

NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROCUREMENT (NPP) 21-729

PRODUCT REVIEW PROCESS (PRP)

PURPOSE OF THIS NOTICE:

Export Development Canada (EDC), per its obligations under Chapter Five of the Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) and Chapter Nineteen of the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), is announcing that it is undertaking a **Product Review Process (PRP)** with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM's).

The objective of this process is to select a Hyperconverged Infrastructure (HCI) and Network Attached Storage solution.

Once a solution has been established as the preferred solution, EDC intends to issue a separate Request for Quotation (RFQ) on an as required basis for various quantities.

ALL MANUFACTURERS

Should manufacturers of these solutions wish to be included in this process, they must complete a "Letter of Interest" (as detailed below). Without exception, manufacturers that do not submit letters of interest will not be considered in the Product Review Process (PRP). EDC is communicating directly with manufacturers only in this process and will not include re-sellers, channel partners and/or value added resellers (VARs).

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SUBMISSION OF A "LETTER OF INTEREST"

The letter of interest must identify "NPP # 21-729 – HCI Solution".

Letters may be provided in either official language however the Manufacturer should be advised that its response may be required to be translated in order to be assessed and EDC reserves the right to rely upon its translation as the basis for this assessment.

Letters of Interest must identify the Manufacturer's:

- Legal name
- Mailing address
- Telephone number
- Website/URL
- Contact (to coordinate receipt of the PRP)
- Contact's email address

Letters of Interest must be received by EDC by mail or by electronic mail (npp@edc.ca) before 1:00 p.m. Ottawa Time on July 11, 2021.

The PRP is scheduled to be released the week of July 12, 2021.

EDC may, in its sole and absolute discretion, change the foregoing dates and times upon prior written notice to the potential manufacturers.

PRP EVALUATION CRITERIA:

(Criteria and their associated weights are estimates and are subject to change at the discretion of EDC.)

Mandatory Submission Requirements

Compute (Hyperconverged Infrastructure)

Hardware Specifications

- a) All proposed models must (M) be classified as hyper-converged infrastructure (HCI) - which support virtualized compute, memory, storage, and network in a single 1U – 4U rack mountable unit.
- b) All proposed models must (M) be certified to run VMware vSphere ESXi 7.0
- c) All proposed models must (M) be compatible with a standard four-post 19-inch server rack
- d) All proposed models must (M) support encryption-at-rest and encryption-in-transit
- e) All proposed models must (M) support non-volatile flash storage i.e. solid-state
- f) All proposed models must (M) support "verified boot", "trusted boot" or "secure boot"
- g) All proposed models must (M) support a minimum dual CPU socket configuration
- h) All proposed models must (M) support a minimum of 1.5TB of memory per CPU socket
- i) All proposed models must (M) support front (intake) to back (exhaust) airflow design
- j) All proposed models must (M) support redundant 10 GbE (or greater) networking

Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM)

- a) All proposed models must (M) be centrally managed on-premise and/or from the cloud

Storage

Hardware Specifications

- a) All proposed models must (M) support accessibility from an IPv4 network
- b) All proposed models must (M) be compatible with a standard four-post 19-inch server rack
- c) All proposed models must (M) be able to scale beyond 2 PB in a single cluster
- d) All proposed models must (M) support encryption-at-rest and encryption-in-transit
- e) All proposed models must (M) support front (intake) to back (exhaust) airflow design
- f) All proposed models must (M) support redundant 10 GbE (or greater) networking
- g) All proposed models must (M) support SMB and/or NFS

Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM)


- a) All proposed models (M) be centrally managed on-premise and/or from the cloud

Rated Requirements – 100%

- Compute – Hardware Specifications 9%
- Compute – Security 21%
- Compute – Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM) 24%
- Compute – Reference Architecture 3%
- Compute – Value Add 3%
- Storage – Hardware Specifications 6%
- Storage – Security 14%
- Storage – Operations, Administration, and Management (OAM) 16%
- Storage – Reference Architecture 2%
- Storage – Value Add 2%

NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT:

All participants in any subsequent PRP process will be required to sign EDC's Non-Disclosure Agreement without amendment prior to receiving the PRP documentation. Additionally, if deemed applicable by EDC, ~~participants will be required to enter into a more detailed Agreement to ensure compliance with the~~



requirements of the Privacy Act, should they be awarded the contract at the completion of the PRP process.

GENERAL:

EDC reserves the right to contact the referenced organizations for the selected provider as part of a subsequent PRP process.

EDC reserves the right to satisfy itself of the financial viability of the selected provider as part of a subsequent PRP process.

All documents provided in response to this NPP become the property of EDC.

This NPP and any submission received in response thereto, any associated PRP and proposal submitted in response thereto, and all related agreements, including a confidentiality agreement and services agreement, will be interpreted and governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario and federal laws of Canada applicable therein.

EDC has issued this NPP in order to solicit information from potential Manufacturers. EDC assumes no liability, responsibility or obligation whatsoever to any Manufacturer with respect to any aspect of this NPP. EDC has no obligation to reimburse or in any way compensate any Manufacturer for expenses incurred in connection with its receipt, review or response to this NPP or in connection with the negotiation of a confidentiality agreement, services agreement, or otherwise.

BACKGROUND – EDC:

ABOUT EDC

For 75 years, Export Development Canada (EDC) has been dedicated to helping Canadian companies of all sizes succeed on the world stage. We are a financial Crown corporation that equips Canadian companies with the tools they need – the trade knowledge, financing solutions, equity, insurance, and connections – to grow their business with confidence. As international risk experts, we make trade safer for Canadian companies. Underlying all our support is a commitment to sustainable and responsible business. For more information please visit our website edc.ca.