



**NATO UNCLASSIFIED**

NC3A-BE/ACQ/ASG/09/1060

31 Aug 2009

To: See Distribution List

Subject: **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for International Competitive Bidding to Provide Expert Visual Met (VISME) Capability for ISAF and KFOR – Amendment 2 IFB CO-12899-VISME**

To Whom It May Concern:

1. Attached is the amended Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for the International Competitive Bidding to Provide Expert Visual Met (VISME) Capability for ISAF and KFOR with the changes depicted in Point 2 of this letter incorporated.
2. The following changes have been made to the original document:
  - a. The term, "EUFOR" has been removed in its entirety from the body of the document.
  - b. Point 7, Summary Sentence has been revised to read: "The IFB is planned to be issued in September 2009 with a tentative Bid Closing Date in November 2009 and Contract Award in January 2010."
  - c. Point 10a, The anticipated issuing date for the Invitation of Bid has been revised to read September 2009.
  - d. Point 10b, The scheduled closing date for the bids has been revised to read November 2009.
  - e. Point 14, The date for national authorities to forward to NC3A a list of their nominated firms has been extended to September 18, 2009.
3. For any further information please contact the undersigned at +32(0)2 707 8328 or via email at [Rebecca.Benson@nc3a.nato.int](mailto:Rebecca.Benson@nc3a.nato.int).

FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER:

Cordially,

Rebecca Benson  
Senior Contracting Officer

Attachment: 1. Amended Notification of Intent for IFB CO-12899-VISME dated 31 August, 2009.



NC3A-BE/ACQ/ASG /09/1060  
 31 Aug 2009

To: See Distribution List

Subject: **Notification of Intent to Invite Bids for International Competitive Bidding to Provide Expert Visual Met (VISME) Capability for ISAF and KFOR – Amendment 2**

**IFB CO-12899-VISME**

- Reference:
- A. AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition)
  - B. AC/4-D/2261 (1996 Edition) – Annex “X”
  - C. AC/4-D(2008)0002-REV 1
  - D. AC/4-D(2007)0003
  - E. SHAPE ACO OPS 002
  - F. Project 2008/5VA30529-0
  - G. AC/4(PP)D/26499-Rev 1
  - H. AC/4-DS(2009)0015
  - I. NC3A-BE/ACQ/ASG /09/913, Original NOI dated 28 July 2009

1. In accordance with paragraph 6 of the document at Reference A, notice is hereby given of the intent of the NATO C3 Agency to invite bids for the project to provide expert Visual Met (VISME) Capability for ISAF and KFOR.
2. The project shall implement an expert meteorological visualization capability for NATO and national meteorological personnel using the NATO Secret (NS), Mission Secret (MS), NATO Unclassified (NU), and Internet network domains to support NATO Command Structure (NCS) activities ranging from Command and Control (C2) and Force Protection (FP) to the combined efforts of the NCS and Troop Contributing Nations (TCNs) to support airfield, ground, and maritime operations executed in ISAF and KFOR.
3. The purpose of the project is to provide a replacement of the obsolete NATO Automated Meteorological Information System (NAMIS). The system shall provide a bridging solution between NAMIS and the new REP capability to be delivered by CP 9C0107.
4. Unlike NAMIS, the replacement shall disseminate the data using NATO General Communication System (NGCS) within existing bandwidth constraints. The system shall adapt open standards to promote interoperability with national meteorological systems.

5. The new capability shall support the concept of centralised processing and distribution of meteorological information based on NATO Integrated Meteorological Coordination Centre (NIMCC), located at SHAPE, and regional distribution nodes located at HQ ISAF and HQ KFOR. This shall include web-based user access and provision of OGC compliant web services to other NATO systems.
6. An industrial partner, selected on the basis of Allied Operations and Missions (AOM) International Competitive Bidding (ICB) with Best Value bid evaluation, will be offered a contract covering the delivery and the adaptation of a COTS Meteorological Application (MA COTS).
7. The IFB is planned to be issued in September 2009 with a tentative Bid Closing Date in November 2009 and Contract Award in January 2010.
8. The project shall deliver an Initial Operational Capability (IOC) no later than 5 months after the Effective Date of Contract (EDC). The IOC shall include the installation of the central node at NIMCC and regional nodes at HQ ISAF and HQ KFOR. Then, the system shall be integrated with Incident Control and Reporting Utility System (ICARIS) system at NATO Airborne Early Warning (NAEW) and provided as a Training Mobile Kit and Reference System, in order to achieve the Full Operating Capability (FOC) within 12 months after the EDC.
9. A summary of the requirements of the project is set forth in the attachment hereto.
10. The following information is provided for the information of the Nations:
  - a. It is anticipated that the Invitation For Bid will be issued in September 2009.
  - b. The closing date for receipt of bids is scheduled for November 2009.
  - c. Bidders will be required to declare a bid validity of 12 months from closing date for receipt of bids, supported by a Bid Guarantee of EURO 100,000. Should the selection and award procedure exceed the 12-month estimate; firms will be requested to voluntarily extend the validity of their bids and Bid Guarantee accordingly. Bidders may decline to do so, withdraw their bid and excuse themselves from the bidding process without penalty.
  - d. National authorities are advised that the technical specifications applicable to the bidding and the contractual documents are "NATO UNCLASSIFIED". For the performance of the contract, bidders will be required to hold a "NATO SECRET" security clearance for personnel and the contractor's facility, which must be in place prior to contract award.
  - e. The envisaged method of bidding will be AOM International Competitive Bidding procedures. The evaluation of bids will be conducted in accordance with the Procedures and Practices for Conducting NSIP International Competitive Bidding Using Best Value Evaluation Methodology.

f. The top-level bid evaluation criteria with their associated weightings will be 0.5 for Price and 0.5 for Technical. The second level criteria for technical evaluation areas follow:

- Technical Approach Score – 50% weight factor;
- Supportability Score – 20% weight factor;
- Timelines Score – 20% weight factor;
- Management Score – 10% weight factor

g. All bids will be evaluated against the criteria described above in accordance with the prescription in Reference C. When the evaluation is completed the score for each bidder will be obtained through the weighted average of the stated evaluation factors by using the weights specified above and the following formula to obtain the weighted price score:

$$PS = 100 * [1 - (\text{Price of the Bid} / 2 \times \text{Average Bid Price})]$$

Where:

PS = Price Score

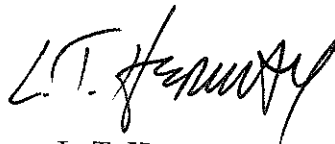
11. The estimated value of the resulting contract is approximately €2,797,148.00. Bidders are notified pursuant paragraph 12.5 of Reference C, the amounts of the bids submitted to the IFB shall not exceed the 125% of the authorized amount for the project as per Reference H.
12. The bid price shall consist of two elements:
  - a. The cost of providing the system which shall have a not to exceed cost dictated in point 11 of this letter and;
  - b. The cost of O&M which subsequently will form the basis for a support contract with the winning bidder.
13. The Invitation for Bid (IFB) to be issued for this acquisition will be identified as IFB-CO-12899-VISME. All correspondence concerning this solicitation should reference this number.
14. National authorities are requested to forward a list of their nominated firms, including phone and fax numbers, E-mail addresses and point of contact to the following address **not later than 18 September 2009:**

NATO C3 Agency  
 ACQ/ASG  
 Boulevard Leopold III  
 B-1110 Brussels  
 Belgium

Attn: Ms. Rebecca Benson, Senior Contracting Officer

15. Ms. Rebecca Benson is the Agency point of contact for this procurement and may be reached by email at [Rebecca.Benson@nc3a.nato.int](mailto:Rebecca.Benson@nc3a.nato.int) , phone +32-2-707-8328 or by FAX at +32-2-707-8271.
16. It is requested that interested firms be introduced by their National Authorities with the required "Declaration of Eligibility". It is emphasized that requests for participation in this competition received directly from individual firms cannot be considered.

FOR THE GENERAL MANAGER



L. T. Herway  
Chief of Contracts

**Attachment:**

- A. Summary of Requirements

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**NATO Agencies**

**NC3A**

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USA	1



**Provide Expert Visual Met (VISME) Capability for ISAF and KFOR****Summary of Requirements**

This summary lists only a selection of the requirements that will be provided in the IFB.

**1. Key Operational Requirements**

1. VISME capability shall be used by NATO and national meteorological personnel supporting operations in ISAF and KFOR theatres. This includes both staff deployed directly at the theatres and those who provide support from outside of the theatres.
2. Access to VISME shall be available for Troop Contribution Nations (TCNs), like it is with the current NAMIS system, for use at deployed national sites (i.e. Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), Multi-National Task Forces (MNTFs)) in support of operations.
3. VISME system nodes shall be deployed at the following NATO sites:
  - a. SHAPE, Mons, Belgium;
  - b. HQ ISAF Combined Joint Operations Centre (CJOC), Afghanistan;
  - c. HQ KFOR, Kosovo;
4. VISME capability shall be made available for web users in the following security domains and networks:
  - a. NATO Secret (NS)
  - b. ISAF Secret (IS)
  - c. KFOR Secret (KS)
  - d. NATO Unclassified (NU)
  - e. Internet
5. One set of VISME system shall be available for training purposes as a Mobile Training Kit.
6. One set of VISME system shall be available for second level support at NCSA HQ in Mons, BE.

**2. Functionality**

1. VISME system shall be capable of receiving, calculating, producing, and visualizing all meteorological information currently available to NATO and displayed currently using NAMIS software version 9.4.

2. Critical to delivering this new capability is a seamless transition of all existing Tactical Decision Aids (TDA's) developed for NATO and integrated into NAMIS.
3. The system shall be able to disseminate time-sensitive meteorological data to meteorological experts supporting operations by means of the NATO General Communication System (NGCS).
4. Shifting away from a "push the entire data base to every user" like NAMIS currently uses, to a "pull what is needed technology" shall be used to reduce strain on NGCS.

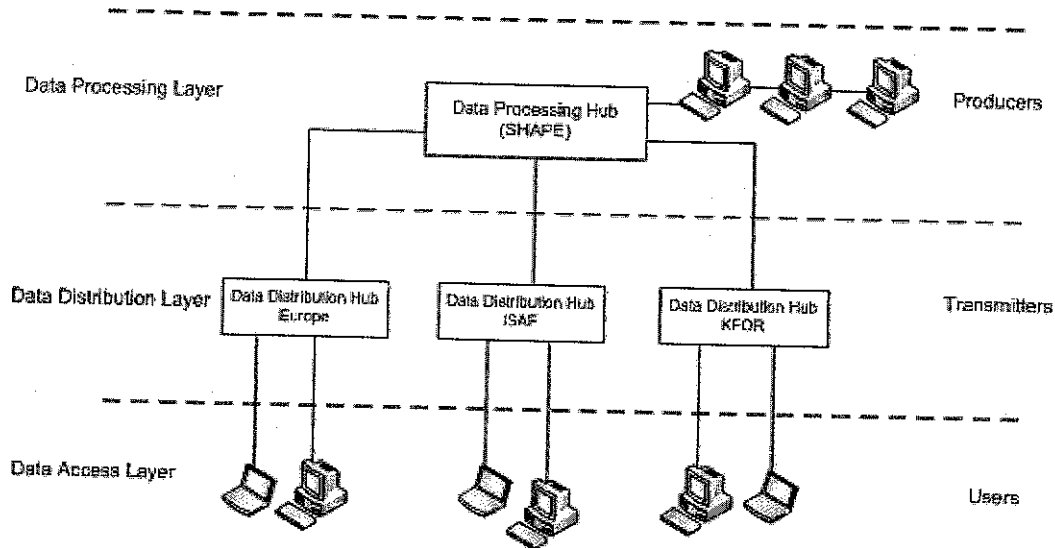
### 3. Interoperability

1. VISME system shall be hardware and operating system (OS) independent, to support implementation across different CIS infrastructures and PC platforms in use across the various command levels supporting operations.
2. The system shall be able to utilize the NATO METOC Hub, hosted by the Bundeswehr Geo-information Office (BGIO), DEU. BGIO is the central point from which NATO meteorological data and framework products are collected, warehoused, and disseminated in support of operations.
3. Adapting open standards shall promote interoperability with national meteorological systems which has not been possible with NAMIS.
4. VISME shall be focused on Service Orientation, utilizing open standard instead of proprietary formats, in order to expose meteorological data, products and services for current and emerging NATO C2 capabilities.
5. The system shall be capable of providing a conduit for delivery of all meteorological data and products to other meteorological and non-meteorological systems that support operations.

### 4. Architecture

1. The VISME architecture shall satisfy the following goals:
  - a. Allow sharing of uniform meteorological information across NATO;
  - b. Minimise use of the NATO Global Communication System (NGCS) communication bandwidth;
  - c. Provide system extensibility and configurability.

- VISME system shall have a web-oriented architecture. It shall be organised within a hierarchical structure consisting of 3 layers of components.



**5. COTS Meteorological Application**

- The Contractor shall provide a meteorological application COTS (MA COTS) as a foundation of the VISME Application.
- The MA COTS shall have a historical record of performance in an operational military meteorology capacity.
- The MA COTS shall allow customisation or development of distributed web-based client access within the limited timeframe. The web interface shall include implementation of OGC web services.
- As the part of the bidding package the Bidders will be requested to provide web access to an existing website, based on MA COTS, implementing subset of the VISME requirements.

**6. Contractor**

- The prospective Contractor shall have experience in installations in a NATO operational theatre.
- The prospective Contractor shall have experience in security accreditation process.
- Contractor key personnel involved in the Contract execution shall have NATO Secret clearances by Effective Date of Contract (EDC).

**7. Scope of Work**

- Perform Project Management activities and progress reporting to the Purchaser;

2. Conduct System Requirements Analysis;
3. Provide System Design;
4. Perform Software Engineering, including customisation/development of:
  - a. VISME Server Application;
  - b. VISME Local Client Application;
  - c. VISME Website;
  - d. VISME Web Client Application (based on a standard web browser);
  - e. VISME Web Server Application;
  - f. Message Switching System (to send only theatre-relevant data to each region);
  - g. Interface to ICARIS and Core GIS (OGC compliant);
5. Plan and execute Testing, including:
  - a. Factory Acceptance Testing;
  - b. Security Testing;
  - c. Site Testing (at each site);
  - d. System Testing (the overall installation);
6. Support NATO security accreditation for VISME;
7. Provide VISME Equipment:
  - a. Purchase of COTS software;
  - b. Purchase of COTS hardware;
  - c. Deliver hardware and software to the installation sites.
8. Install VISME:
  - a. Perform Site Survey
  - b. Install VISME system at the sites;
  - c. Integrate and test VISME installations;
  - d. Update technical site documentation;
  - e. Handover the system to NCSA.
9. Develop and deliver the following trainings:
  - a. Computer Based Training (CBT) for Web Client users;
  - b. System Administrators Training;
  - c. Web Client Users Training;
  - d. Local Client Users Training;
10. Provide initial Second Level Support at NCSA HQ, Mons, Belgium.