

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

**FOR**

**Servers and Storage for the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA)**

**RFP NUMBER: TIA1812**



**Issue Date: 7 October 2012**

**Response Deadline: 29 October 2012**

## 1. Introduction and Background

The Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) is a schedule 3A public entity of the Department of Science and Technology, in terms of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 and established in terms of the Technology Innovation Agency Act, 2008. The Agency is set up as a public entity with the aim to enhance the country's capacity to translate a greater proportion of local research and development into commercial technology products and services.

The ultimate goal of the TIA is to use South Africa's science and technology base to develop new industries, create sustainable jobs and help diversify the economy away from commodity exports towards knowledge based industries equipped to address modern global challenges.

TIA is looking to source Servers and Storage to build the infrastructure to enable and support business requirements for the next 5-year period. The scope covers Head Office, DR Site, and 8 regional locations. As part of this project TIA will upgrade to the latest version of VMware vSphere and acquire and comply with relevant license requirements. TIA will award the project to a provider who is also able to provide maintenance and support services on the infrastructure specified.

## 2. Mandatory Technical Requirements

Specifications Per Server	WC, KZN, Bio-processing, GP and NGP ( x 10 Qty)
Processor	Minimum of 10 Core CPU, or better
# of processors	1, scalable to 2
Memory	64GB (8 x 8GB) RDIMMs PC3-12800R (1600MHz)
Networking	2 x Quad-port 1Gb Ethernet Adapter
Power Supply	2 x High Efficiency hot-plug Power Supply
Form Factor	2U Rackmount server with railing and cable management kit
Optical Drive	Enhanced SATA DVD-ROM

<b>Storage</b>	1 x per location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support for SAS/SATA drives</li> <li>- 5TB SAS-Based 15k 3.5" HDD raw storage</li> <li>- Support for RAID1 and 5</li> <li>- 4-port iSCSI-based interface + Management</li> </ul>

<b>Specifications Per Server</b>	<b>Free State, Polokwane,&amp; Eastern Cape ( x 6 Qty)</b>
Processor Name	Minimum of 10 Core CPU, or better
# of processors	1, scalable to 2
Memory	32GB (8 x 8GB) RDIMMs PC3-12800R (1600MHz) with Memory protection
Networking	2 x Quad-port 1Gb Ethernet Adapter
Power Supply	2 x High Efficiency hot-plug Power Supply
Form Factor	2U Rackmount server with railing and cable management kit
Optical Drive	Enhanced SATA DVD-ROM
OS	USB Memory Key for VMware is preferred
<b>Storage</b>	1 per location
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Support for SFF SAS/SATA drives</li> <li>- Total of 3.5TB SAS-Based 15k 3.5" HDD raw storage</li> <li>- Support for RAID1 and 5</li> <li>- 4 x iSCSI-based interface</li> </ul>

	<b>TIA House</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Networking Options; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) 2 x 8 port 10Gb Cisco Switches with support for 802.1q, 802.3ad, 802.1w, and IPv6, and</li> <li>B) 2 x 8 port 1Gb Cisco switches as above</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Chassis Specifications</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 1 x chassis scalable to no less than 14 Half-height blades, or equivalent</li> <li>○ Full single phase power and internal cooling</li> <li>○ Flex Fabric, or equivalent Interconnect technology</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Blade Servers minimum specifications;</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 x Minimum of 10-Core CPUs</li> <li>○ 8 x Blade servers</li> <li>○ 96GB (3x32GB) Dual Rank x4 PC3-12800R (DDR3-1600) scalable to 512Gb or better</li> <li>○ USB Memory Key for VMware is preferred</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<b>DR Site (3 x Qty)</b>
# of processor	2 x 10 Core Processor, minimum
Networking	1 x Quad-port 1 Gb Ethernet interface
Memory	96GB (3x32GB) Dual Rank x4 PC3-12800R (DDR3-1600) scalable to 512Gb or better
OS	USB Memory Key for VMware is preferred
	Enhanced SATA DVD-ROM
<b>Storage</b>	<b>TIA House</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 30TB of usable storage; 80% 15k SAS drives for production and 20% SSD</li> <li>- Must support dynamic tiering</li> <li>- Must scale to no less than 300TB of raw storage</li> <li>- Fibre-Channel based storage with Management</li> </ul>

	<b>DR Site</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 60TB of usable SAS storage of which 30% production 15k drives 70% archiving drives.</li> <li>- iSCSI based storage with Management</li> </ul>
<b>Backup at DR Site</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Backup Tape device at DR Site</li> <li>- Latest LTO-based backup device</li> <li>- Minimum of 1.5TB cartridges</li> <li>- Latest version Backup Exec</li> </ul>
<b>Software</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Solution must include Embedded Management capability for Hardware Management as well as network management interface per device.</li> <li>- VMware Essentials Plus for Small sites</li> <li>- VMware Enterprise Plus for TIA House and DR Site</li> <li>- Veeam Enterprise Management Suite for VMware</li> <li>- 2 x VCentre Licenses</li> </ul>
<b>Further Mandatory Requirements</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Technology roadmap of the OEM in relation to the proposed solution and issues of spares and components availability for a minimum of the next 5 years.</li> <li>- Default equipment Warranty</li> <li>- Bidders' experience, ability to execute, and support the proposed solution <i>(Supporting documentation with EOM's endorsement and partnership status Mandatory)</i></li> <li>- A minimum of 3 existing and contactable customer references for whom bidders have deployed a similar solution</li> <li>- Within the scope of the specifications, TIA will favourably consider, among others: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Most scalable solution</li> <li>o Value adds over and above the stipulated requirements will be an advantage</li> <li>o Industry standing (i.e Gartner)</li> </ul> </li> <li>- Configuration with USB key for VMware ESX is preferred</li> <li>- Consideration will be given to high-density, high efficiency and Green configuration</li> <li>- Requirements for regional sites are based on 2 servers in High Availability setup and shared storage</li> <li>- Solution that provides intelligent embedded management to</li> </ul>

	<p>enable centralized management, system health monitoring and reporting will be preferred</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Storage solution proposed must be VMware Certified / Accredited to support VMware.</li> </ul>

### 3. Request for Proposals

The Agency would like to invite service providers to submit their proposals that will deliver the above features and functionality.

**NB:** For purposes of simplicity, suppliers are requested to categorize their proposals as per locations in the table above.

### 4. Proprietary Information

TIA considers this Request for Proposal (RFP) and all related information, either written or verbal, which is provided to the Bidder, to be proprietary to TIA. It shall be kept confidential by the Bidder and its officers, employees, agents and representatives.

The Bidder shall not disclose, publish, or advertise this specification or related information in part or as a whole to any third party without the prior written consent of TIA. This applies regardless of whether the recipient of this RFP responds with a proposal or not.

### 5. Enquiries & Responses

All communication and attempts to solicit information of any kind relative to this RFP should be channelled to the Contact Person named in the RFP.

All Enquiries regarding this proposal shall be submitted in writing to [mandisa.pitso@tia.org.za](mailto:mandisa.pitso@tia.org.za) with “**Servers and Storage for TIA**” as the subject.

### 6. Medium of Communication

All documentation submitted in response to this RFP must be in English.

## **7. Verification of Documents**

Respondents should check the numbers of the pages to satisfy themselves that none are missing or duplicated. No liability will be accepted by TIA in regard to anything arising from the fact that pages are missing or duplicated.

## **8. Submission of RFPs**

The proposal should be submitted at:       **83 Lois Avenue**  
   **Cnr Lois Avenue and Atterbury Road**  
   **Menlyn, Pretoria**  
   **Tel: (012) 472 2700**

It is the responsibility of the prospective supplier to ensure that the proposal is deposited at the above address no later than 29 October 2012.

Four copies of each proposal must be submitted, including the original. In the event of a contradiction between the submitted copies, the original shall take precedence. Telegraphic, telefax and e-mail proposals will not be accepted.

If a courier service company is being used for delivery of the proposal document, the RFP description must be endorsed on the delivery note/courier packaging to ensure that documents are delivered to the correct recipient, as mentioned above.

## **9. General Terms and Conditions**

The Respondent is responsible for all costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the proposal.

A copy/s of any affiliations, memberships and/or accreditations that support your submission must be included in the proposal.

## 10. Project Programme

Proposals shall be submitted at the address mentioned above **no later than 12h00 noon on 29 October 2012**. TIA reserves the right to disregard proposals received after the specified due date.

## 11. Mandatory Requirements

Prospective bidders should meet the following requirements:

- Three (fairly detailed) examples of accounts where similar work has been undertaken.
- Please note that a valid Tax Clearance Certificate must be attached.
- Completed Declaration of Interest form
- Registration on the TIA Supplier Database if not already registered
- BEE scorecard.

## 12. Evaluation criteria

Bids will qualified on the basis of functionality

### a) First Stage evaluation criteria

Table 12.1

Adjudication categories and criteria	Weight	Score
1. Requisite Qualifications and Knowledge as well as the bidder's ability to execute on the technology which is the focus of this project.  <b>5 = Highly Qualified /Expert, 3 = Basic Qualification/Fair Knowledge, 1 = Not Qualified/Poor Knowledge</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>5</b>
2. Compliance to the Mandatory Technical requirements.  <b>5 = Excellent, 4 = Very good, 3 = Good, 2 = Average, 1 = Poor</b>	<b>0.3</b>	<b>5</b>
3. Prior experience in the nature of the work involved for this project (i.e. proven track record in practice and 3 reference projects) with rating as ff;  <b>5 = Excellent, 4 = Very good, 3 = Good, 2 = Average, 1 = Poor</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total weighted score/Maximum possible score</b>	<b>1.0</b>	
<b>Minimum qualifying score (expressed as percentage)</b>		<b>50%</b>



## Second stage evaluation in terms of 90/10

Table 12.2

Adjudication categories	Points
1. Bid Price	90
2. Points awarded for B-BBEE Status Level	10
Total points	100

## 13. Conclusion

- 13.1 Failure to comply with any of the terms and conditions as set out above will invalidate the Proposal.
- 13.2 TIA's decision on proposals received shall be final and binding.

## DECLARATION OF INTEREST

1. Any legal person, including persons employed by the state<sup>1</sup>, or persons having a kinship with persons employed by the state, including a blood relationship, may make an offer or offers in terms of this invitation to bid (includes a price quotation, advertised competitive bid, limited bid or proposal). In view of possible allegations of favouritism, should the resulting bid, or part thereof, be awarded to persons employed by the state, or to persons connected with or related to them, it is required that the bidder or his/her authorised representative declare his/her position in relation to the evaluating/adjudicating authority where-

- the bidder is employed by the state; and/or
  
- the legal person on whose behalf the bidding document is signed, has a relationship with persons/a person who are/is involved in the evaluation and or adjudication of the bid(s), or where it is known that such a relationship exists between the person or persons for or on whose behalf the declarant acts and persons who are involved with the evaluation and or adjudication of the bid.

2. **In order to give effect to the above, the following questionnaire must be completed and submitted with the bid.**

2.1 Full Name of bidder or his or her representative: .....

2.2 Identity Number: .....

2.3 Position occupied in the Company (director, trustee, shareholder<sup>2</sup>): .....

2.4 Company Registration Number: .....

2.5 Tax Reference Number:  
.....

2.6 VAT Registration Number: .....

2.6.1 The names of all directors / trustees / shareholders / members, their individual identity numbers, tax reference numbers and, if applicable, employee / persal numbers must be indicated in paragraph 3 below.

<sup>1</sup>“State” means –

- (a) any national or provincial department, national or provincial public entity or constitutional institution within the meaning of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999 (Act No. 1 of 1999);
- (b) any municipality or municipal entity;
- (c) provincial legislature;
- (d) national Assembly or the national Council of provinces; or
- (e) Parliament.

<sup>2</sup>“Shareholder” means a person who owns shares in the company and is actively involved in the management of the enterprise or business and exercises control over the enterprise.

2.7 Are you or any person connected with the bidder **YES / NO**  
presently employed by the state?

2.7.1 If so, furnish the following particulars:

Name of person / director / trustee / shareholder/ member: .....

Name of state institution at which you or the person  
connected to the bidder is employed : .....

Position occupied in the state institution: .....

Any other particulars:  
.....  
.....  
.....

2.7.2 If you are presently employed by the state, did you obtain the appropriate authority to undertake remunerative work outside employment in the public sector? **YES / NO**

2.7.2.1 If yes, did you attached proof of such authority to the bid document? **YES / NO**

(Note: Failure to submit proof of such authority, where applicable, may result in the disqualification of the bid.

2.7.2.2 If no, furnish reasons for non-submission of such proof:

.....  
.....  
.....

2.8 Did you or your spouse, or any of the company's directors / trustees / shareholders / members or their spouses conduct business with the state in the previous twelve months? **YES / NO**

2.8.1 If so, furnish particulars:  
.....  
.....  
.....

2.9 Do you, or any person connected with the bidder, have any relationship (family, friend, other) with a person employed by the state and who may be involved with the evaluation and or adjudication of this bid? **YES / NO**

2.9.1 If so, furnish particulars.

.....  
 .....  
 .....

2.10 Are you, or any person connected with the bidder, **YES/NO**  
 aware of any relationship (family, friend, other) between  
 any other bidder and any person employed by the state  
 who may be involved with the evaluation and or adjudication  
 of this bid?

2.10.1 If so, furnish particulars.

.....  
 .....  
 .....

2.11 Do you or any of the directors / trustees / shareholders / members **YES/NO**  
 of the company have any interest in any other related companies  
 whether or not they are bidding for this contract?

2.11.1 If so, furnish particulars:

.....  
 .....  
 .....

**3 Full details of directors / trustees / members / shareholders.**

Full Name	Identity Number	Personal Reference Number	Tax	State Number Number	Employee / Persal Number


**4 DECLARATION**

I, THE UNDERSIGNED (NAME).....

CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION FURNISHED IN PARAGRAPHS 2 and 3 ABOVE IS CORRECT.

I ACCEPT THAT THE STATE MAY REJECT THE BID OR ACT AGAINST ME IN TERMS OF PARAGRAPH 23 OF THE GENERAL CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT SHOULD THIS DECLARATION PROVE TO BE FALSE.

.....

Signature

.....

Date

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Position

.....

Name of bidder