

Question/ Answer

Procurement procedure: OP/03/2017 Framework contract supply of High Capacity Skimmers

Question 01 (dated 12/05/2017, 09:31):

“It was shown during the Deepwater Horizon oil spill that oil skimmers were not achieving the oil recovery rates advertised. The ASTM committee worked for three years to develop a simple test procedure to validate a skimming systems oil recovery rate, ASTM F2709 was released in 2008. This test procedure has now been fully recognized in the industry with many manufacturers sending their equipment to test facilities such as Ohmsett in the USA for validation. Does EMSA require the skimmer system to be tested according to this standard?”

Answer to question 01 (published on 17/05/2017)

EMSA does not require the system to be tested following a specific standard.

According to point 1.1.3 of the Bid template (enclosure 2 to the Invitation to tender), the Agency does require the offer to include records of sea trials or real operations. Records must detail operational conditions (e.g. location, weather and sea conditions, air and sea temperature). Thereby, any offer should include records of test and a detailed description of the standards used for that test.

Question 02 (dated 15/05/2017, 08:59):

I have gone through the requirements that we must comply and one principal point that I see is the ATEX requirement;

“The complete system is ATEX certified to operate in Zone 2 according to Directive 94/9/EC and Directive 2014/34/EU (equipment Group II category 3) or equivalent.”

According to the attached presentation I found:

- Exemptions to the ATEX Directive:
 - Medical devices intended for use in a medical environment.
 - Equipment and protective systems where the explosion hazards result exclusively from the presence of explosive substances or unstable chemical substances.
 - Equipment intended for use in domestic and non-commercial environments.
 - Personal protective equipment covered by directive 89/686/EEC.
 - Seagoing vessels and mobile offshore units (such as semi-submersible platforms, drilling jack up platforms), already covered by the IMO convention. Fixed platforms, FPSO and other units not intended for navigation on high seas are not exempt from ATEX.

My question is:

Does ATEX requirement apply as this equipment is going on ships?

Answer to question 02 (published on 19/05/2017)

As per point 1.2.3 of Enclosure 2 - Bid Template, the complete system is requested to be ATEX certified to operate in Zone 2 according to Directive 94/9/EC and Directive 2014/34/EU (equipment Group II category 3) or equivalent. In this regard, please note that although the directive does not apply to seagoing vessels, it does cover all equipment that is intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres. Therefore, as the equipment is to be fully autonomous, and it is not meant to be associated / installed to a specific vessel, the ATEX compliance (i.e. equipment Group II category 3) is a minimum requirement for this procurement procedure.

Question 03 (dated 15/05/2017, 09:02):

The tender specifies the following parameters – umbilical with 5 inch diameter, 70m long handling oil up to 30,000 cst at flow rate of 125 cubic meters per hour with a pump(s) producing a max of 7 bar. When pumping fluid through a pipe or hose you can calculate the pipe friction (pipe loss) - the amount of pressure you need to move the fluid. Using the following calculator (others are available): <http://www.freecalc.com/fricfram.htm> you would need min 110 bar pump pressure. It is physically impossible to pump with these parameters. This is without allowing for any bends in the hose or hose fittings or elbows or using flexible pipe (instead of straight steel pipe). The only way to reduce pipe friction is to reduce the flow rate, shorten the hose, increase the diameter or reduce the viscosity. As per our previous questions ASTM F2709 tests a skimmers system to skim and pump oil, you measure what comes out of the pipe. As well as 2709 certification we would like to propose that the length of the umbilical is reduced to suit the max pressure of the pump and be within pipe friction parameters.

Answer to question 03 (published on 19/05/2017)

As per point 1.3.2 of Enclosure 2 - Bid Template, EMSA requested minimum requirements in terms of:

- the type of product to be recovered, and
- the minimum pumping capacity.

In this regard, please note that the two requirements are not to be met jointly but individually, meaning that the requested minimum pumping capacity (i.e. 125m³/h at 7 bar) is not specifically for a product with a viscosity of 30,000CsT.

Please also note that under point 2 of Enclosure 2 - Bid Template, these two requirements are evaluated as two separate quality criteria (i.e. Q2 and Q3).

Question 04 (dated 16/05/2017, 15:40):

Will the Skimmer systems be located on vessel or in a vessels depot? When shipping the systems, will it be a vessel that will be the recipient of the skimmer?

Answer to question 04 (published on 19/05/2017)

EMSA may decide to order high capacity skimmers to be delivered to any of the Agency's pollution response arrangements located within the territory of the European Union. The exact place of delivery will be identified only if an actual order is placed through the signature of a specific contract as indicated in point 2.3.2 of the Tender Specifications (Enclosure 1 to the Invitation to tender).

Question 05 (dated 12/05/2017, 08:15):

Please can you advise if it is possible to make two separate bids for alternative solutions in this tender?

Answer to question 05 (published on 22/05/2017)

Please note that separate bids proposing alternative technical solutions within the scope of this procurement procedure are admissible. However, each bid must be sent separately and must comply with the requirements for submission indicated in the Invitation letter and in point 11.2 of the Tender Specifications (Enclosure 1 to Invitation to tender).

Question 06 (dated 12/05/2017, 12:37):

Question to EMSA regarding EX Temperature class:

According to ISO 80079-36 4.3, Group II has been divided to subdivisions A, B and C. Subgroups depends on existing gases which have different ignition temperature. Therefore requires separate temperature class.

In IIA typical gas is Propane,

In IIB typical gas is Ethylene, in IIB+H is Hydrogen

In IIC typical gas is Hydrogen, Acetylene

Subdivision affects also to many other design parameters and limits.

Answer to question 06 (published on 22/05/2017)

As per point 2.2 of the Tender Specifications (Enclosure 1 to the Invitation to tender) and point 1.2.3 of the Bid Template (Enclosure 2 to the Invitation to tender), it is a minimum requirement that the complete system is ATEX certified in accordance with Directive 2014/34/EU (i.e. equipment Group II category 3), given the intended use of the system for marine pollution response. Accordingly, there is a possibility that the system needs to be operated for a limited time in hazardous atmosphere, with a flashpoint of the oil to be recovered is below 60°C.

In terms of subgroup classification and temperature class as per the standard ISO 80079-36:2016, please note that EMSA has not included any specific requirement as this is to be defined by the system manufacturer based on the design and operational capabilities of the proposed system. Therefore, should you require to choose a subgroup and temperature class, please note that for EMSA the less stringent from each of these two categories is acceptable. The tenderers shall provide as proof actual documents (e.g. declaration of conformity) or templates showing that the whole system is ATEX certified.

Question 07 (dated 18/05/2017, 08:31):

Advancing systems are able to recover more oil as they encounter more oil. The tender specifies a static skimmer with a long umbilical and thrusters to move the skimmer around in a boom pocket.

Are skimming systems that advance acceptable? And if they are, would EMSA accept a proposal for a system that does not have a propulsion system and a shorter hose with a static hose reel?

Answer to question 07 (published on 22/05/2017)

In accordance with the minimum requirement set in point 1.2.1 of the Bid Template (Enclosure 2 to the Invitation to tender) the equipment proposed in the bid must be *“an oil pollution recovery system fitted with one self-propelled skimmer-head connected to an umbilical stored on a reel with an integrated telescopic arm from which the skimmer-head is deployed directly hanging from the umbilical”*.

Furthermore, please note that the minimum requirement in point 1.5.1 of the Bid Template it is indicated that: *“The length of umbilical is 70m as a minimum and the whole length shall be stored on the reel.”*

An offer proposing a system that does not comply with all the minimum requirements set in point 1 of the Bid template (including the two requirements mentioned above) will not be further considered for evaluation of the quality criteria and, therefore, will be rejected.

Question 08 (dated 18/05/2017, 10:49):

We have reviewed EMSA tender for skimmer system and we kindly request you to advise us:

- The total budget of this project
- How the 4 years frame agreement is implemented

Answer to question 08 (published on 22/05/2017)

The maximum budget foreseen for this framework contract is EUR 8,000.000 (VAT excluded).

As indicated in point 2.3.1 of the Tender specifications (enclosure 1 to the Invitation to tender) the signature of the framework contract does not constitute order *per se* and does not entail any obligation on the part of EMSA to purchase. Actual ordering of supplies will be placed after the framework supply contract has entered into force through specific contracts concluded upon EMSA's initiative.

Question 09 (dated 18/05/2017, 17:00):

Due to a large number of the management team traveling overseas to attend the international oil spill convention, I am writing to request a submission date extension to the bidding for the high capacity skimmers tender.

Answer to question 09 (published on 22/05/2017)

Please note that the deadline for submitting an offer is common to all the tenderers in order to ensure equal treatment to all the parties interested in the public procurement and cannot be adjusted to any individual request.

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Requests for additional information regarding this tender should be sent by e-mail to the following address OPEN032017@emsa.europa.eu. Requests for additional information received less than six working days before the closing date for submission of tenders will not be processed.

The deadline for submission of the bids of this tender is **29 May 2017**.

The responsibility for monitoring the Agency's website for replies to queries and/or further information remains with potential applicants.