

United Kingdom-Bristol: Immersion suits

OJ S 169/2013 31/08/2013

Contract notice

Supplies

Directive 2004/18/EC

## Section I: Contracting authority

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### I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Air Commodities (AC), DE&S

Postal address: Walnut 1a, #1128, MOD Abbey Wood

Town: Bristol

Postal code: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

For the attention of: Mavis Page

E-mail: [desas-accomm4@mod.uk](mailto:desas-accomm4@mod.uk)

Telephone: +44 3067982914

**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

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

The Supply of Immersion Protection Garments.

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

Supplies

Purchase

NUTS code UK United Kingdom

#### II.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

#### II.1.4. Information about framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

**Duration of the framework agreement**

Duration in years: 4

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

Immersion suits. Immersion Suits. There is a requirement for a framework agreement for the supply of 3 types (plus 2 variants) of Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS), fire retardant, Immersion Protection Garments for use by Aircrew and passengers.

Companies expressing an interest are requested to complete the pre-qualification questions in section iii (legal, economic, financial and technical information) as part of your Expression of Interest submission, whilst noting the scoring matrix at section iv (procedure).

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

37412243 Immersion suits

**II.1.7. Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

**II.1.8. Lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

**II.1.9. Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: no

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

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

There is a requirement for the Supply of Immersion Protection Garments (IPG). It is proposed to satisfy this requirement via the purchase of 3 types of Immersion Suit, plus 2 variants and the option of an immersion suit liner, from a Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) design which has been EASA/CAA certified, or an internationally recognised equivalent. The contract will be issued based initially on supply of items for trials purposes with an option for a 4 year framework agreement to be enacted upon successful completion of safety assessments (e.g. burns trial, underwater escape, aircraft integration) and user performance trials, to be detailed in Invitation To Tender.

Although no guarantee can be given as to the quantities required during the framework period it is estimated that approximately 6 000 garments will be required.

An immersion garment protects the body from the neck downwards, including the feet.

The following garments are required:

1) An Aircrew IPG for Fixed Wing (FW), Fast Jet (FJ) and Rotary Wing (RW) aircrew, manufactured in one style, with 2 variants (A & B). A fire retardant, sage green coloured garment that has evidence to support successful air blast testing.

1A) With thigh and lower leg pockets fitted.

1B) Without pockets (predominantly FJ use), but with the capability to have lower leg pockets fitted if required, by service personnel at unit level.

2) Search and Rescue (SAR) Winchman IPG. Fire retardant, orange coloured with reinforced panels to protect high wear areas and suitable pockets to meet the bespoke requirements of the military SAR Winchman role.

3) Passenger IPG, manufactured to a single design but in 2 different colours (A&B). This IPG must be able to be donned quickly over existing clothing when required; it must include integral hood, mitts and overboots. There is no requirement for this garment to be FR however an Option for an FR version FR version may be considered if deemed best value for money in accordance with the stated marking criteria.

3A) A highly conspicuous colour.

3B) A non conspicuous colour (eg Sage green)

4) An Option for an immersion suit liner appropriate for wear with item 1, 2 and 3 that integrates with the unisex urination facility.

The Aircrew and SAR immersion garments will be worn for long periods and therefore need to be both durable and comfortable. They will be fire retardant and manufactured from a waterproof, anti-static tri-laminate material with waterproof seams. They must be fitted with waterproof slide fasteners, neoprene neck and wrist seals, unisex urination facility and immersion socks, which need not be FR. The neoprene seals and sliding fasteners must be covered to offer protection from flash fire and if applicable, damage from the effects of ejection from the aircraft. A full specification will be issued along with the tender documentation. Commonality of spares between different types of immersion garments is highly desirable. Component spares should be replaceable by in-service maintenance personnel using stitch and heat-applied tape procedures. The IPG's must be repairable using hot-melt, heat-applied patches and seam seal tapes.

The size range required shall provide a fully satisfactory fit for all wearers whose significant body dimensions range from the 5th percentile female to the 95th percentile male and adequate for most of the 5 % at each extreme (EASA ETSO-2C503). The successful company shall additionally be responsible for the measurement and manufacture of Made-to-Measure garments for personnel not achieving a satisfactory fit within the standard size range. Suppliers will be required to provide samples for Technical examination along with all supporting safety evidence, reports and type approval certificates (EASA/CAA/International Standard certification) for initial tender evaluation and safety assessment. The supplier will provide 1 sample, to meet the 50th percentile aircrew, of each IPG variant (5 samples in total) and 1 immersion suit liner, free of charge. An additional number (to be detailed in the Tender Documentation) may be purchased by the Authority at the price offered to support this stage. Following successful completion of the initial tender evaluation and safety assessment the supplier will then be required to conduct a burn trial (3 burns of item 1 and 3 burns of item 2) on an instrumented mannequin to ISO13506:2008 standards to ensure FR properties are acceptable. Trials must be conducted at the BTTG testing and certification facility. Standard production garments are to be used as part of the ensemble and the AES PT will provide in-service aircrew underwear and relevant additional AEA ensemble free of charge. As part of the worn ensemble, the tests must meet the burn injury standards set out in the Burn Protection Standard For UK Military Aircrew (CAM/LR/AEIG/23/13) after a heat flux of 84 wK/m<sup>2</sup> with a exposure duration of 4 seconds. The AES PT must be invited to observe the tests and must be provided with a comprehensive test report. The burn trial and test report shall be at nil cost to the MOD.

Subject to the successful completion of the burn trial the Authority will purchase 20 IPG's (10 x item 1, 5 x item 2 & 5 x item 3) at the price offered, for use in a user evaluation trial. The contractor will be required to support the trials (overseen by the AES PT and supporting Subject Matter Experts). Once concluded, the contractor will provide a comprehensive report incorporating trial reports and all relevant safety evidence, upon which the Safety Case Report will be based. This will be at no cost to MoD.

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

Options: yes

Description of options: As detailed in section II.2.1 - The contract will be issued with a 4 year framework agreement option to be initiated upon successful completion of user burn trials.

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

## **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. Contract performance conditions**

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: no

### **III.2. Conditions for participation**

#### **III.2.1. Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions: As part of your expression of interest please include and answer the following:

For Non UK businesses only:

Section 1: Registration with professional body

Is your business registered with the appropriate trade or professional register(s) in the EU member state where it is established (as set out in Annexes IX A-C of Directive 2004/18/EC) under the conditions laid down by that member state).

Is it a legal requirement in the State where you are established for you to be licensed or a member of a relevant organisation in order to provide the requirement in this procurement? If yes, please provide details of what is required and confirm that you have complied with this.

For UK and Non-UK businesses:

Section 2: Grounds for mandatory rejection

In some circumstances the Authority is required by law to exclude you from participating further in this procurement. If you answer 'yes' to any question in this section it is unlikely your application will be accepted. If you answer "yes", please set out (in a separate Annex) full details of the relevant conviction and any remedial action taken subsequently.

Has your organisation or any directors or partner or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control been convicted of any of the following offences?

(a) conspiracy within the meaning of section 1 of the Criminal Law Act 1977 where that conspiracy relates to participation in a criminal organisation as defined in Article 2(1) of Council Joint Action 98/733/JHA (as amended);

(b) corruption within the meaning of section 1 of the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act 1889 or section 1 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1906 (as amended);

(c) the offence of bribery;

(d) fraud, where the offence relates to fraud affecting the financial interests of the European Communities as defined by Article 1 of the Convention relating to the protection of the financial interests of the European Union, within the meaning of:

(i) the offence of cheating the Revenue;

(ii) the offence of conspiracy to defraud;

(iii) fraud or theft within the meaning of the Theft Act 1968 and the Theft Act 1978;

(iv) fraudulent trading within the meaning of section 458 of the Companies Act 1985 or section

993 of the Companies Act 2006;

(v) defrauding the Customs within the meaning of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 and the Value Added Tax Act 1994;

(vi) an offence in connection with taxation in the European Community within the meaning of section 71 of the Criminal Justice Act 1993; or

(vii) destroying, defacing or concealing of documents or procuring the extension of a valuable security within the meaning of section 20 of the Theft Act 1968;

(e) money laundering within the meaning of the Money Laundering Regulations 2003 or Money Laundering Regulations 2007; or

(f) any other offence within the meaning of Article 45(1) of Directive 2004/18/EC as defined by the national law of any relevant State.

### Section 3: Grounds for discretionary rejection

The Authority is entitled to exclude you from consideration if any of the following apply but may decide to allow you to proceed further. If you cannot answer 'no' to every question it is possible that your application might not be accepted. In the event that any of the following do apply, please set out (in a separate Annex) full details of the relevant incident and any remedial action taken subsequently. The information provided will be taken into account by the Authority in considering whether or not you will be able to proceed any further in respect of this procurement exercise.

Is any of the following true of your organisation?

(a) being an individual,

is bankrupt or has had a receiving order or administration order or bankruptcy restrictions order made against him or has made any composition or arrangement with or for the benefit of his creditors or has not made any conveyance or assignment for the benefit of his creditors or appears unable to pay or to have no reasonable prospect of being able to pay, a debt within the meaning of section 268 of the Insolvency Act 1986, or article 242 of the Insolvency (Northern Ireland) Order 1989, or in Scotland has granted a trust deed for creditors or become otherwise apparently insolvent, or is the subject of a petition presented for sequestration of his estate, or is the subject of any similar procedure under the law of any other state;

(b) being a partnership constituted under Scots law,

has granted a trust deed or become otherwise apparently insolvent, or is the subject of a petition presented for sequestration of its estate; or

(c) being a company or any other entity within the meaning of section 255 of the Enterprise Act 2002

has passed a resolution or is the subject of an order by the court for the company's winding up otherwise than for the purpose of bona fide reconstruction or amalgamation, or had a receiver, manager or administrator on behalf of a creditor appointed in respect of the company's business or any part thereof or is the subject of similar procedures under the law of any other state?

Has your organisation

(a) been convicted of a criminal offence relating to the conduct of your business or profession;

(b) committed an act of grave misconduct in the course of your business or profession;

(c) failed to fulfil obligations relating to the payment of social security contributions under the law of any part of the United Kingdom or of the relevant State in which you are established;

(d) failed to fulfil obligations relating to the payment of taxes under the law of any part of the United Kingdom or of the relevant State in which you are established; or

(e) been guilty of serious misrepresentation in providing any information required of you under Regulation 23 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006?

## III.2.2. Economic and financial ability

List and brief description of conditions: As part of your expression of interest please include and answer the following:

#### Section 1: Financial information

Where the Potential Provider is a consortium or association of suppliers, the financial information is required for each Potential Provider that is a member of the consortium or association. Where the Potential Provider is a subsidiary of a group, the financial information is required for both the subsidiary and the parent company.

Parent company and/or other guarantees of performance and financial standing may be required if considered appropriate by the Authority.

Please provide one of the following set out below:-

A copy of your audited accounts for the most recent two years

A statement of your turnover, profit & loss account and cash flow for the most recent year of trading

A statement of your cash flow forecast for the current year and a bank letter outlining the current cash and credit position

Alternative means of demonstrating financial status if trading for less than a year

#### Section 2: Insurance Information

Employer's liability insurance is a legal requirement (except for businesses employing only the owner / close family members) and this should be at least GBP 5 million. Please confirm that you have this in place.

### **III.2.3. Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of conditions:

As part of your expression of interest please include and answer the following:

Where the Potential Provider is a special purpose vehicle and/or not intending to be the main provider of the goods or services, the information requested should be provided in respect of the principal intended provider of the goods or services.

1. Experience and Contract Examples: Please provide details of up to three contracts from either or both the public or private sector, that are relevant to the Authority's requirement. Contracts for the supply of goods or services should have been performed during the past three years. Works contracts may be from the past five years. (The customer contact should be prepared to speak to the purchasing organisation to confirm the accuracy of the information provided below if we wish to contact them).

Customer Organisation (name):

Customer contact name:

Phone number:

Email:

Contract start date:

Contract completion date:

Contract Value:

Brief description of contract (max 150 words) including evidence as to your technical capability in this market:

If you cannot provide at least one example, please briefly explain why (100 words max):

2. Staffing. How many staff does your organisation (including consortia members or named sub-contractors where appropriate) employ relevant to the carrying out of services and/or delivery of goods similar to those required under this contract?

3. Technical Capability.

(i) In relation to the requirement, please provide a statement of the Technology Readiness Level (indicating maturity level) of the system you are proposing to provide, including full details to support the TRL status for each type of (Aircrew, SAR & Passenger). As a COTS

solution, the MOD expects the TRL should be 8 or 9.

(ii) If the equipment you are proposing to offer has not been developed by your company, please provide details of the Potential Provider each type of (Aircrew, SAR & Passenger) IPG and the country of origin. In addition, does your company have the ability to provide the MOD with the spares and Technical support to enable in-service maintenance and repair activities without reference back to the potential provider?

(iii) In relation to the requirement, please provide details of your manufacturing capacity (per month) and Production Lead Time (PLT) for each equipment type. Your answer should include detail of any limiting factors which may affect your manufacturing ability/capacity and comprehensive details of the Supply Chain Process (SCP), which justifies the estimated PLT.

(iv) In relation to the requirement, please detail your experience in the measurement and manufacture of 'Made To Measure' garments for personnel not achieving a satisfactory fit within the standard size range. Please also explain the process from receipt of order to confirmation of a satisfactory fitting garment.

(v) Please provide details of the Potential Provider's measures for ensuring quality in relation to the goods to be sold or hired or the services provided under the contract (such as any recognised quality management certification or quality management systems. If the Potential Provider does not have quality certification or a quality management system, please explain why.)

(vi) Please provide details of the process that your company employs in relation to Quality Control, investigation and resolution of faults, issues or proposed changes to your equipment and associated documentation.

#### **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 2: and Maximum number 5

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates: The Authority will require potential suppliers to be certified to ISO 9001:2008 (or acceptable alternative) via an approved accreditor, including Production, Design & Development.

Marking Criteria:

Questions at III.2.1 will be marked on a pass or fail basis in accordance with the following:  
Section 1 (if applicable) Potential providers must provide a response of "Yes" to obtain a pass.  
Section 2 Grounds for mandatory rejection – Potential providers must provide a response of "No" to each question to obtain a pass.

Section 3 Grounds for discretionary rejection - Potential providers must provide a response of "No" to each question to obtain a pass. (Unless it is deemed that the additional information submitted be acceptable to the Authority)

Questions at III.2.2 will be marked on a pass or fail basis in accordance with the following:

Section 1 Financial Information - Potential providers must provide at least 1 of the options listed for assessment by the authority. Failure to provide this will result in a fail. Accounts will then be subject to a risk based assessment looking at turnover, profitability, liquidity, capital structure and funding. They will then be rated accordingly as 'pass' 'proceed with caution' or 'fail'. Potential providers scored as fail will not be invited to tender.

Section 2 Insurance Information - Potential providers must provide a response of "Yes" to obtain a pass

Where tenderers satisfy these requirements their responses to questions in section III.2.3 will be scored as detailed below:

Each question will be given a weighting factor, determined by the relative importance to the Authority,

Question Number, weighting %

1:10 ; 2:NA ; 3(i):30 ; 3(ii):10 ; 3(iii):10 ; 3(iv):10 ; 3(v):20 ; 3(vi):10

Scoring Guidance: Score,assessment.

10, Strong, comprehensive and relevant answer to the question, fully supported with credible and relevant evidence.

5, Comprehensive and relevant answer to the question, partially supported by credible and relevant evidence

3, Satisfactory and relevant answer to the question but little evidence provided

0, Limited or irrelevant response with insufficient, irrelevant or unconvincing evidence

Note: The same evidence may be referenced for multiple responses, candidates are encouraged to submit a portfolio of evidence and reference this as appropriate throughout the PQQ.

#### **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 will be used: no

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

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

HJSURV/502

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

###### **Notice on a buyer profile**

Notice number in the OJ S: [2011/S 152-252758](#) of 10.8.2011

##### **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**

28.9.2013

##### **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.

#### **IV.3.7. Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

#### **IV.3.8. Conditions for opening of tenders**

### **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**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:  
no

#### **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-2013829-DCB-5075533

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

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

Official name: Air Commodities (AC), DE&S

Postal address: AES Commercial, Walnut 1a, #1128, MOD Abbey Wood

Town: Bristol

Postal code: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

E-mail: [desas-accomm4@mod.uk](mailto:desas-accomm4@mod.uk)

Telephone: +44 3067982914

##### **Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Official name: Air Commodities (AC), DE&S

Postal address: AES Commercial, Walnut 1a, #1128, MOD Abbey Wood

Town: Bristol

Postal code: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

E-mail: [desas-accomm4@mod.uk](mailto:desas-accomm4@mod.uk)

Telephone: +44 3067982914

##### **VI.4.2. Review procedure**

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

Official name: Air Commodities (AC), DE&S  
Postal address: AES Commercial, Walnut 1a, #1128, MOD Abbey Wood  
Town: Bristol  
Postal code: BS34 8JH  
Country: United Kingdom  
E-mail: [desas-accomm4@mod.uk](mailto:desas-accomm4@mod.uk)  
Telephone: +44 3067982914

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

29.8.2013