



Expression of Interest: HCF20200027. Provision of Digital Underwater Communications Capability Hunter Class Frigate Program

Including:

Pre-qualification Requirements;

Scope of Work (High Level); and

Capability Questionnaire

ASC SHIPBUILDING

Acronyms and Definitions

ABN	Australian Business Number
AIC	Australian Industry Capability
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASDEFCON	Australian Standard for Defence Contracting
BAE	BAE Systems Australia Limited
CDP	Confidentiality Deed Poll
CDRL	Contract Data Requirement List
DUWC	Digital Underwater Communications
DISP	Defence Industry Security Program
EOI	Expressions Of Interest
HAIL	Hydro Acoustic Information Link
HCFP	Hunter Class Frigate Program
ICN	Industry Capability Network
ILS	Integrated Logistic Support
ISO	International Organization for Standardization
ITAR	International Traffic in Arms Regulations
MASQ	Multichannel Acoustic Signalling QoS
NDA	Non-Disclosure Agreement
OQE	Objective Quality Evidence
RFT	Request for Tender
SOW	Scope of Work
SWaP-C	Space, Weight and Power-Cooling
T26	British Type 26 Global Combat Ship

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Expression of Interest: Digital Underwater Communications

BAE Systems Australia's subsidiary, ASC Shipbuilding, has been awarded a contract by the Australian Government to build nine of the world's most advanced anti-submarine warfare frigates for the Royal Australian Navy. ASC Shipbuilding are seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the delivery of a Digital Underwater Communications (DUWC) capability to support the Hunter Class Frigate Program (HCFP).

The Hunter class frigate is designed for maximum versatility and flexibility in operational roles, from humanitarian and disaster relief operations to high-intensity warfare. Modified to meet Australian requirements, the frigate will be constructed on an acoustically quiet hull and feature unique sonar capabilities, modular digital design and open systems architecture to facilitate through-life support and upgrades as new technology develops.

Nine Hunter Class Frigates will be built at the ASC Shipbuilding Facility at the Osborne Naval Shipyard, Adelaide, SA. BAE Systems Australia and ASC Shipbuilding are committed to maximising opportunities for Australian industry through the Hunter program, which is the largest surface ship project in the nation's defence history.

The purpose of the Capability Questionnaire is to establish the feasibility of prospective industrial partners to provide a DUWC capability to ASC Shipbuilding across the HCFP. The information you provide within your EOI will be used to down select contractors to receive a formal Request for Tender.

Scope of Work (High Level): DUWC

The following capabilities and components are required:

- Hydro Acoustic Information Link (HAIL),
- Multi-channel Acoustic Signalling QoS (MASQ),
- Interoperability with the Collins Class Submarine Tracking Subsystem,
- A standalone transducer or transducers suitable for installation within for installation within the Hunter Class Frigate bow sonar dome, and non-interfering with the existing hull mounted sonar array,
- Inboard components to operate the chosen send/receive component, including HMI and data interfaces,
- Integration with platform services and
- Integration with combat systems.

The DUWC supplier shall perform all activities necessary to manage, design, develop, construct, integrate, test, deliver, install and obtain Certification and Acceptance of the Supplies by ASC Shipbuilding.

Earned Value Management reporting will be a key requirement for contractors to complete. A sound knowledge and understanding of this reporting mechanism is essential with the data to be provided by the contractor having a direct link into



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overall HCFP reports which will be issued to and reviewed by ASC Shipbuilding's end customer.

Contractors will be responsible for the creation and adherence to a detailed schedule which will be embedded as part of the overall HCFP schedule. The schedule will be tracked and provide confidence to ASC Shipbuilding and the end customer that the contractor will meet its requirements for both material and labour to complete the work scope. The current plan is for the contractor to be responsible for storing all procured material offsite, delivering directly to the ASC Shipbuilding yard or land based test site only when required under the agreed schedule.

ASC Shipbuilding and the Commonwealth of Australia is committed to maximising Australian Industry Capability as part of the Project. The successful contractor will be required to provide a detailed plan for how they intend to support this requirement.

Pre-Qualification Requirements

Prospective contractors wishing to submit a response to ASC Shipbuilding's EOI are required to comply with the following to be considered compliant.

1. Acknowledgement in writing that the information contained in the EOI documentation is proprietary to ASC Shipbuilding and is made available for the recipient on the express understanding that it is to be treated as confidential for information purposes only and that it may not be copied, used or disclosed to others in whole or in part for any purpose except as authorised in writing by BAE Systems.
2. Review and understand the requirements of the ASC Shipbuilding Pty Limited Supplier Qualification Assurance Manual available online via the following link: <https://www.baesystems.com/en-us/our-company/about-us/our-suppliers>.
3. Suppliers will also be required to sign a HCFP Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), and a Confidentiality Deed Poll (CDP) in favour of the Commonwealth of Australia. Please ensure you download and update as applicable the highlighted areas of ASC Shipbuilding Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA). Contractors are required to provide a signed PDF copy of the completed NDA along with written confirmation that all clauses have been agreed in full. Any clauses not agreed in full are required to be confirmed in writing and submitted as part of the EOI response.

Capability Questionnaire

EOI respondents are requested to submit a response document answering all questions detailed below. Supporting artefacts are permitted where applicable.

1. Provide a brief outline of prior experience in the design, development, construction, integration, testing, delivery, installation and certification of HAIL and MASQ digital communications links.



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2. Describe at a high-level your approach to resolving combat system and platform integration issues, including resolving issues with respect to Space, Weight and Power-Cooling (SWaP-C) and integration with the Combat Management System.
3. Confirm that your organisation has the capability and a clear understanding of the complexities of the High Level SOW provided in the Expression of Interest advising any areas of non-compliance.
4. Will your company require engaging in any joint ventures or alternative contracting models to complete the SOW? Details to be provided.
5. Provide details on the number of certified Project Managers, Schedulers, Planners and Tradespeople within your organisation including qualifications and years of experience working on underwater communications projects.
6. How many of these employees hold a current Australian security clearance and to what level? Please specify details.
7. Do you hold a current DISP membership? Confirm level of membership and years held.
8. State Professional Indemnity, Product and Public Liability Insurance coverage. Copies of certificates to be provided.
9. State Marine Liability and Marine Products liability insurance or advise if included as part of above policies. Copies of certificates to be provided.
10. Do you have quality system accreditation under ISO 9001:2015? State and provide copies of acquired company certification and accreditation.
11. Does your company comply with all relevant Anti-Slavery, Anti-Bribery, and Corruption legislation in your jurisdiction?
12. Do you have a clear understanding of the requirements for providing ASDEFCON CDRL data items, ILS and OQE documentation? Please provide examples of experience.
13. Provide details of how your company can support ASC Shipbuilding's commitment to AIC. Detail any areas based on your knowledge and previous experience with underwater communications work scopes where you see that ASC Shipbuilding could potentially look to maximise its AIC opportunities.
14. Provide details of previous projects your company has completed Earned Value Management reporting.
15. Stipulate any further competitive discriminators currently not identified including how your organisation would collaborate as a team sharing data, schedules and resources if required to ensure best for program outcomes are achieved.



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16. Have you updated your ICN company profile with the your trading name, contact details, website, ABN, number of employees, annual turnover, export details (if applicable) and ANZSIC codes? This information will be used in assessing this EOI.

**Closing date for expression of interest:
4.00PM ACST on Saturday 23th May 2020**

