

NCIA/ACQ/2022/ 06932

21 June 2022

Notification of Intent to Invite Bids

**Provision of Software Development Support to Project
"ITC Upgrade 2022"**

IFB-CO-115715-ITC

Estimated Value: 100,000 EUR + 1,000.000 for five optional years

Period of Performance: 2022-2027

Base period + 5 option years

The Integrated Training Capability (ITC) is NATO's standard training system for the Combined Air Operations Centres (CAOCs). ITC supports training of the NATO air command and control process on NATO Air C2 systems. The currently most used NATO Air C2 System is ICC. ITC can also stimulate the other NATO Air C2 System in use, NEC CCIS. The NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency) in The Hague supports the complete software lifecycle of ITC. NATO continues the development of ITC with a yearly maintenance release that remains synchronized with the planned operational version of ICC.

The purpose of this contract is to develop the modelling and behaviour capabilities within FLAMES and ITC.

The formal Invitation for Bid (IFB) is planned to be issued in **July 2022** with a Bid Closing Date in **September 2022**. The Contract Award is envisaged to be concluded not later than **October 2022**.

NCI Agency Point of Contact (POC):

Principal Contracting Officer: Mr Jean Luc Guellec

Action Officers: Ms Emira Kapetanovic

E-mail: Emira.Kapetanovic@ncia.nato.int

To : Distribution List

Subject : Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for the Provision Software Development Support to Project "ITC Upgrade 2022"
IFB-CO-115715-ITC

References : A. AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition)
B. Budget Committee Budget Procurement Guidance, document BC-D(2018)0004-FINAL dated 29 January 2018
C. NCIO Financial Rules and Procedures, document AC/337-D(2016)0014 dated 16 March 2016

1. In accordance with References A-C, notice is hereby given of the intent of the NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency), acting as a Host Nation responsible of implementing the subject requirement, to issue an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for provision of Software Development Support to Project "ITC Upgrade 2022". This contract will develop the modelling and behaviour capabilities within FLAMES and ITC.
2. A high-level summary of the technical requirements of the Invitation for Bid is set forth in Annex A, attached to this letter. The NCI Agency is refining the requirements and will include more details in the Invitation for Bid.
3. The reference for the Invitation for Bid is **IFB-CO-115715-ITC**, and all correspondence concerning the IFB should reference this number.
4. For the purpose of planning, the estimated annual cost for the services and deliverables included within the scope of the intended service provision contract is EUR 200,000 yearly, for five (5) years of the contract period of performance following the base period. The NCI Agency reserves the right to amend the envisaged base contract duration throughout the IFB stage, as may be directed by the Budget Committee.
5. The estimated cost for the services and deliverables included within the basic scope of the intended contract including each option when exercised is EUR 1,100,000.
6. For source selection, the NCI Agency will use the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures, with Lowest Priced Technically Compliant Bid evaluation methodology, governed by NATO Financial Rules and Procedures.
7. The Contract resulting from the IFB will be a single Firm Fixed Price (FFP) Contract. The NCI Agency intends to place a single Contract with one Contractor. No partial bidding will be accepted.
8. The formal IFB is planned to be issued by the end of July 2021, with a Bid Closing Date **not later than 02 September 2022, which is 35 days from the Bid Closing Date**. The Contract Award is expected not later than October 2022.
9. Contract Award is subject to BC authorization and funding priority and availability as determined by the NATO Budget Committee.

10. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of six (6) months from closing date for receipt of bids
11. Firms that wish to participate in this procurement must be nominated to the NCI Agency through their national delegation to NATO and such nomination must be accompanied by a “**Declaration of Eligibility**” (DoE) and certification of their security clearances executed by their national authorities.
12. National Responsible Authorities are kindly requested that the NCI Agency be provided with Declarations of Eligibility, **not later than 26 July 2022, which is 35 days from the date of this letter.** of qualified and certified companies, which may be interested may be interested in receiving an Invitation for Bid for this project.
13. The Declarations of Eligibility should include the following information for each of the nominated companies:
 - a) Official company name and address that would be included on a contract,
 - b) The mailing address, if different from the corporate address above,
 - c) Company point of contact, telephone number and e-mail address.
14. This information is critical to enable prompt and accurate communication with prospective bidders and should be sent to the following point of contact:
15. Delegations are requested to provide the prospective bidders list to the NCI Agency Point of Contact (POC) at the following address:

NATO Communications and Information Agency
Acquisition Directorate
Attention: Ms Emira Kapetanovic, Principal Contracting Assistant
E-mail: Emira.Kapetanovic@ncia.nato.int
16. Please note that requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual companies cannot be considered.
17. The participating National Authorities are advised that the IFB package will only contain “NATO UNCLASSIFIED” material.
18. Your assistance in this procurement is greatly appreciated.

FOR THE CHIEF OF ACQUISITION:

Ms Emira Kapetanovic
Principal Contracting Assistant

Enclosures:

Annex A (Summary of Requirements)

Annex B (Distribution List for Notification of Intent (NOI) to Invite Bids)

ANNEX A
Summary of Requirements
IFB-CO-115715-ITC

1. Introduction

The Integrated Training Capability (ITC) supports training of the NATO Air Command and Control process on NATO Air C2 systems. The currently most used NATO Air C2 System is NATO-wide Integrated Command and Control Software for Air Operations (ICC). ICC provides functional support for the most critical Air Command and Control functions at the Combined Air Operation Centre (CAOC) level, such as Planning and Tasking, Air Task Order generation, Current Offensive and Defensive Operations and Recognized Air Picture Display. In addition, ICC supports the dissemination of orders, reports and imagery between the CAOC and the Headquarters above and below the CAOC. ITC can also stimulate the other NATO Air C2 System in use NEC CCIS. The simulation suite for ITC utilizes the Flexible Analysis Modelling and Exercise System (FLAMES™) simulation framework by Ternion Corporation, Huntsville, Alabama, US. The consultancy required by this Notification of Intent (NOI) will support the development of a modularized version of ITC that is compatible with ICC version 3.5.0.

The NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCI Agency) in The Hague supports the complete software lifecycle of ITC. NATO continues the development of ITC with a yearly maintenance release that remains synchronized with the planned operational version of ICC.

2. Description of Service – Background

Since its first use in Exercise Current Opus 2003 the steady development of the ITC methodology and software has resulted in a capable and reliable product that is now proving a valuable and popular air Computer Aided eXercise (CAX) model.

As part of the annual maintenance for ITC version enhancements to ITC 1.5.0 are planned. These enhancements will improve the simulation behaviour in a federated environment.

3. Requirements

Software development on ITC is divided between NCI Agency and a third party. In general terms, the NCI Agency is responsible for development of the user interface and the interface to the ICC database while a third party is responsible for model behaviours and core simulation functionality.

The consultant(s) will work under NCI Agency contract, solely at the third party's location.

This software development support must be accomplished by a qualified development team where each team member has FLAMES experience with the majority having FLAMES development experience. ITC Model development experience is an advantage. If a member of the development team leaves during the contract period, a new developer who has the required qualifications and is deemed acceptable by NCI Agency shall replace him or her. Normal NCI Agency Key Personnel Terms and Conditions apply.

A monthly status summary and list of planned activities for the upcoming month must be forwarded on the first of each calendar month the work is in progress. All models and software changes agreed to by NCI Agency will be built using the FLAMES simulation framework and included in the standard ITC model libraries delivered to NCI Agency via electronic means for testing.

This contract requires the contractor to provide documentation defining all model functions, capabilities and parameters entered into the ITC system and sources. On-line documentation and/or electronic versions are acceptable. Model versions for designated equipment and entities will be Unclassified. All models will be delivered in a functional state as part of a complete ITC release. All efforts will be performed in coordination with related NCI Agency ITC modelling efforts and previously defined work orders. The precise sharing of work and responsibilities and a precise listing of included models will be agreed upon following the objective definition teleconference.

Development with external third parties will use the NATO Software Factory (NSF), an Azure based distributed development environment

An integration and testing event shall be held at the third party's premises in November or December 2022.

4. Performance Period

The period of performance for this work is from the date of contract award until end December 2022. Further, optional period may be exercised by the NCI Agency at its sole discretion.

ANNEX B
Distribution List for Notification of Intent (NOI) to Invite Bids
IFB-CO-115715-ITC

NATO Delegations (Attn: Infrastructure Adviser):

Albania
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Iceland
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Montenegro
The Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States

Belgium Ministry of Economic Affairs

NATO HQ

NATO Office of Resources, Management and Implementation Branch Attn:
Deputy Branch Chief

Director, NATO HQ C3 Staff, Attn: Executive Co-ordinator
SACTREPEUR, Attn: Infrastructure Assistant

Strategic Commands

HQ SACT Attn: R&D Contracting Office
ACO Liaison Office

Embassies in Brussels (Attn: Commercial Attaché):

Albania
Belgium
Bulgaria
Canada
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Estonia
France
Germany
Greece
Hungary
Italy
Latvia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
Montenegro
The Netherlands
North Macedonia
Norway
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Slovakia
Slovenia
Spain
Turkey
United Kingdom
United States

NCI Agency – All NATEXs

NCI Agency – Internal