



Call for expressions of interests to participate in a call for tenders

This ex-ante publicity aims to alert the economic operators on the market that a call for tenders will be launched. The main information relating to this invitation for expression of interests is set out below. The contracting authority will invite to tender ONLY to economic operators who expressed their interest, if any, as well as to any other economic operator that the contracting authority wishes to invite. The invitation to tender and the tender specifications will therefore only be provided to those economic operators when the contracting authority launches the negotiated procedure.

Title: Functional System Architecture – the System Pillar

Reference: S2R.21.LVP.01

Type of call for tenders: Negotiated procedure for a middle value contract (point 14 of the EU Financial Regulation 2018/1046)¹

Contracting Authority: Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking

Type of contract: framework contract for services

Maximum total value of the contract (including renewals): EUR 130 000

Duration of the contract: 31 December 2022

Deadline for expression of interests: 9 July 2021

Indicative (*) date of dispatch of the invitations to tender (launch of the procedure): 16 July 2021

Indicative (*) deadline for submission of tenders: 23 August 2021

() Those dates are for indicative purposes only and do not constitute any obligation for the contracting authority. The exact deadlines, e.g. the deadline for the submission of tenders will be indicated in the invitation to tender.*

¹ Financial Regulation (Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union, repealing Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012).

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Description of the services/supplies to be purchased:

Since 2018, the Shift2Rail Joint Undertaking has dedicated activities to define the rail functional system architecture - at system of system level – via the implementation of dedicated research and innovation projects. In Feb 2021, the Commission adopted a proposal to the Member States to establish a new Rail Research and Innovation partnership – Europe’s Rail Joint Undertaking - structured around two pillars, of which one dedicated to the new rail concept of operation(s) and underpinning functional system architecture – the System Pillar. In order to successfully continue the work in this respect, the S2R JU would like to avail itself with the necessary formal system architecture expertise and competence to be provided by a contractor. Such expertise and competence should be demonstrated by extensive experience in different areas, beyond rail, such as from other modes of transport – e.g. aviation, automotive, etc. - or sectors – e.g. communication, energy, nuclear. The S2R JU will benefit from such competence and expertise to ensure the transition to the new Rail R&I partnership, in particular setting up the preparatory activities in relation to the System Pillar; the contractor may also be required to provide training to the rail experts involved in rail system architecture in a way to build a solid knowledge for the future System Pillar works.

Participation in this call for tenders

Participation in this procurement procedure is open on equal terms to all natural and legal persons coming within the scope of the Treaties.

It also opens to all natural and legal persons established in Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT) as listed in the Annex II of the TFEU and to all natural and legal persons established in Iceland, Norway and Lichtenstein, as per the EEA Agreement.

Notice for tenderers established in the United Kingdom

Please be aware that following the entry into force of the EU-UK Withdrawal Agreement² on 1 February 2020 and in particular Articles 127(6), 137 and 138, the references to natural or legal persons residing or established in a Member State of the European Union are to be understood as including natural or legal persons residing or established in the United Kingdom. UK residents and entities are therefore eligible to participate under this call for tenders.

If you are interested in participating in this call for tenders, please send an e-mail to the following e-mail address_ procurement@s2r.europa.eu and indicate your contact details (name, organisation, address, country and email address) no later than **9 July 2021**.

² Agreement on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community

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Economic operators who do not express in writing their interest before the deadline indicated above and to the above e-mail will not be invited to submit a tender. The latter restriction does not apply to the economic operators directly invited by the S2R JU.