

RFP-ACT-SACT-26-36 M&S PoC Q&A #3

31 March 2026

Question #	RFP Part & Section Reference	RFP Page#	Question	Submission Date	Response
24	Annex A: SOW	14-15 16-17	<p>For AI-enabled automation and decision-support components under Requirement 1, is the use of state-of-the-art commercial foundation models (e.g., OpenAI GPT-series or Anthropic Claude) permitted, provided they are deployed within a secure, private cloud environment (e.g., Microsoft Azure) that meets NATO data handling and security requirements?</p> <p>a. If not permitted, please confirm whether open-weight/self-hosted models are required, and whether hybrid architectures (commercial models for development/testing, open models for operational deployment) would be acceptable.</p>	31MAR26	Both proofs of concept are based on unclassified data and doesn't require demonstration on any of NATO network, therefore if AI-enabled automation is a part of design, then it is up to the contractor to recommend if the open-weight or self-hosted models should be used.
25	N/A	N/A	<p>Software Accreditation: Could HQ SACT clarify the process for accreditation or approval of newly developed software and prototypes within this effort? Specifically, are there defined security, interoperability, or governance requirements, and are there any associated costs or administrative steps that the contractor should plan for?</p>	30MAR26	Both proofs of concept doesn't require any software accreditation, therefore any related cost shouldn't be considered.
26	N/A	N/A	<p>On-Site Testing & Travel: The RFP indicates that the majority of effort will be performed at the contractor's facility, could HQ SACT confirm whether limited on-site visits are anticipated or supported for integration, testing, and demonstration activities? If so, should such travel be included within the firm fixed price proposal?</p>	30MAR26	No travel will be required for this requirement and shall not be included in the price proposal.
27	Annex A: SOW	15, 18-19	<p>Data Hosting & Access: Could HQ SACT provide additional detail on the expected hosting environment for the centralized common agreed dataset? Specifically, should the contractor propose a contractor-hosted solution, or will NATO provide infrastructure? Additionally, which user communities (e.g., NATO commands, training centers, partner nations) are expected to access and manage the dataset?</p>	30MAR26	Recommendation on the hosting environment is a part of the contractor design phase. NATO will not provide any infrastructure. The whole NATO Command Structure should have access to the dataset; management should be limited to roles of "M&S DB managers".

28	Annex A: SOW	14-15 16-17	<p>Definition of “Generating” Simulation Actions: The RFP references “generating” simulation orders and effects from MEL/MIL events. Could HQ SACT clarify the intended level of automation? For example, does “generating” imply fully automated creation of simulation actions from scripted inputs, or user-assisted generation where operators define key parameters (e.g., unit, intent, movement, and expected effects) that are then translated into simulation actions?</p>	30MAR26	<p>It is part of the contractor design, if a full automation is enabled, then there needs to be verification and validation mechanism in place to assure that all is final simulation actions, combination action and effects are explainable. The overall objective is to reach the maximum level of automation while validity assured.</p>
29	Annex B: Requirement 1 Requirements Matrix	22	<p>Access to Simulation Systems (JTLS/JCATS): Could HQ SACT clarify whether access to JTLS and JCATS will be provided to the successful contractor after contract award?</p> <p>a. If not, would it be acceptable for the contractor to obtain the required access by a specified date early in the period of performance without negatively impacting proposal evaluation, in order to support development, integration, and testing?</p>	30MAR26	<p>There will not be granted access to any system by HQ SACT prior or after award. The granted access needs to be provided by the contractor. See more details in QA#2, Question#13.</p>
30	N/A	N/A	<p>NATO Systems Access: Could you please confirm whether provision of a NATO Secret laptop, along with the ability to remotely access NATO Secret systems, will be included as part of the contract award?</p>	30MAR26	<p>Not required, this work is unclassified.</p>