

## **AN/SSQ-53G (GPS) DIFAR Sonobuoys Procurement**

### **1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)**

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

### **2. Definition of the requirement**

The Department of National Defence has a requirement for the supply of quantity 2372 *AN/SSQ-53G (GPS) DIFAR* sonobuoys installed in *LAU-126/A* Sonobuoy Launch Containers built for aircraft /shipboard training and operations in accordance with the Production Sonobuoy Specification for Bathythermograph Transmitting Set AN/SSQ-36B and Sonobuoys AN/SSQ-53F, 62E, 77C and 101A (PSS) dated 1 October 2008 (Revised 03/17/2016 REV C CHG 1).

To eliminate the requirement for qualification and stores clearance testing, the sonobuoys must be currently flight qualified on either the P-3 Orion or CP-140 Aurora aircraft.

The specific product requested is as follows:

Stock code - 5845-01-663-0428  
Part Number - 130-9044-101  
Description - AN/SSQ-53G (GPS) DIFAR

There are no security requirements associated with this requirement.

### **3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)**

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that its product meets the following requirements:

The product must be a NATO A-size sonobuoy installed in *LAU-126/A* Sonobuoy Launch Containers built for aircraft /shipboard training and operations in accordance with the Production Sonobuoy Specification for Bathythermograph Transmitting Set AN/SSQ-36B and Sonobuoys AN/SSQ-53F, 62E, 77C and 101A (PSS) dated 1 October 2008 (Revised 03/17/2016 REV C CHG 1).

The product must combine a passive directional and calibrated wide-band Omni capability into a single multi-function sonobuoy. This sonobuoy must have both

Electronic Function Select (EFS) for use prior to loading and launching and Command Function Select (CFS) to allow the operator to modify the sonobuoy's modes of operation after it has been deployed in the water. This sonobuoy must have GPS location reporting capabilities following activation, with the GPS information formatted in accordance with National Marine Electronics Association (NMEA) Protocol 0183.

To be compatible with DND's CP140 aircraft stores release systems, the sonobuoys must be configured for air deployment within a cylindrical Sonobuoy Launch Container with a diameter of 4 7/8 (+0, -1/8) inches and a length of 36 (+.125, -187) inches. The sonobuoys as configured for air deployment (bare buoy) shall pass with no force other than gravity through a vertical right cylinder having an inside diameter of 4 15/16(+1/64, -0) inches and 4 feet long. Air descent of the sonobuoy must be stabilized and slowed by a parachute allowing for deployment within the Production Sonobuoy Specification (PSS) Altitude/Speed Launch Envelope. The sonobuoys must be currently flight qualified on either the P-3 Orion or CP-140 Aurora aircraft to eliminate the requirement for qualification and stores clearance testing. The sonobuoy must be capable of being deployed from the deck of a surface vessel.

#### **4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement**

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s)

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)
- World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP)
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)

#### **5. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier**

Sonobuoy Tech Systems (STS) is the only supplier capable of meeting the government requirement since STS has exclusive ownership of the Foreground and Background Intellectual Property for the AN/SSQ-53G (GPS) DIFAR sonobuoys.

##### **Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)**

The following exception to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6 (d) as only one supplier is capable of performing the work.

#### **6. Limited Tendering Reasons**

The limited tendering reasons are invoked under the (section of the trade agreement(s) specified):

- Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article 513 b (iii).
- World Trade Organization - Agreement on Government Procurement (WTO-AGP) – Article XIII b. iii.
- Canada-European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) – Article 1912.12 b iii.

## **7. Ownership of Intellectual Property**

Ownership of any Foreground Intellectual Property arising out of the proposed contract will vest in the Contractor.

## **8. Period of the proposed contract**

The proposed delivery date is 12-15 months ARO

## **9. Cost estimate of the proposed contract**

The estimated value of the contract, is \$4,500,000.00 (GST/HST extra).

## **10. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier**

Sonobuoy Tech Systems  
4868 East Park 30 Drive  
Columbia City, Indiana  
USA 46725-8861

## **11. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities**

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

## **12. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities**

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is 7 Sep, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

## **13. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities**

Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

**Aaron Brown**  
Department of National Defence  
Directorate of Aerospace Procurement  
101 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, ON, K1A 0K2  
Telephone: 819-939-4559  
E-mail: [aaron.brown@forces.gc.ca](mailto:aaron.brown@forces.gc.ca)