RFI: | RFP-ACT-SACT-23-13 Exercise Cyber Coalition 2023 Storyline Support

Reference: | Q & A #2

Date of Issue: | 13 February 2023

The following questions were raised with respect to subject RFP. Responses are to provide clarification.

| Questions | Responses |
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| 1. It is stated that "Working in the required field of study and legally authorised to operate in the United States of America, at the time of bidding." If it is planned to complete the project remotely, will this Clause 4.c. Still be valid? | 1. Clause 4c "Has performed the desired past performance including size, cost and scope, as described in this RFP" is valid and bidders shall have performed the desired pas performance in the time of bidding. |
| 2. It is stated that SL300 should be consistent with the exercise. Can you share the general story line of CC exercise? | 2. At this stage the overall scenario is not defined, therefore it is not possible. |
| 3. Is it expected to design a storyline around a malware for SL300? | 3. Yes, the Storyline generally include a malware that trigger an investigation and the possibility of multinational collaboration. |
| 4. If it is, is there a specific SW (like a C2 SW) used in the exercise scenario? | 4. Not at this stage. It could be included at a later stage. |
| 5. It is stated that; "Demonstrated proficiency in English as defined in STANAG 6001 (Standardized Linguistic Profile (SLP) (Written and Oral). NATO: 3333." Will graduation from universities with English education be accepted as a demonstration of proficiency in English? | 5. Please see the link to the NATO language classification: https://www.natobilc.org/en/products/stanag-60011142_stanag-6001/ |
| 6. Can organization of cybersecurity competition "CAPTURE THE FLAG EVENT" be considered as past performance? | 6. No. Cyber Coalition is a non-competitive exercise. The goal is the collaboration. |
| 7. What type of network classification will this be delivered on? (Commercial, Unclass, Classified, etc.) | 7. It will be Unclass. |
| 8. Will the vendor be using your network hardware as part of the solution to host the event environments or would you prefer the vendor to provide the event virtualization environments? | 8. The solution will be installed on NATO infrastructure. |
| 9. If the vendor provides a solution would you prefer an isolated onsite private cloud capability or would a cloud service be preferred? | 9. The solution will be installed on an isolated NATO unclass network. No cloud services. We expect to be delivered as a set of VMs. |
| 10. Will NATO provide laptops for each participant or will the vendor? | 10. It will be NATO responsibility. |
| 11. What size of the virtualization environment would you image replicating? How many end points? | 11. Around 30 different segments. |
| 12. How many teams do you expect to participate? Will each team have cloned replicas of the exercise environment? | 12. Between 30 and 60 teams. |
| 13. How many attack types would you like to include in the exercise? | 13. The exercise will include several attack types and because of that we will have multiple Storylines. This Storyline normally should include as a minimum 1 attack type. |

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| 14. Will you be providing resources for the different cells (red, white, etc.) or would you prefer the vendor to handle that? | 14. The vendor should handle it. In general they are only scripted attacks. The vendor should handle it. In general they are only scripted attacks. |
| 15. Of the 1000 participants how many do you expect to have hands-on keyboard access to event virtualized machines? | 15. Less than 300 |
| 16. Would you like the vendor to integrate OT attacks into the scenario too? | 16. It is a possibility. |
| 17. The CC23 storyline execution support is scheduled from 29 November to 8 December. Is the actual exercise scheduled continuously in those dates? In other words, is there a min/max duration for the active engagement with the simulated environment? | 17. The period of the execution will be 27 Nov – 1 Dec for 10 working hours each day. |
| 18. Do you envisage the exercise to be full time or do you envisage participants to use the range in parallel with work activities? | 18. Full time. |
| 19. Is there a desired size of the virtual network to be used in the exercise (num of VMs/Networks etc)? | 19. We don't have a pre-defined number. Generally it is roughly 10 VMs for each network segment to be replicated |
| 20. Will the Government extend the due date until ten business days after the questions are answered? | 20. Due to tight time schedule we will not extend the deadline for the submission of proposals. |
| 21. Where is the Cyber Range? | 21. The estimation of effort required to complete the works in the scope of this SoW is the sole responsibility of the bidding contractors. However, to facilitate understanding of ACT expectations, the following assumptions are shared by the ACT project sponsor: Necessary effort of about 4 person-month of senior engineer. |
| 22. What key personnel does the Government require? | 22. There are no standards defined. It's up to the technical challenge proposed. |
| 23. What standards apply to the segments? | 23. There are no standards defined. It's up to the technical challenge proposed. |
| 24. How many simultaneous participants ? | 24. Around 300. |
| 25. When is CC3 execution? | 25. 27 November to 1 December |
| 26. Where is the travel to? | 26. It "may" be required to travel to the Final Coordination Conference. The destination is not yet confirmed but it will be certainly in Europe. |