

Subject:

**IFIB-ACT-SACT-26-02 PART A – Q&A #1**

Reference:

**Q&A PART 1**

Date of Issue:

**3 OCT 25**

The following questions were raised with respect to subject **IFIB-ACT-SACT- 26-02 CDMS**. Responses are to provide clarification.

Questions	Responses
<p>1. For on-site contractors wherein a security clearance is required, the Contractor Company must hold a Facilities Security Clearance (FSC) at NATO or National SECRET or above.</p> <p>This is on page 8. Does this mean that [REDACTED] must hold an FSC or does my current active secret NATO clearance suffice?</p>	<p>1. The company is required to hold a Facilities Security Clearance at the NATO or National SECRET level. This is not the same as the personnel security clearance, but in addition to it.</p>
<p>2. For on-site contractors wherein a security clearance is required, the Contractor Company must hold a Facilities Security Clearance (FSC) at NATO or National SECRET or above.</p> <p>Is there a waiver or additional time allotted for small independent contractors (LLCs) to get a FSC? DCSA states on their FCL Orientation Handbook states that on average it takes 45 days to put the FSC package together for DSCA review. With the closing date for bids this doesn't allow the time required to secure the FSC by the closing date.</p> <p>This will limit the ability of small companies to compete for this NATO contract.</p>	<p>2. The requirement to have a Facilities Security Clearance equal to that of the on-site candidate is a mandatory criterion imposed by NATO Security Policy and this cannot be waived.</p> <p>Due to the need to have this contract awarded as quickly as possible, we regrettably cannot offer additional time to allow for this process.</p>
<p>3. DCSA is advising that Facilities Security Clearance takes at least 8-12 weeks to process. Can a proposal be submitted with an open application for clearance in place? Please advise.</p>	<p>3. No. The FSC must be active at the time of bid submission.</p>

<p>4. Invitation For International Bidding Amendment 1, 11., a., 6) and Enclosure 1</p> <p>The referenced sections of the referenced document list a required “technical volumes” (reference one) and “Technical Proposal.” (reference 2). Are these referring to the same requirement even though they are named differently and will NATO describe what should be included relative to this/these requirement(s)?</p>	<p>4. Yes. Reference to a Technical Volume and Technical Proposal is the same. The expectation is that the technical proposal will contain the administrative requirements to include (but not limited to):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Company Information</li> <li>Past Performance</li> <li>Compliance Certifications</li> <li>Understanding of Requirements and proposed strategy for support</li> <li>Key Personnel and supporting CVs / completed Annex for each proposed candidate</li> </ul>
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