Equipment v. The vehicle must be provided with two (2) 2.27 kg dry chemical type fire extinguisher, securely mounted and under the first row curb side passenger seat, each with a minimum 5BC rating;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will provide as part of the standard coach design, the fire extinguisher will be mounted under the #2 curbside side passenger seat.</p>
<b>Answer 27</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 28</b>	<p>3.7.3 c) Engine Cold Weather Aids c) The battery must be provided with a 110-volt battery blanket or Equivalent;</p> <p>Does the following meet DND's requirements? We will not provide a battery blanket as the coach is configured with a ProHeat X45 Plus auxiliary heater and a preheating system/shore power auxiliary heater. This feature will charge the batteries when plugged in and keep the coach interior warm, to prevent freezing.</p>
<b>Answer 28</b>	Yes, acceptable by the TA as an Equivalent.
<b>Question 29</b>	<p>4.1.1 Electronic Media vi Digital copies must be supplied on a CD or a DVD;</p> <p>We use USB drives for all digital media. Does the USB Drive that we provide meet with DND requirements?</p>
<b>Answer 29</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 30</b>	<p>4.1.1 Electronic Media vii A separate CD/DVD must be supplied with all accessories;</p> <p>We save and places all files on one media device (USB drives) with a set of bookmarks to assist in navigating the files. Does the USB Drive that we provide meet with DND requirements?</p>
<b>Answer 30</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 31</b>	<p>4.1.1 Electronic Media viii The CD or DVD must be permanently and legibly marked with a list of contents;</p> <p>USB device size does not allow an external table of contents; however, each USB device contains a hyperlinked a home page to assist in navigating through the files. Does the USB Drive that we provide meet DND requirements?</p>
<b>Answer 31</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority
<b>Question 32</b>	<p>4.1.3 Operator's Manual The Contractor must supply an approved bilingual operator's manual in both paper and digital format. Can DND please provide the number of operator manuals required to be supplied per coach?</p>
<b>Answer 32</b>	Operator's Manuals must be provided with each bus.

<b>Question 33</b>	<p>4.1.4 b) Digital Parts Manual i) The Contractor must supply the approved searchable digital parts manuals required the vehicle, features and accessories on a CD/DVDROM;</p> <p>We use USB drives for all digital media. Does the USB Drive that we provide meet DND requirements?</p>
<b>Answer 33</b>	Yes, acceptable by the Technical Authority

<b>Question 34</b>	<p>A3050T: Canadian Good: A good wholly manufactured or originating in Canada is considered a Canadian good. A product containing imported components may also be considered Canadian for the purpose of this policy when it has undergone sufficient change in Canada, in a manner that satisfies the definition specified under the Canada-United States-Mexico Agreement (CUSMA) Rules of Origin. For the purposes of this determination, the reference in the CUSMA Rules of Origin to "territory of one or more of the Parties" is to be replaced with "Canada".</p> <p>Does DND mean for this requirement to apply only when calculating the origin of the final vehicle? Please clarify this is not intended to influence origin determinations for components incorporated into the coach, and that the origin of those components can be included in the calculation as they would be determined under standard CUSMA Rules of Origin (without replacing "territory of one or more of the Parties" with "Canada")?</p>
<b>Answer 34</b>	<p>The origin of the vehicles (aggregate – multiple items) that wholly manufactured. As per the RFP 5.2.3, a minimum of 80 percent of the total bid price must consist of Canadian goods to meet the requirements of the Policy.</p> <p>For more information on how to determine the Canadian content for a mix of goods, a mix of services or a mix of goods and services, consult <a href="https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/supply-manual/annex/3/6">Annex 3.6, (https://buyandsell.gc.ca/policy-and-guidelines/supply-manual/annex/3/6)</a> Example 2, of the Supply Manual.</p>

<b>Question 35</b>	<p>D. The Bidder certifies that: ( ) a minimum of 80 percent of the total bid price consist of Canadian goods as defined in paragraph 1 of clause A3050T.</p> <p>We are seeking clarification that this requirement does not increase the requirement to an 80% RVC calculation (as opposed to standard 60%), where Originating components must be Canadian as per above? We further seek to clarify that the coaches themselves must meet the standard 60% RVC threshold to be of Canadian Origin under a modified test where components must be Canadian, not from "one of the parties", and once they are originating and of Canadian Origin, 100% of the coach cost is considered Canadian when calculating the % of Canadian goods in the procurement?</p>
<b>Answer 35</b>	<p>The Canadian Content Policy is a Cabinet-mandated policy. The policy requires minimum 80%.</p> <p>Please note that as per the RFP 4.1.C, in the event there is no two or more valid Canadian Content bids from two or more unaffiliated bidders, all bids will be eligible.</p>

**ALL OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS REMAIN THE SAME.**