

Consolidated List of Request for Information (RFI) Question and Answers

RFT 06/050 (EWS)

Battlegroup and Below Command, Control and Communications (BGC3)

Serial	Question	Commonwealth Response
1	<p>There are a few documents I cannot find within the Technical Data Package. I would appreciate your advice.</p> <p>M113A1 APC-LRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 05.03.29 V2 C1 LRV Harness.pdf · 0401 W – A VEH UHB V2 C1 LRV Harness.pdf <p>(EMEI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · TELS E 756 – Interface Unic Comsec VIRCS ON-F300 Field Test and Repair Spec.pdf · TELS T 912 – Frames and Trays Technical Description.pdf 	<p>The following three documents were removed from the Technical Data Package:</p> <p>M113A1 APC-LRV</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · 05.03.29 V2 C1 LRV Harness.pdf · 0401 W – A VEH UHB V2 C1 LRV Harness.pdf <p>(EMEI)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · TELS E 756 – Interface Unic Comsec VIRCS ON-F300 Field Test and Repair Spec.pdf <p>The document <i>TELS T 912 – Frames and Trays Technical Description</i> remains relevant and will be issued to all tenderers shortly together with an update to the Master Document Index (MDI).</p>
2	<p>Does the CoA have a preference for the location of vehicle installation and delivery (PODA & Acquisition)?</p>	<p>The vehicles to be used for PODA will be located at 1 Bde, Robertson Barracks, Palmerston, NT, Australia. PODA participants will be expected to install their proposed solutions in the vehicles at Roberson Barracks.</p> <p>With regard to the acquisition phase, the Commonwealth's preference is for the successful tenderer to install the solution into the vehicles at the operating unit's home location. Therefore, depending on the final Basis of Provisioning, vehicle installation and delivery during the acquisition phase is expected to occur at a number of major Army establishment in Australia.</p>

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3	What is the CoA preferred location for PODA demonstration?	The CoA preferred location for PODA is Robertson Barracks, Palmerston, NT, Australia.
4	What is the intended duration for the PODA demonstration?	The intended duration for the demonstration component of PODA is not expected to exceed two weeks per PODA participant.
5	Paragraph 1.3.1 of the COT sub-paragraph c refers to Attachment C of the COT. We would like to obtain Attachment C to the COT as it was not included in the RFT package.	<p>The end of paragraph 1.3.1, sub-paragraph c of the COT incorrectly includes “and Attachments B and C;”</p> <p>This paragraph should read: “the Tender Data Requirements List (TDRL) at Attachment A to the conditions of tender and the Annexes to the TDRL;”</p> <p>The Commonwealth will issue an Amendment to the conditions of Tender in due course.</p>
6	Paragraph 4.1.1 of the COT refers to a Deed of Confidentiality in the form at Annex M to Attachment I of the COC. It should be in the form of Annex B to Attachment I of the COC.	<p>Paragraph 4.1.1 of the COT incorrectly refers to a Deed of Confidentiality in the form at Annex M to Attachment I of the draft Contract.</p> <p>This paragraph should refer to a Deed of Confidentiality in the form at Annex B to Attachment I of the draft Contract.</p> <p>The Commonwealth will issue an Amendment to the conditions of Tender in due course.</p>
7	Please confirm the requirement for subcontractors to sign the Deed of Confidentiality as referred to in the COT 4.1.1 (e)? Specifically, do vehicle subcontractors need to sign the Deed before we issue the Tech Data Pack and RFQ to them?	The Commonwealth confirms that as the Technical Data Pack is Commercial-in-Confidence, all subcontractors are required to sign the Deed of Confidentiality before being issued with the Technical Data Pack and RFT.

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8	Regarding Annex D Price Schedule – We would like to clarify the following: Column o states that it should equal the sum of columns I, k, m, & n. However, the instructions at the bottom of the table state that it is the sum of columns h, j, l & m. In actuality it seems that column o should be the sum of columns h, i, j, k, l, m & n. Please clarify.	Column o should equal the sum of columns I, k, m & n. The instruction at the bottom of the table incorrectly states that the Total Price (AUD) is the sum of columns h, j, l & m. The instruction should read ‘Total Price AUD (Duty Paid) is the sum of I, k, m & n.
9	Regarding Annex D – The table consists of areas that are highlighted in grey. Should these cells include the summary of the details in the cells below or are these only headers?	The grey areas are headings only and sub totals are not required.
10	Regarding Annex D – The last column of the Pricing Schedule is titled "Development Comments". What information is required in this column?	The last column “Development Comments” was included in error and should be ignored.
11	<i>Supply of Vehicles</i> - It is understood that the Commonwealth will supply qty two Land Rover 110 FFR to host qty 2 CP-VM nodes. However, the supply of the vehicle to host the qty 1 mounted node is unclear. Paragraph 6.2.5 states "Mounted Node is to be set up and operated in a commercial vehicle (using a portable power supply)" and paragraph 6.2.6. states "Tenderers are to provide all equipment, including harnesses and batteries to support their equipment during the field testing. The Commonwealth will provide the vehicle." This would suggest that the vehicle to host the mounted node will be supplied by the Commonwealth. However, paragraph 6.6.2 states, in part, "and a vehicle suitable for transporting the Mounted Node is provided by the Tenderer", which would suggest that this vehicle is to be provided by the Tenderer. Please clarify.	The Commonwealth will provide all vehicles necessary to conduct the System Demonstration, including a commercial vehicle to support the mounted node (paragraph 6.2.5 and 6.2.6). Tenderers are to provide a means for the <i>transportation</i> of their equipment to and from the TIEIO facility, in accordance with paragraph 6.6.1. Paragraph 6.6.2 states that the Commonwealth will <i>not</i> provide a means of <i>transport</i> for the vehicle mounted node. The required number of vehicles, stated in this paragraph, is an indication only. Tenderers are responsible for ensuring they have adequate capacity to transport all their equipment required for the demonstration. That is, the commercial vehicle will not be available to transport the tenderers vehicle mounted node to and from the TIEIO facility.

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12	If the Commonwealth is supplying the commercial vehicle to host the mounted node, please identify make and model so that provisions can be made, in advance, for mounting the node.	<p>The commercial vehicle to be used to host the mounted node during the System Demonstration at Majura range will be a 4 wheel drive. The Commonwealth cannot provide the make or model of this vehicle at this point in time.</p> <p>Tenderers are to note that no modifications will occur to the commercial vehicle. This vehicle will be used purely to house and transport the mounted node during the demonstration.</p>
13	<i>Supply of Drivers</i> - Will the Commonwealth be supplying drivers for the three vehicles involved in the demonstrations (i.e. 2 x LR110 FFR and the commercial vehicle for the mounted node)?	<p>The Commonwealth will provide personnel to drive the vehicles during the System Demonstration on Majura Range. As outlined in paragraph 6.1.1., these Commonwealth personnel will provide no technical assistance during the System Demonstration.</p> <p>Tenderers are to provide a means for the <i>transportation</i> of their equipment to and from the TIEIO facility, in accordance with paragraph 6.6.1. Tenderers must also provide drivers for these transportation vehicles.</p>
14	For the Systems Demonstration of the BMS-D will the Commonwealth be providing Tenderers with the Commonwealth issue load bearing equipment?	Yes. Individual Combat Load Carriage Equipment (ICLCE) will be loaned to Tenderers for the Systems demonstration.

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15	Annex G Network Topology Scenario 2 (11 individual node), will this topology be conducted in the field trials, lab trials or both? Will the nodes be required to be separated by any minimum distance? This is to determine if we can use the dual installations as singles with the equipment mounted. Otherwise we have to provide for additional radios and data terminals	<p>The Commonwealth assumes the reference is to Annex G to Attachment B to the Conditions of Tender.</p> <p>The 11 node network topology will be applied to both lab and field trials. During the field trials, nodes may be separated by many kilometres.</p> <p>The BGC3 System Operation and Support Concept Document V1.0 figures 37, 38 and 39 at pages 91-93 provide operational deployment cases that articulate the operational range requirements that inform field testing.</p>
16	In the Annex C Sample Master Events List one of the items is develop orders. Will the Commonwealth provide a mission to create against or will they provide a pre-determined set of orders that the tenderer personnel will enter into the system and distribute?	The Commonwealth will provide a pre-determined soft copy of orders for entry into the system and distribution. This will permit consistency of testing.
17	COC - Articles 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 site 'Objectives' please confirm whether these are those defined in Article 1.2.2 or are the 'AIC Objectives' defined in Article 4.	The 'Objectives' are the AIC Objectives defined in Article 4 of the conditions of Contract.
18	Clause 9 of the PODA Deed appears to indicate that only one payment will be made during PODA following completion of all milestones. Attachment C to the PODA Deed includes a column for "Amount of Milestone Payment" for each milestone, which suggests that a payment will be made against each milestone. Please confirm which payment regime is intended.	The Commonwealth intends that the payment regime for PODA will be in accordance with the milestones included in Attachment C to the PODA Deed.

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19	<p>PODA SOW para 4.6.5.1 refers to the 'FPS contained in Annex A to PODA SOW'. The PODA SOW TOC indicates that Annex A is NOT USED. Please confirm that this reference is to the FPS included as part of the Acquisition SOW and that there is no separate PODA Specification.</p>	<p>There are no additional or varied specifications for the PODA. The FPS which is referenced throughout the draft PODA SOW is the Functional and Performance Specification (DEF(AUST)8274) referenced at Annex A to the draft Acquisition Statement of Work.</p> <p>Where the draft PODA SOW states “FPS attached as Annex A”, it should read “FPS attached as Annex A to the draft Acquisition Statement of Work”.</p>
20	<p>Para 2.2.1.1 b – “The Contractor shall deliver the following BMS: a minimum of 180 BMS-M systems.” Paras 2.2.2.3 and 2.2.2.4 identify 244 vehicles that require a BMS-M to be integrated and installed. Does the Commonwealth intend to move the 180 delivered BMS-M systems around these 244 vehicles (i.e. are 64 vehicle fitted for but not with a BMS-M)?</p>	<p>As a result of a number of queries regarding vehicle numbers and capability allocations, the Commonwealth is reviewing Clause 2 of the Acquisition SOW and will release an amendment shortly.</p> <p>The Commonwealth intends that once fitted, the 180 BMS-M systems will not be moved between vehicles.</p>
21	<p>SOW Para. 3.2.5.1.3 requires compliance with AS4817-2006 “Project performance measurement using Earned Value” but CDRL Line Number MGT-310, DID-PM-MGT-EVMP-V2.0 called up in the para 3.2.5.1.1 references AS4817-2003. The SOW is higher in the order of precedence; however, will the CDRL be updated to the lasted version AS4817-2006?</p>	<p>The Commonwealth will change all references to AS4817-2003 (and Defence Supplement) in DID-PM-MGT-EVMP to AS4817-2006</p>
22	<p>Serial 4.1.1.4 c – Please confirm that it is an Essential requirement for the Command Post Man-Packable (CP-MP) Node configuration to have both “At least one (1) Mounted CRS (Mounted and Semi-Permanent CP Nodes);” and a “CP-MP CRS; and”</p>	<p>Serial 4.1.4.4 states that a BMS-CP-MP shall operate in a man pack role with a MP CRS, as specified in Serial 4.1.1.4 d. Furthermore, Serial 4.1.1.4 c states that the BMS-CP-MP shall operate via Mounted CRS when used in a vehicle. When the BMS-CP-MP is removed from the vehicle to be used in its man packable mode, there shall remain fitted to the vehicle at least the ‘radio only’ CRS configuration, which shall remain operational as a <i>node</i> as described in 4.1.2.1.</p>

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23	Serial 4.1.5.3 Advice – Please complete “Where Network is referenced this means a “	The advice line at serial 4.1.5.3 can be removed from the FPS. An adequate definition for <i>Network</i> is at serial 2.1.2.51.
24	Serial 4.2.2.3.4 3rd Advice statement – Should the statement read “...should implement dual stack MIL-STD-188-220C and MIL-STD-188-220D ...” (vs. MIL-STD-188-200D which does not exist)?	This is a Commonwealth typographic error. The tender documents will be amended as part of a consolidated amendment.
25	Serial 4.2.3.3.1 – Should the referenced standard be MIL-STD-188-114A (vs. MIL-STD-114A which does not exist)?	This is a Commonwealth typographic error. The tender documents will be amended as part of a consolidated amendment

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26	<p>Serial 4.4.2.9.10 c – Which vehicle system will provide the BMS-M with turret angle information? No interface is identified or described in the provided TDPs. Please confirm which external vehicle system provides the required information.</p>	<p>The ASLAV-25 is fitted with a KVH TACNAV TLS system. This system consists of a Turret Angle Encoder Interface Box (TANGO) which receives data from the turret distribution box. The TANGO has a BMS output, however this output is currently not active.</p> <p>The M113AS4 APC will be fitted with a CANBUS for handling navigational data. This data BUS will have the capacity to relay turret angle information from a Turret Angle Encoder.</p>																								
27	<p>FPS Serial 4.8.5.1 – Please provide interface information (connector type and pinout) for the current in-service Personal Role Radio (PRR) interface to CNR</p>	<p>The in-service dual-mode Soldier Personal Radio (SPR) connects to the Australian Combat Net Radio (CNR) using a 7-pin PINTAIL/WAGTAIL connector. The compatible 7-pin connector for the Australian CNR is the Amphenol 62GB-16J10-7PF (044).</p> <p>Pinout information is provided in the table below.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1218 820 2047 1209"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1218 820 1559 868">Function</th> <th data-bbox="1559 820 1805 868">WAGTAIL Pin</th> <th data-bbox="1805 820 2047 868">PINTAIL Pin</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 868 1559 916">Mic in A</td> <td data-bbox="1559 868 1805 916">A</td> <td data-bbox="1805 868 2047 916">A</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 916 1559 963">Mic in B</td> <td data-bbox="1559 916 1805 963">B</td> <td data-bbox="1805 916 2047 963">B</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 963 1559 1011">***</td> <td data-bbox="1559 963 1805 1011">C =Open cct</td> <td data-bbox="1805 963 2047 1011">C =+10VDC</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 1011 1559 1059">Audio Out A</td> <td data-bbox="1559 1011 1805 1059">D</td> <td data-bbox="1805 1011 2047 1059">D</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 1059 1559 1107">Ground</td> <td data-bbox="1559 1059 1805 1107">E</td> <td data-bbox="1805 1059 2047 1107">E</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 1107 1559 1155">PTT</td> <td data-bbox="1559 1107 1805 1155">F</td> <td data-bbox="1805 1107 2047 1155">F</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1218 1155 1559 1203">Audio Out B</td> <td data-bbox="1559 1155 1805 1203">G</td> <td data-bbox="1805 1155 2047 1203">G =Not Used</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="1330 1214 1935 1246">Pin-outs for CNR using 7 Pin Audio Connector</p>	Function	WAGTAIL Pin	PINTAIL Pin	Mic in A	A	A	Mic in B	B	B	***	C =Open cct	C =+10VDC	Audio Out A	D	D	Ground	E	E	PTT	F	F	Audio Out B	G	G =Not Used
Function	WAGTAIL Pin	PINTAIL Pin																								
Mic in A	A	A																								
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28	<p>Sections 4.10.6.1 and 7.3.1 – The referenced document 2.2.2.1 identifies DEF-STAN 00-35 Issue 4. The tests identified in sections 4.10.6.1 and 7.3.1 refer to tests that were defined by Part 3, Issue 3 but have changed in Part 3, Issue 4, most notably the temperature tests and conditions. For example, in Part 3, Issue 4 Test CL1 Constant High Temperature – Low Humidity has been incorporated into Test CL2 – High Temperature, Low Humidity and Solar Heating Test; Test CL4 Constant Low Temperature Test has been incorporated into Test CL5 – Low Temperature Test; Test CL7 Constant High Temperature, High Humidity has been incorporated into Test CL6 High Temperature, Humidity, Solar Heating Diurnal Cycle Test.</p> <p>Please clarify the tests and procedures required and whether equivalent MIL-STD-810F test results would be considered compliant. We believe that section 4.10.6 identifies the performance requirement and section 7.3.1 defines the acceptable test methods (DEF STAN 00-35 or MIL-STD-810) that may be used to verify the requirement.</p>	<p>Commonwealth Response:</p> <p>The mismatch between DEF-STAN 00-35 Part 3 Issue 3 and Part 3 Issue 4 is noted.</p> <p>The Amendment List (issued separately) identifies the changes required to the FPS.</p>

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29	<p>The SOW says: 2.2.1.2 The Contractor shall deliver the following CRS: a. 360 x CRS for extant vehicle mounted BG voice services However, TDID-ENG-SOL-CRSD states: 6.3.1.1 Tenderers should note that a number of the Mounted and Command Post Nodes currently use legacy voice radio systems that may not be replaced as part of the implementation of the BGC3 system. Further, the Commonwealth intends to acquire a Tactical Data Distribution System (TDDS) and additional Combat Radios that shall replace the remaining legacy voice radio systems. However this future work will not be completed as part of the tender BGC3 acquisition. The BMS Manoeuvre System shall be required to interface with the TDDS.</p> <p>Will the 360 CRS is to replace all or some of the existing voice radios fitted to vehicles as part of the BGC3 contract. If so, which existing radios are to be replaced?</p>	<p>The Commonwealth notes the issue raised. A clarification of the Basis of Provisioning, including the CRS requirements, will be issued shortly.</p>
30	<p>Essential FPS requirement 4.4.2.14.3 references Enclosure 1 to Annex A to Attachment A to SOW - 2525B Minimum Implementation (Essential). The RFT discs issued did not contain the referenced document.</p> <p>Requests a copy of the referenced document.</p>	<p>The document attached at Annex A provides the Commonwealth's requirement for the minimum implementation set of MIL-STD-2525B graphics for the BGC3 system.</p>
31	<p>4.4.2.14.3 states that the BMS Manoeuvre System Software shall be able to render and display at least the minimum set of MIL-STD 2525B symbols and graphics described at Enclosure 1 to Annex A to Attachment A to SOW - 2525B Minimum Implementation Enclosure 1 to Annex A to Attachment A to SOW is not included in the RFT documentation. Requests copy of the Enclosure</p>	<p>See response to serial 30.</p>

Serial	Question	Commonwealth Response
32	<p>request an assembled set of ICLCE or detailed design drawings of the ICLCE configurations showing how they are currently configured when assembled to enable us to conduct integration design work as specified in the tender.</p> <p>We also seek clarification of whether a fully integrated and manufactured design is required for the Systems demonstration activity or can existing international load carrying configurations be utilised.</p>	<p>The Commonwealth is prepared to release up to five sets of assembled ICLCE to each Prime Systems Integrator (PSI) tenderer, to facilitate the design of an integration solution for the dismantled <i>Node</i>.</p> <p>PSI tenderers will be required to execute a Loan Contract with the Commonwealth in order to receive ICLCE equipment. The terms of the Loan Contract will be made available shortly.</p> <p>ICLCE equipment will not be sent or made available to any tenderer before 22 Jun 07.</p> <p>As part of their tender response, tenderers are required to describe their integration solution for the dismantled <i>Node</i>. However, tenderers will <u>not</u> be required to present the physical, manufactured integration solution for the dismantled <i>Node</i> as part of the System Demonstration activity.</p>
33	<p>Annex G to Attachment A of the RFT paragraph 11 - Draft Engineering Drawings calls out DID-ENG-HW-DWGS. In that DID, paragraph 6.2.1.1, says "the Engineering Drawings shall consist of a complete set of level 2 drawings as defined by DEF(AUST) 5085 Part 1".</p> <p>We have not been able to locate DEF(AUST) 5085 Part 1. Please provide a copy of this standard.</p>	<p>The standard referred to in paragraph 6.2.1.1 is DEF(AUST)5085B Part 1 - Engineering Drawing – Acquisition and Preparation for Defence Equipment Acquisition Requirements.</p> <p>As outlined in paragraph 2.2.5.2 of the Function and Performance Specification (DEF (AUST)8274), this standard is available through the Land Engineering Agency – Equipment Information Section:</p> <p>661 Bourke Street Melbourne Victoria 3000 Australia</p> <p>Ph: +61 3 9282 3521.</p>

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34	<p>seeks clarification on the requirements for VMF messages for the Systems Demonstration.</p> <p>Clause 4.4.3.2.1 identifies the VMF message types for the exchange of information with external systems. Five messages (K01.1, K01.2, K02.1, K04.1 and K05.1) being identified as Essential and to be demonstrated during Tender evaluation and PODA. The BGC3 System Demonstration Instruction identifies only four messages. The Commonwealth is requested to advise whether the four messages identified in the BGC3 System Demonstration Instruction is to be tested during Stage 1, or whether the five messages identified in the FPS are to be tested during Stage 1.</p>	<p>Clause 4.4.3.2.1 of the FPS incorrectly records the K02.1 Check Fire message as Essential. K02.1 Check Fire is a Very Important requirement and will not be tested at the first System Demonstration as described in Attachment B to the Conditions of Tender. The VMF message types to be tested in the extant System Demonstration Instruction are correct.</p> <p>An update to the FPS will be issued shortly.</p>
35	<p>Did the tech data provided by the Commonwealth include data for the AS4 variants, particularly the fitters?</p>	<p>The drawing packages for the M113AS4 Armoured Fitters and M806AS4 Armoured Recovery are not yet available from the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).</p> <p>The Commonwealth will make AS4 data available as soon as practicable.</p>
36	<p>Can you indicate where vehicles are based, by number and type?</p>	<p>The majority of vehicles are based at 1 Brigade in Darwin and at 3 Brigade in Townsville; there are also vehicles based in Brisbane and Puckapunyal. The Commonwealth's preference is for the successful tenderer to install the solution into the vehicles at the operating unit's home location. Therefore, depending on the final Basis of Provisioning, vehicle installation and delivery during the acquisition phase is expected to occur at a number of major Army establishments in Australia.</p>