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II.1.10) Will variants be accepted?

Yes.

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract**II.2.1) Total quantity or scope:**

The FMDB project will create a databank offering an extensive and reliable reference source for high quality financial market data and statistical indicators. The FMDB will collect, store, integrate and provide financial market data from multiple sources into one common platform. This will ensure a consistent use of accurate and timely financial market data across the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) for internal and external publications and releases.

The gains expected from the FMDB system are the following:

- quality of the services delivered to the users,
- efficiency to administrate and support the system,
- flexibility to add functionality and enhance the data coverage.

It is expected that the FMDB should:

- contain both raw data and High Quality Market Data (HQMD), including the minimum core set of reference data needed to handle and exploit efficiently the above information,
- automate the collection of market data through specialised market data interfaces e.g. Reuters or via standard communication interfaces (e.g. FTP),
- automate the validation, filtering and cleansing process of raw data to obtain HQMD,
- provide statistical modelling capabilities for producing derived market data obtained by applying algorithms to the financial market data e.g. yield curves, volatilities, correlation matrices,
- provide filtering & cleansing and statistical modelling methodologies based on industry standards as far as possible,
- make available high quality market data through a common open data access interface,
- provide an interface for administrating and monitoring the system, the processes and the data flow,
- provide a web-based user interface to navigate in a user friendly and efficient way the contents of the FMDB and deliver the information in a standard format.

Given this objective, the FMDB project has been structured into the following functional modules:

- FMDB data collection,
- FMDB filtering & cleansing,
- FMDB statistical modelling,
- FMDB data stores,
- FMDB data navigation & propagation,
- FMDB operations,
- FMDB security.

The preferred solution fostered by the ECB is one, which would need little customisation and resources from the ECB. The solution could be either in the form of an adaptation/customisation of one off-the-shelf product, or an integration of several off-the-shelf modules/systems.

It should be noted that the ECB may envisage to collect reference data from an internal data source (Centralised Security Data Base). In addition, the ECB will perform a cost/benefit analysis on the collection and storage of tickdata.

Further details necessary for understanding the project scope are included in a separate document ('FMDB Contract Notice Description') that can be obtained from the address at I.1 above. This document is an integral part of the contract notice.

II.2.2) Options. Description and time when they may be exercised**II.3) Duration of the contract or time-limit for completion:**

Starting no later than 1.6.2005.

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information**III.1) Conditions relating to the contract****III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required****III.1.2) Main terms of financing and payment and/or reference to the relevant provisions****III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the grouping of suppliers, contractors or service providers to whom the contract is awarded:**

The establishment of a temporary grouping must declare in writing that: (i) in case of an order they will provide all services as a temporary grouping and (ii) all the members will have joint and several liability for the performance of the contract. The parts of the supplies and/or services that will be performed by the single companies shall be specified.

III.2) **Conditions for participation**

III.2.1) **Information concerning the personal situation of the contractor, supplier or service provider and information and formalities necessary for the evaluation of the minimum economic, financial and technical capacity required:**

Potential applicants must have a high level of all required expertise and proven experience of comparable contracts. Applications are invited from companies or organisations that can meet the minimum requirements (where possible, proof has to be supplied for each individual module of the overall FMDB solution). If the non compliance with any of the formal requirements is discovered subsequently, the ECB is entitled to exclude the concerned applicant from the tender procedure and to annul, if need be, the award of the contract.

The application shall be submitted by answering all questions as contained in the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire and by submitting the application in the structure as provided by the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire. The applications will be evaluated based on the key criteria as set out in the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire and these conditions of participation.

The FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire can be obtained from the address indicated above under 1.1). This application and its clauses are an integral part of this contract notice. It is expected that for groupings of applicants, the general contractor must submit one completed questionnaire for the general contractor organisation as well as one for each of the delivery-critical sub-contractors.

III.2.1.1) **Legal position – means of proof required:**

Applicants must furnish proof of length of organisation's existence under its current legal form. For groupings of applicants, at least the general contractor must submit this proof for the organisation as well as for any delivery-critical sub-contractors.

III.2.1.2) **Economic and financial capacity – means of proof required;**

Applicant must furnish proof of the sustained and sustainable good financial health and market performance of the organisation. For grouping of applicants, at least the general contractor must submit this proof for the organisation as well as for any delivery-critical sub-contractors. Please refer to FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire questions A4 and A5, and provide information as requested.

III.2.1.3) **Technical capacity – means of proof required:**

Applicants must furnish proof that they have been responsible within the past 5 years for at least 3 comparable projects, with comparability measured in terms of size, complexity and quality. For groupings of applicants, the general contractor must submit this proof for at least the integration of such a solution and the successful implementation as well as any sub-contractors must submit this proof for the delivery and implementation of the part of the overall solution this organisation is proposed to be responsible for.

Applicants must submit proof with regard to number and skill level of their resources as set out in the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire. For groupings of applicants, at least the general contractor must submit this proof for the organisation as well as for any delivery-critical sub-contractors.

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

III.3.1) **Is provision of the service reserved to a specific profession?**

No.

III.3.2) **Will legal entities be required to state the names and professional qualifications of the personnel responsible for execution of the contract?**

Yes.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) **Type of procedure:**

Restricted.

IV.1.1) **Have candidates already been selected?**

IV.1.2) **Justification for the choice of accelerated procedure**

IV.1.3) **Previous publication concerning the same contract**

IV.1.3.1) Prior information notice concerning the same contract**IV.1.3.2) Other previous publications****IV.1.4) Envisaged number of suppliers which will be invited to tender:**

Minimum 3 / maximum 7.

IV.2) Award criteria:

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of criteria as stated in contract documents.

IV.3) Administrative information**IV.3.1) Reference number attributed to the file by the contracting authority****IV.3.2) Conditions for obtaining contract document and additional documents****IV.3.3) Time-limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate:**

45 calendar days from dispatch of notice.

IV.3.4) Dispatch of invitations to tender to selected candidates:

1.11.2004.

IV.3.5) Language or languages in which tenders or requests to participate can be drawn up:

English.

IV.3.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain its tender**IV.3.7) Conditions for opening tenders****IV.3.7.1) Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders****IV.3.7.2) Date, time and place****Section VI: Other information****VI.1) Is this notice a non-mandatory one?**

No.

VI.2) If applicable, indicate whether this procurement is a recurrent one and the estimated timing for further notices to be published**VI.3) Does the contract relate to a project/programme financed by EU-funds?**

No.

VI.4) Additional information:

1- FMDB contract notice process outline:

The ECB published the FMDB Contract Notice in the Official Journal (OJ) to which the FMDB Contract Notice Description and the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire are in integral appendix.

All interested parties are required to indicate their interest for participation in the FMDB tender by responding as described in the present Contract Notice within the defined deadline and by providing the appropriate information and structure as requested in the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire.

After the lapse of the FMDB contract notice deadline, the ECB will evaluate all received applications against the criteria as set out in the FMDB Contract Notice Questionnaire.

If deemed necessary, the ECB may contact individual applicants for clarifications of their submitted information, or request a presentation of their applications at the ECB premises. The ECB may also decide to visit the applicants and/or taking up references from previous customers of the applicants if needed for the purpose of deciding on the companies that will be invited to tender.

The ECB will then draw up a shortlist to which the FMDB tendering documentation will be supplied to. All applicants to the FMDB contract notice will be informed about their status and if they have or have not been shortlisted.

2- FMDB tender process outline:

The tender procedure to be followed will be the restricted tendering procedure. Before issuing the FMDB tender documents to the short-listed applicants, the ECB will decide if the creation of a prototype system will be deemed necessary as part of the final selection process.

The companies selected for the tendering will receive, as part of the tendering documentation, a full set of functional system specifications and non-functional requirements (operation and security). In addition, two contracts will be annexed, one for the project phase and one for the system maintenance during the warranty period.

The companies selected will be expected to deliver, as part of the tender reply documentation, a fully documented project strategy, organisation, plan and budget and an agreement to the contractual conditions proposed by the ECB.

The companies will be expected to deliver a full list of deliverables, highlighting the ones that will allow the ECB to control the project progress and the relating payments. Any requirements to be fulfilled by the ECB as pre-conditions for the delivery must be clearly indicated. The company will be expected to provide a fix price offer that will include all deliverables. Offers covering only parts of the scope will not be accepted.

At the end of the project, it is expected that the selected company will deliver the defined system, properly tested with agreed acceptance test cases, with full documentation and training given.

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

6.8.2004.