
ECB - call for expressions of interest for the design, development and/or maintenance of complex web-based applications (D-Frankfurt-on-Main)**2004/S 158-136743****1. Awarding authority:**

European Central Bank, Kaiserstraße 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main. Fax: (49-69) 13 447503. Att: Mr Alberto Molon. Tel.: (49-69) 448780. E-mail: procurement@ecb.int.

2. Type:

Call for expressions of interest.

Companies or individuals interested in having their name entered on a list of potential suppliers of services in information technologies for the European Central Bank (ECB), are invited to submit an application in accordance with the rules set out below:

- the appointed procurement committee of the ECB will draw up a list of candidates who meet the criteria set out at point 8 below;

- for contracts to be awarded, the ECB will send a request for proposals to all or some of the candidates on the list, selected on the basis of the specific criteria for the contract concerned;

- the value of one or more of the intended contracts may exceed 250 000 EUR.

3. (a) Description of the fields covered:

CPV: 30240000, 30241200, 30252000.

Provision of professional IT services for:

the design, development and/or maintenance of web-based application(s), including large databases and the design and development of one or more interfaces with existing ECB systems.

The following describes the web-based application(s) that will be developed and/or maintained under the present call for expression of interest:

1) Security: The system(s) require a fairly high security level, both protecting the system itself and all data during data transmissions.

2) Administration functions: Administration functions are shared by users of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB), not necessarily all located at the ECB. Administration functions will consist in end-user management and definition of criteria to trigger warnings. Furthermore, it is envisaged to provide ECB administration users with additional administration functions, like a function to update a few pages with news, contacts and links to on-line files. A newsletter page might be included in the system.

3) Users: The system(s) will be open to authorised users only. End-users do not necessarily belong to the ESCB.

4) Functions: A typical function will be users entering information, which will be processed against data contained in the database. Following defined criteria, the data captured by the end-users will trigger some actions from the system (typically answers differentiated by customer type). In addition, the system will retain all data captured by the end-user. The system may also trigger alerts to the relevant partners by e-mail, in case the information matches pre-defined criteria. Furthermore, it will be possible to analyse the data captured by end-users over a long period using performing queries. Using end-user oriented reporting tools may come into consideration.

5) Interfaces: Part of the information contained in the databases may contain data extracted from ECB databases. The development of the necessary interfaces (possibly through a number of firewalls) may belong to the contract. Data coming from systems held in the National Central Banks may need to be uploaded into the system, either through standard interfaces or through on-line functions allowing file uploads.

6) Others: Clients: clients will access the system using standard browsers. For some applications, there should be no application specific function/code residing permanently on end-users' workstations.

- Languages: although the system(s) to be delivered as part of the contract will initially be in English only, the system(s) may be multilingual. Ultimately, it may exist in as many as all (twenty) official languages of the European Union (including new Member States' official languages).

(b) Type of contracts:

Services.

4. Place where services are to be provided:

The ECB's premises or the corresponding venue.

5. **Period of validity of the list resulting from the call for expressions of interest:**

The expiry date of the list resulting from the call for expressions of interest is 31 August 2006.

6. **Legal status of applicants:**

Not applicable.

7. **(a) Address to which applications should be sent:**

European Central Bank, Kaiserstraße 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main.

(b) Applications together with all the documentation referred to in point 8 must be submitted as follows:

Applications should be submitted in a sealed envelope to the abovementioned address.

The envelope should be marked "Call for Expression of Interest / REF: Call for Expression of Interest / Web-based applications, for the attention of: Mr Alberto Molon".

Applications sent by fax or electronic means will not be accepted. All applications must be signed by an authorised person.

Applications must be in English. Only in the case of legal, financial, ISO and other certificates original (non-English) language, documents will be accepted upon the condition that the applicant will provide the ECB, if requested, with a certified translation of the original document.

All applications have to be signed by an authorised person.

A first use of the list is expected to take place in September 2004. Applicants who wish to be certain of being considered on this occasion should submit their application to arrive no later than 1 September 2004.

8. **List of information and documents concerning the applicant's own position, and the information, formalities and documents necessary for an appraisal of the minimum economic and technical standards required:**

(a) In order to prove their qualifications, applicants shall provide the following documentation:

- Address, telephone number and fax number, as well as the name of the person responsible for the application of the bidding company. Copies of original documents proving the legal status, place of registration and/or registered office and, if different, the main place of business of the bidding company.

- Company profile and organisation, including the range of expertise and type of services provided focusing on the requirements for this call for expression of interest.

- Statement of the bidding company's overall turnover and a statement of turnover for the last three financial years for the type of service involved in this contract.

- Copies of the bidding company's audited accounts and balance sheets for the past three financial years or equivalent documentation demonstrating the financial position of the bidding company.

- Number of professional staff/consultants in company by professional qualification and location and description of their language knowledge.

- Description of applied project methodology (short overview and details are required).

- List of the main contracts of a similar nature entered into by the bidding company in the last three years together with details of the values, quantities, dates and recipients (preferably comparable clients to the ECB such as EU institutions, central banks and other financial or public institutions) involved.

- Full description of at least two similar and representative projects (max. 3) with:

(i) project information: description of project scope and strategy, with indication for each project total duration, budget and resources, deviation from initial plan, budget and resources. A description of the project quality controls in place illustrated by examples is requested. An extract of the integration or acceptance tests would be welcome. For each described project, one contact person should be nominated at the customer's company;

(ii) technical information: indication of HW and SW components, processed volumes, number of users, number of concurrent users, peaks.

- Document proving that the bidding company has ISO or equivalent certification, or a description of the quality-control measures put in place by the bidding company.

(b) The list shall be established on the basis of the following criteria:

- Previous experience with comparable projects. In this context, reference should preferably be made to projects performed for financial institution, public sector or international organisations and institutions.

- Relevant human resources available.

- Project process and methodology.

- Companies' profile and background (including the quality-control measures put in place by the company).

A good command of English is requested from the staff of the selected applicants.

9. **Date of dispatch of the notice:**

5.8.2004.

10. **Date of receipt by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities:**

5.8.2004.