

## **RFI-ACT-SACT-21-53**

**Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation  
Norfolk Virginia**



## **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RFI-ACT-SACT-21-53**

This document contains a Request for Information (RFI) Call for Industry input to NATO's Future and Next Generation Maritime Command & Control Capabilities.

Suppliers wishing to respond to this RFI should read this document carefully and follow the guidance for responding.

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HQ Supreme Allied Commander Transformation RFI General Information	
Request For Information	No. 21-53
Project Title	Request for industry input to NATO's Future and Next Generation Maritime Command & Control Capabilities
Due date for submission of requested information	17 May 2021
Contracting Office Address	NATO, HQ Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT) Purchasing & Contracting Suite 100 7857 Blandy Rd, Norfolk, VA, 23511-2490
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### 1. INTRODUCTION

**1.1 Summary.** Headquarters Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (HQ SACT) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) in order to engage with industry. The intention is to establish the art of the possible and the state of the art with respect to technologies and products in the area of NATO Maritime Operations Command and Control in order to support NATO Governance decision-making on Common Funded Capability Development.

1.2 This RFI does not constitute a commitment to issue a future Request for Proposal (RFP). The purpose of this request is to involve industry through collaboration, in an examination of future capabilities related to the Maritime Command and Control (C2) with the focus on technologies and commercial products. HQ SACT has not made a commitment to procure any of the items described herein, and release of this RFI shall not be construed as such a commitment, nor as an authorization to incur cost for which reimbursement will be required or sought. Further, respondents are advised that HQ SACT will not pay for any information or administrative costs incurred in responding to this RFI. The costs for responding to this RFI should be borne solely by the responding party. Not responding to this RFI does not preclude participation in any subsequent RFP if issued in the future.

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### **2. GENERAL BACKGROUND: ACT Framework for Collaborative Interaction (FFCI)**

2.1 ACT has implemented a Framework for Collaborative Interaction (FFCI) to increase opportunities for industry and academia to contribute to ACT capability development efforts through collaborative work. Such collaboration enables HQ SACT, and NATO as a whole, to benefit from industry/academia models, advice, capabilities and experience in the course of this work. In addition to the benefits HQ SACT gains from such projects, this collaborative effort will provide industry / academia with an improved understanding of NATO's capability requirements and the associated issues and development challenges to be addressed by HQ SACT. Potential collaborative projects are on specific topics that are of mutual interest to both parties but shall be restricted to collaborations in non-procurement areas. Several mechanisms have been already developed to support the initiation of collaborative projects between industry/academia and ACT ranging from informal information exchanges, workshops, studies or more extensive collaboration on research and experimentation.

2.2 Depending on the level and type of interaction needed for collaborative project, a specific agreement may be needed between parties. The FFCI agreement for any specific project, if required by either party for the project to proceed, will range from "Non-disclosure Agreements" (NDA) for projects involving exchange of specific information to more extensive "Declaration of Mutual Collaboration" (DOMC) to address intellectual property and other issues.

2.3 More extensive information on the ACT FFCI initiative can be found on the ACT web site being developed to support FFCI projects at <http://www.act.nato.int/ffci>

2.4 No FFCI agreements is required to respond to this RFI.

### **3. DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROGRAMME**

#### **3.1 Programme Background and Scope**

3.1.1 TRITON is the name given to all implementation activities associated with the delivery of services in support of Maritime Command and Control. NATO initiated the procurement under the Project TRITON Increment 1. The scope of this Project was to develop Maritime Functional Services to provide enhanced maritime situational awareness (MSA), to include maritime data sources and acquisition and to provide a set of maritime operational planning, coordination and execution tools. TRITON Increment 1 was built to replace the aging Maritime Command and Control Information System (MCCIS) functionality for operational level Maritime Command and Control and MSA Prototype (MSA BRITE) systems.

The initial plan was for two more Increments in the future that would provide Maritime C2 services in other Maritime Warfare areas (Mine warfare, amphibious warfare, and Anti-submarine warfare) and moreover to enhance operational planning and information exchange with other national and NATO C2 Systems.

Hence, the second part of Maritime C2, named "TRITON Phase 2" under the Common

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Funded Capability Delivery Governance Model (CFCDGM) will be deployed as a new release on top of TRITON Increment 1 at the same locations. Deployable kits will also be installed with the new capability.

The TRITON Phase 2 role is to deliver additional capabilities to support the remaining Maritime C2 processes and activities. The overarching capabilities to be delivered are given as follow:

- Maritime Operational Planning and Execution services to support NATO Commands.
- Naval Mine Warfare Planning, Execution and Evaluation.
- Information exchange with additional NATO systems or services.

3.1.2 NATO's Maritime C2 TRITON Phase 2 capability will mainly support the NATO Command and Force Structure. The effects and benefits are identified as:

- Support NATO planning process by providing tools and capabilities to prepare maritime operation plans, communication plans, operational and tasking orders.
- Support planning Naval Mine Warfare operations, including Mining and Mine Countermeasures Operations.
- Providing Command and Control during the execution of Naval Mine Warfare operations.
- Support Naval Mine Warfare operational planning, risk assessment, threat evaluation.
- Support Maritime Air Operations, Maritime Search and Rescue, Targeting, logistics and support.
- Managing Order of Battle, Rules of Engagement (RoE).
- Support operational execution by efficiency sharing tasking orders with maritime assets, preparing/collecting reports and monitoring ongoing operations.
- Support assessment of maritime operations with measures of effectiveness.
- Providing improved situational awareness by collaborating with other functional services and incorporating other available NATO and non-NATO data sources.
- Sharing and exchanging of information and assessments within the joint force, including with other components and national commands.

3.1.3 The NATO Maritime C2 TRITON Phase 2 programme is currently at the stage to develop a consolidated, comprehensive programme plan that will deliver a required capability as has been detailed in Operational Requirements in CP 9C0107 Addendum 1 (18 March 2018). This plan will direct the necessary actions across the NATO recognised lines of development including **D**octrine, **O**rganisation, **T**raining, **M**aterial, **L**eadership, **P**ersonnel, **F**acilities and **I**nteroperability (DOTMLPFI). This is NATO's Capability Programme Planning (CPP) stage within the new Governance Model, CFCDGM, which is necessary for the next decision point on the establishment of a program to deliver capabilities and to drive the transformational change.

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3.1.4 Amongst other aims, the CPP is intended to determine alternatives through an analytical comparison of the operational effectiveness and life cycle costs of different alternatives under consideration to satisfy the requirements. The Analysis of Alternatives (AoA) also includes consideration of the possibility of “Adopt”-ing a solution (from Nations), “Buy”-ing (acquiring a solution from Industry), or “Create”-ing (developing a solution bespoke to NATO). The AoA assist decision makers to identify alternatives that offer the Alliance value for money.

3.1.5 To achieve the aims of the CPP, a Request for Information process is necessary to determine relevant technologies and products existing within commercial market (as part of the consideration of “Buy”). This request is intended to identify prospective (sub-) systems or products, for which the team may need to conduct additional in-depth discussions. This is not a formal request for submissions as part of a procurement; it is intended to conduct an additional in-depth survey to determine possible systems or products, which should be identified in the development of the CPP.

**3.2 Intent/Objectives.** To support the transformational change of how Maritime C2 will be doing business in the future and be deployed as a new release on top of Increment 1, a CPP needs a robust AoA across the Adopt, Buy, and Create options. This RFI is intended to provide industry an opportunity to provide information that would allow NATO to determine potential benefits they might receive from a product or service.

**3.3 Expected benefits to respondents** Industry participants will have the chance to expose NATO Maritime C2 operators and subject matter experts to state of the art technologies and products.

**3.4 Expected input from industry/academia.**

Expected input to this RFI is industry perspective on relevant current and future technologies and products.

## **4 - REQUESTED INFORMATION**

### **4.1 Intent**

The information collected with this survey (please see enclosed excel spreadsheet) will be used in support of the AoA for Maritime C2 conducted by HQ SACT's Analysis of Alternatives Branch.

Industry offering potential solutions for Maritime C2 could be invited to participate in a virtual workshop to be held in June to further understand the solution(s) offered.

**4.2 Answers to the RFI.** The answer to this RFI may be submitted by e-mail to the Points of Contact listed above.

### **4.3 Follow-on.**

4.3.1 The data collected in response to this RFI will be used to develop a report to inform the Maritime C2 Capability Programme. Data collected will be used to provide

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an assessment to support a decision as to whether NATO should pursue an Adopt, Buy, or Create approach to Maritime C2 TRITON Phase 2.

4.3.2 Provision of data, or lack of, will not prejudice any respondent in the event that there is a competitive bidding process later as part of NATO Common-Funded Capability Development.

**4.4 Handling of Proprietary information.** Proprietary information, if any, should be minimized and clearly marked as such. HQ SACT will treat proprietary information with the same due care as the command treats its own proprietary information, and will exercise due caution to prevent its unauthorized disclosure. Please be advised, all submissions become HQ SACT property and will not be returned.

**4.5 Questions.** To enhance understanding of NATO needs, HQ SACT will conduct a GoToWebinar collaborative question and answer (Q&A) session with NATO subject matter representatives on 27 April. Please submit questions via email to the technical points of contact by 26 April. Further questions can be submitted during the webinar and will be addressed if there is time. The webinar will be recorded, and the recordings will be released on the HQ SACT P&C website at: [www.act.nato.int/contracting](http://www.act.nato.int/contracting) on 30 April and will be openly visible to all. Details for registration are below:

• 27 April, 0900-1030 EST | 1400-1530 GMT | 1500-1630 CET.

Registration URL: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/9007849479499091211>

Please register for the event by 26 April.

**4.6 Response Date.** 17 May 2021

**4.7 Response Format.** Please use the MS Excel format response template for your submission.

**4.8 Summary.** This is a RFI only. The purpose of this RFI is to involve industry/academia, through collaboration, in an examination of capabilities related to the Maritime Command and Control with a focus on the technologies and commercial products. HQ SACT has not made a commitment to procure any of the items described herein, and release of this RFI shall not be construed as such a commitment, nor as authorization to incur cost for which reimbursement will be required or sought. It is emphasised that this is a RFI, and not a RFP of any kind.

### **Tonya Bonilla**

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