

**UK-Bristol: technical inspection and testing services**

OJ S 58/2012 23/03/2012

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2009/81/EC

**Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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**I.1. Name and addresses**

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic &amp; Batteries Project Team, DE&amp;S

Postal address: Elm 3c #4326, MoD Abbey Wood

Town: Bristol

Postal code: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Comrcl3

E-mail: [desleicg-lwpb-comrcl3@mod.uk](mailto:desleicg-lwpb-comrcl3@mod.uk)

Telephone: +44 3067932019

**Additional information can be obtained from:**

the abovementioned address

**Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from:**

the abovementioned address

**Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted:** the abovementioned address**I.2. Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

**I.3. Main activity**

Defence

**I.4. Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities**

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no

**Section II: Object of the contract**

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**II.1. Description****II.1.1. Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority**

Light Weapons Safety and Suitability for Service Trials Framework (LWS3TF).

**II.1.2. Type of contract and place of performance or delivery**

Services

Service category No 3: Defence services, military defence services and civil defence services

**II.1.3. Information about framework agreement**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

**II.1.4. Information about framework agreement**

Framework agreement with several operators

Maximum number Envisaged maximum number of participants to the framework agreement

: 4

## **Duration of the framework agreement**

Duration in years: 4

## **Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement**

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 2 000 000 and 4 000 000 GBP

### **II.1.5. Short description of the contract or purchase(s)**

Technical inspection and testing services. Weapons, ammunition and associated parts. A multi-supplier Framework Agreement for the conduct of Safety and Suitability Trials for light weapons.

### **II.1.6. CPV code(s)**

71630000 Technical inspection and testing services, 35300000 Weapons, ammunition and associated parts

### **II.1.7. Information about subcontracting**

The tenderer has to indicate in the tender any share of the contract it may intend to subcontract to third parties and any proposed subcontractor, as well as the subject-matter of the subcontracts for which they are proposed

### **II.1.8. Lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

### **II.1.9. Information about variants**

## **II.2. Scope of the procurement**

### **II.2.1. Total quantity or scope**

The Light Weapons, Photographic and Batteries Delivery Team (LWPB) of the UK Ministry of Defence (UK MOD) wishes to establish a multi-supplier framework agreement for the conduct of Safety and Suitability for Service Trials (S3T) for light weapons.

In UK MOD, "light weapons" includes pistols, carbines, sub-machine guns, automatic and bolt-action rifles, shotguns, machine guns, grenade launchers, mortars up to 81mm calibre, pyrotechnic and less lethal weapons. The work of LWPB also includes ancillary items such as day sights, tactical accessories, weapon mounts, etc associated with light weapons.

All such weapons proposed for use with UK MOD must pass S3T before they can be fielded. The majority of S3T are conducted on candidate new to service weapons, with multiple weapon models being tested in parallel. In these cases, S3T form part of the solution selection process. S3T may also be required where there is a change to a build standard of an existing weapon, or when a new ancillary such as a bayonet or safe blank firing attachment is to be added to a weapon. S3T are derived from DEF STAN 07-85, which may be downloaded from the Defence Standards website at <http://www.dstan.mod.uk/> (free registration is required).

When S3T are required, the MOD Defence Ordnance Safety Group (DOSG) will produce a bespoke trials plan. Typical examples of trials activities include (but are not limited to): strength of design assessment; hot and cold climate soaks and diurnal cycling; vibration testing; drop testing; contamination testing; blocked barrel tests; water, mud, salt fog, sand and dust tests. Live firing is required as part of some of these tests. Endurance firing trials are also normally required, with various intermediate tests and examinations at the number of rounds predicted to represent the quarter, half, three quarters and full life of the weapon(s) being tested.

It is intended that a framework structure will be established for the provision of the S3 trials. No more than 4 companies shall be invited to join this framework. There is no guarantee of any

work through the framework, and once established through this competitive process no new suppliers will be able to join it.

When an S3 trial is required, sub-tenders will be sought from framework suppliers. The most economically advantageous sub-tender in terms of cost and technical compliance shall be selected to perform the trial. Where a single provider is incapable of performing all of the trial (in terms of technical capability, time or cost) a trial may be split across several framework suppliers.

The process of deciding which suppliers will be offered framework contracts shall be as follows:

(1) Expressions Of Interest (EOI) are invited from all suppliers who believe they can offer the capability to meet this requirement. EOI must be accompanied by evidence of UKAS or recognised equivalent accreditation to ISO 9001:2000, with a scope appropriate to the requirement as described. Failure to provide this evidence will lead to a candidate supplier not being invited to Pre-Qualify or Tender.

(2) It is envisaged that not more than 8 companies will be invited to tender. A Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) exercise may be undertaken following receipt of EOI in order to establish the candidate suppliers who demonstrate the necessary confidence in their competence, capability and capacity to be invited to tender.

(3) Candidate suppliers who are invited to tender will be required to provide information such as their charging and overhead rates and the specific trials activities and facilities they will be able to provide. As part of the evaluation, tenderers will be required to analyse a number of representative trials scenarios based on typical S3T requirements, detailing the approach they would take to conduct these trials. The assessment of tender responses will be based upon the most economically advantageous tenders in terms of cost and technical capability. It is intended that up to 4 tenderers who have been found suitable will be offered a contract to become a framework supplier.

Before expressing an interest, interested parties should be aware of the following key eligibility criteria. These will be formally assessed, along with other factors, at PQQ and tender evaluation but are included here to enable companies to decide if they should express an interest.

(a) Candidate suppliers must already hold, or clearly show how they will take the necessary steps to achieve, a UK Home Office licence to hold prohibited weapons covered by Section 5 of the Firearms Act.

(b) Many of the products that require S3T originate from the United States of America and are therefore subject to the US Government's International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR). All weapons originating outside the UK will be subject to End User undertakings to the government of the originating country. Because of the legally-binding procedural and other constraints imposed by these regulations and undertakings, and the general difficulty of shipping weapons across national borders, UK MOD S3T can only be conducted in the UK. S3T can also only be carried out by British Nationals who do not hold dual citizenship with another country.

(c) While this does not prevent companies that are owned and/or who operate outside the UK bidding for this S3T framework requirement, overseas companies will be required to clearly show how they will only utilise UK facilities and UK Nationals in their performance of the work required.

(d) Bidders who propose the use of non-UK facilities and/or non-UK nationals will therefore be ineligible to be invited to tender or to be awarded a framework contract.

The Contracting Authority intends to allow other UK public sector bodies to utilise the LWS3TF. The Invitation to Tender and any resulting contract(s) will therefore facilitate any of the following bodies and by their statutory successors and organisations created as a result of legal or organisational changes to run sub-competitions and demand trials under this

#### Framework Agreement:

- The Metropolitan Police Authority and Service as established under s5B of the Police Act 1996;
- A Police Authority or Force established under s3 of the Police Act 1996;
- A Police Authority or Force established under s2 of the Police (Scotland) Act 1967;
- The Northern Ireland Policing Board and Police Service of Northern Ireland.
- The British Transport Police as established under s18 of the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003.
- Future Police Commissioners;
- Future Police and Crime Panels;
- The Civil Nuclear Constabulary and Police Authority as established under the Energy Act 2004;
- The Ministry of Defence Police and Police Committee as established under the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987;
- Cyprus Sovereign Base Areas Police and Gibraltar Defence Police;
- The Home Office (and the Centre for Applied Science and Technology), including its Agencies;
- The National Policing Improvement Agency;
- The Serious Organised Crime Agency;
- The future National Crime Agency;
- The Foreign and Commonwealth Office;
- A Security or Intelligence Service as established and defined under the Security Service Act 1989 or the Intelligence Services Act 1994;
- Police Forces of Crown Dependencies;
- Police and Military Forces of British Overseas Territories as defined in the British Overseas Territories Act 2002.

Potential suppliers who wish to express an interest in meeting this requirement must submit their Expressions of Interest in hard copy format to the address shown below not later than midday (12:00hrs GMT) on Thursday the 12.4.2012. Electronic submission may also be made in parallel to the e-mail address shown below by the same date.

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between 2 000 000 and 4 000 000 GBP

#### **II.2.2. Information about options**

Options: yes

Description of options: Options for additional +one (1) + one (1) + one (1) years up to a maximum total duration of seven (7) years as permitted by the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations.

#### **II.2.3. Information about renewals**

This contract is subject to renewal: no

#### **II.3. Duration of the contract or time limit for completion**

Duration in months: 48 (from the award of the contract)

### **Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

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#### **III.1. Conditions related to the contract**

##### **III.1.1. Deposits and guarantees required**

##### **III.1.2.**

**Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them**

**III.1.3. Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded**

**III.1.4. Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject, in particular with regard to security of supply and security of information**

**III.1.5. Information about security clearance**

**III.2. Conditions for participation**

**III.2.1. Personal situation**

**Criteria regarding the personal situation of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions: The Authority will apply all the offences listed in Article 39(1) of Directive 2009/81/EC (implemented as Regulation 23(1) of the Defence and Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 in the UK) and all of the professional misconducts listed at Article 39(2) of Directive 2009/81/EC (see also Regulation 23(2) in the DSPCR 2011) to the decision of whether a Candidate is eligible to be invited to tender.

A full list of the Regulation 23(1) and 23(2) criteria are at <http://project.contracts.mod.uk/businessExchange/project/reasonsForExclusion.html#dspr>.

Candidates will be required to sign a declaration confirming whether they do or do not have any of the listed criteria as part of the pre-qualification process.

Candidates who have been convicted of any of the offences under Article 39(1) are ineligible and will not be selected to bid, unless there are overriding requirements in the general interest (including defence and security factors) for doing so.

Candidates who are guilty of any of the offences, circumstances or misconduct under Article 39 (2) may be excluded from being selected to bid at the discretion of the Authority.

**III.2.2. Economic and financial ability**

**III.2.3. Technical and/or professional capacity**

**III.2.4. Information about reserved contracts**

**III.3. Conditions specific to services contracts**

**III.3.1. Information about a particular profession**

**III.3.2. Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

## **Section IV: Procedure**

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**IV.1. Type of procedure**

**IV.1.1. Type of procedure**

Restricted

**IV.1.2. Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged minimum number 3 and Maximum number 8

**IV.1.3. Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue**

## **IV.2. Award criteria**

### **IV.2.1. Award criteria**

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

### **IV.2.2. Information about electronic auction**

An electronic auction has been used: no

## **IV.3. Administrative information**

### **IV.3.1. File reference number attributed by the contracting authority**

LWPB/00096

### **IV.3.2. Previous publication concerning this procedure**

no

### **IV.3.3. Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document**

### **IV.3.4. Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

27.4.2012 - 12:00

### **IV.3.5. Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

### **IV.3.6. Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English.

## **Section VI: Complementary information**

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### **VI.1. Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: no

### **VI.2. Information about European Union funds**

### **VI.3. Additional information**

Suppliers interested in working with the Ministry of Defence should register on the MOD Supplier Information Database (SID) Register, available at [www.contracts.mod.uk](http://www.contracts.mod.uk). The MOD SID is a database of active and potential suppliers available to all MOD and UK Defence procurement personnel, and is the main supplier database of MOD Procurement organisations. Please note: the registration and publication of a company profile on the MOD SID does not mean or imply that the supplier has in any way been vetted or approved by the MOD. Suppliers wishing to compete for advertised MOD contracts must respond to any specific call for competition by submitting a separate expression of interest in accordance with the instructions of the purchasing organisation.

Advertising Regime OJEU:- This contract opportunity is published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), the MoD Defence Contracts Bulletin and [www.contracts.mod.uk](http://www.contracts.mod.uk) GO Reference: GO-2012320-DCB-3797193.

### **VI.4. Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1. Review body**

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic & Batteries Project Team, DE&S

Country: United Kingdom

**VI.4.2. Review procedure**

**VI.4.3. Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

**VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice**

20.3.2012