



china eu india japan korea russia usa

Route de Vinon-sur-Verdon - CS 90 046 - 13067 St Paul Lez Durance Cedex - France

## **PRIOR INDICATIVE NOTICE (PIN)**

### **OPEN TENDER SUMMARY**

IO/21/OT/7-734/YMA

for

### **Heavy Duty Radiation Tolerant Tool Changer and Force/Torque Sensor Development**

#### **Abstract**

The purpose of this summary is to provide prior notification of the IOs intention to launch a competitive Open Tender process in the coming weeks. This summary provides some basic information about the ITER Organisation, the technical scope for this tender, and details of the tender process for the provision of Heavy Duty Radiation Tolerant Tool Changer and Force/Torque Sensor Development to the ITER Organization.

## 1 Introduction

This Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) is the first step of an Open Tender Procurement Process leading to the award and execution of a Service Framework Contract(s).

The purpose of this document is to provide a basic summary of the technical content in terms of the scope of work, and the tendering process.

The Domestic Agencies are invited to publish this information in advance of the forth-coming tender giving companies, institutions or other entities that are capable of providing these services prior notice of the tender details.

## 2 Background

The ITER project is an international research and development project jointly funded by its seven Members being, the European Union (represented by EURATOM), Japan, the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA. ITER is being constructed in Europe at St. Paul–Lez-Durance in southern France, which is also the location of the headquarters (HQ) of the ITER Organization (IO).

For a complete description of the ITER Project, covering both organizational and technical aspects of the Project, visit [www.iter.org](http://www.iter.org).

## 3 Scope of Work

The ITER Blanket Remote Handling System (BRHS) robot is designed to remotely handle heavy components inside ITER Tokamak (toroidal vacuum vessel) for its maintenance. A large variety of end effectors and ancillary tooling are required to perform the Tokamak components maintenance with the BRHS.

In order to increase the efficiency and flexibility of these operations, the BRHS will use a Tool Changer, equipped with automatic services connections to feed services to the different end effectors.

To monitor and secure the docking/undocking control of the robot to its fixed targets within the vessel, the BRHS will integrate a Force and Torque sensor.

The Contractor shall provide engineering, qualification testing and production of two types of bespoke components:

- Lot A: Heavy Load Radiation Tolerant Tool Changer
- Lot B: Heavy Load Radiation Tolerant Force and Torque Multi-axis transducer

The details can be found in the Technical Specifications ref. ITER\_D\_4KC7NJ v1.1 (attached to this PIN).

In order to address these objectives in the best way, the scope of work is divided into two lots, and Tenderers will be able to decide to apply to one or two lots.

## 4 Procurement Process & Objective

The objective is to award a Service Framework Contract(s) through a competitive bidding process.

The Procurement Procedure selected for this tender is called the Open Tender procedure.

The Open Tender procedure is comprised of the following four main steps:

### ➤ Step 1- Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) :

The Prior Indicative Notice is the first stage of the Open Tender process. The IO formally invites the Domestic Agencies to publish information about the forth coming tender in order to alert companies, institutions or other entities about the tender opportunity in advance. **Interested tenderers are kindly**

**requested to return the expression of interest form (Annex I) by e-mail by the date indicated in the procurement timetable below.**

- Step 2 - Invitation to Tender (ITT) :  
Within 14 days of the publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) the Invitation to Tender (ITT) will be advertised. This stage allows interested bidders who have seen the PIN to obtain the tender documents and to prepare and submit their proposals in accordance with the tender instructions.
- Step 3 – Tender Evaluation Process :  
Tenderers proposals will be evaluated by an impartial, professionally competent technical evaluation committee of the ITER Organization. Tenderers must provide details demonstrating their technical compliance to perform the work in line with the technical scope and in accordance with the particular criteria listed in the invitation to tender (ITT).
- Step 4 – Contract award :  
A service framework contract(s) will be awarded on the basis of best value for money according to the evaluation criteria and methodology described in the Invitation to tender (ITT).

## **Procurement Timetable**

The tentative timetable is as follows:

Milestone	Date
Publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN)	26 October 2021
Submission of expression of interest form	9 November 2021
Invitation to Tender (ITT) advertisement	Week of 15 November 2021
Clarification Questions (if any) and Answers	November /December 2021
Tender Submission	January 2022
Tender Evaluation & Contract Award	January/February 2022
Contract Signature	February 2022
Contract Commencement	February 2022 (through Task Orders)

## **5 Quality Assurance Requirements**

Prior to commencement of any work under this Contract(s), a “Quality Plan” shall be produced by the Supplier and Subcontractors and submitted to the IO for approval, describing how they will implement the ITER Procurement Quality Requirements.

## **6 Contract Duration and Execution**

The ITER Organization shall award Service Framework Contract(s) in the beginning of 2022. The estimated contract duration shall be 36 months.

The working language of ITER is English, and a fluent professional level is required (spoken and written).

## **7 Experience**

The tenderer shall demonstrate their knowledge, experience and capabilities in design, development, testing and production of Heavy Load Tool Changer and/or Heavy Load Force and Torque Multi-axis transducer.

The tenderer shall demonstrate its understanding of the constraints of the nuclear, clean and remote environment to the component(s) design and provide example(s) of previously developed Radiation Tolerant product(s), if any.

## **8 Candidature**

Participation is open to all legal entities participating either individually or in a grouping/consortium. A legal entity is an individual, company, or organization that has legal rights and obligations and is established within an ITER Member State.

Legal entities cannot participate individually or as a consortium partner in more than one application or tender of the same contract. A consortium may be a permanent, legally-established grouping, or a grouping which has been constituted informally for a specific tender procedure. All members of a consortium (i.e. the leader and all other members) are jointly and severally liable to the ITER Organization.

In order for a consortium to be acceptable, the individual legal entities included therein shall have nominated a leader with authority to bind each member of the consortium, and this leader shall be authorised to incur liabilities and receive instructions for and on behalf of each member of the consortium.

It is expected that the designated consortium lead will explain the composition of the consortium members in a covering letter at the tendering stage. Following this, the Candidate's composition must not be modified without notifying the ITER Organization of any changes. Evidence of any such authorisation shall be submitted to the IO in due course in the form of a power of attorney signed by legally authorised signatories of all the consortium members.

## **9 Sub-contracting Rules**

All sub-contractors who will be taken on by the Contractor shall be declared with the tender submission. Each sub-contractor will be required to complete and sign forms including technical and administrative information which shall be submitted to the IO by the tenderer as part of its tender.

The IO reserves the right to approve any sub-contractor which was not notified in the tender and request a copy of the sub-contracting agreement between the tenderer and its sub-contractor(s). For each Contract, sub-contracting is allowed but it is limited to one level, and its cumulated volume is limited to 30% of the total Contract value. Two levels of sub-contracting may be considered for very specific activities which will be mentioned by the IO in the Tender documentation.