

	<p>Minutes of Pre-Bid Meeting <b>(Clarifications and Amendments)</b></p>
<p><b>Subject</b></p>	<p><b>Procurement of Hardware for NCSOC - CERT/GOSL/GOODS/NCB/2023/02</b></p>
<p><b>Date and Time of the Pre-bid meeting</b></p>	<p>May 2, 2023 (02.00 pm.)</p>

Ref. Page and No. of Bid Document	Queries (Q) raised by the vendors and Clarifications (C)
Page 52.	<p>Q: If you are planning to host this solution in a data center environment, you can take off server rack plus L2 switch cluster to reduce cost. Since you have a requirement for a server rack also, would you mind go for that option?</p> <p>C: we are planning to implement this architecture in our infrastructure and L2 switch cluster cater only our requirements, we don't need to share our activities with other devices in data center since the security matters. Sri Lanka CERT planning to get data center co-location services separately.</p>
Page No. 38, 1.08	<p>Q: In the proposed solution do you need separate backup recovery solution for this or from the same vender as there is a contradiction with 1.08 and 1.09?</p> <p>C: Sri Lanka CERT expect VM level replication with proposed solution which should support replication to external environment (DR). The proposed solution must be tightly coupled with the HCI solution providing configuration, management and monitoring of VM level from the same HCI management interface.</p>
Page No. 38, 1.09	<p>Q: Do you require any backup solution for this?</p> <p>C: Sri Lanka CERT expect VM level replication with proposed solution which should support replication to external environment (DR).</p>
Page No. 39, 1.16	<p>Q: Minimum memory should be 768 GB per node. It should be using 128 GB or can you change it to 64 GB since in intel 3<sup>rd</sup> generation architecture it should be balance the memory?</p> <p>C: 64 GB memory modules will be allowed. However overall memory requirement for each node should be matched accordingly.</p>
Page No. 23	<p>Q: Bidder should be in operation for at least 8 years. Can you reduce the no of years since the market stability cannot be measured in no of years?</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>

Page No. 33	<p>Q: Can you consider changing delivery time from 8 weeks to 12 weeks?</p> <p>C: 12 weeks.</p>
Page No. 27	<p>Q: Price schedule can be modified to foreign currency for foreign suppliers or it should be in LKR?</p> <p>C: It is mandatory to provide pricing for each component according to given price schedule.</p>
Page No. 43, 2.13	<p>Q: What about the SFP requirement in Firewall?</p> <p>C: It should be full populated.</p>
Page No. 43, 2.13	<p>Q: Since you require 40G throughput, it is almost an ISP grid. do you need such a huge switch?</p> <p>C: If you went through our architecture carefully you will see that our backend throughput is around 40G. Since this will start monitoring most of the government typical infrastructure, the network might need more bandwidth. That's why we mentioned 40G.</p>
Page No. 43, 2.9	<p>Q: For cluster switches is it mandatory to be in Gartner report?</p> <p>C: Yes. It's is mandatory. We have mentioned the Gartner requirement. Not only for the Firewall. Each and every component, it is mandatory.</p>
Page No. 43, 2.9	<p>Q: For the L2 switches and HCI switch cluster, can you modify the category in Gartner report? Since this is deploy in a data center, can you change this requirement into data center networking category?</p> <p>C: : In addition to mentioned Gartner category Wired and wireless LAN, the data center switches category also allowed, however it is mandatory provide reports for year 2022, 2021, 2020 from a particular category.</p>
Page No. 46, 2.53	<p>Q: What is the retention period you are looking for?</p> <p>C: 3 months is enough.</p>

Page No. 45, 2.12,2.46	<p>Q: For log retention in firewall, do you need to keep it there itself or you need a separate management? What is your requirement? Need a clarification on 2.12 and 2.46</p> <p>C: Local storage and management should be separated during unavailability of management appliance log should be stored locally.</p>
Page No. 44, 2.25	<p>Q: Any specific Enterprise License requirement for SSL VPN?</p> <p>C: SSL VPN is a requirement for which bidder must complied 2.21</p>
Page No. 45, 2.41	<p>Q: 9500 is the actual requirement, because most of the firewalls handle 4500?</p> <p>C: According to our observation, most of the firewalls support on this number.</p>
Page No. 40, 1.32	<p>Q: We need to clarify whether you are planning to go for a disaster recovery solution, you will consider in licensing with disaster recovery escalation or something like that?</p> <p>C. Basically solution should support but here we don't request licensing.</p>
Page No. 44, 2.25 and 2.24	<p>Q: If you are having a DR someday, it is like it should be open to have in a different setup itself or do you want similar kind of specification?</p> <p>C: Similar kind of specification</p>
Page No. 46, 2.53	<p>Q: Is there any idea about the log rate and network size? (required for licensing)</p> <p>C: There should not be a licensing limitation.</p>
Page No. 48, 3.24	<p>Q: PoE is mandatory?</p> <p>C: Point removed.</p>
Page No. 47, 3.16	<p>Q: Fast Ethernet is mandatory?</p> <p>C: Not mandatory.</p>

Page No. 47, 3.11	<p>Q: Another 4*40G slot is a mandatory requirement to provide?</p> <p>C: We don't need to populate. But expansion slot should be available</p>
Page No. 47, 3.8	<p>Q: If we propose a modular switch will that be okay for you?</p> <p>C: Ok, however bidder should populate port requirement accordingly.</p>
Page No. 47, 3.10, 3.9	<p>Q: You need all the 8 ports?</p> <p>C: Yes. Those 8 ports need to be populated.</p>
Page No. 47, 3.14, 3.15	<p>Q: Is Stacking mandatory for this requirement?</p> <p>C: Basically, our requirement of this to add more switches. If your solution can cater that requirement that's okay. But you have to comply for this stacking bandwidth.</p>
Page No. 42, 1.54	<p>Q: Proposed switches are not in the Gartner report so consider an appropriate category?</p> <p>C: In addition to mentioned Gartner category Wired and wireless LAN, the data center switches category also allowed, however it is mandatory to provide reports for year 2022, 2021, 2020 from a particular category.</p>
Page No. 42, 1.56	<p>Q: Is there any specific requirement for this.</p> <p>C: It's not specific. As long as it supports, it would be fine</p>
Page No. 38, 1.09	<p>Q: The point 1.09 dictates that the HCI Solution should be from a single vendor including all computing nodes. Kindly specify if this clause will be taken into serious consideration in the evaluation or we are cleared to propose any cost effective HCI solutions that comprises products from multiple vendors.</p> <p>C: This a mandatory requirement, bidder should provide each component from a single vendor.</p>
Page No. 19, ITB 15.1	<p>Q: Since the Price Schedule on the Tender shows US\$, is it mandatory to provide CIF price for foreign suppliers (Mandatory) OR can we propose all in Sri Lankan Rupees?</p> <p>** Similar to ITB 15.1: Can we Quote all in SL Rupees (since in this page possible) May be CIF &amp; complete rupee Quote can be accepted??</p> <p>** Warranty AMC will be provided only for Hardware as Software Principals do not release YOY (Year on Year) Price Models. These values will be indicative as we, partners are compiled to global terms governed by</p>

	<p>principal.</p> <p>C: It is mandatory to provide pricing for each component according to given price schedule.</p>
	<p>Q: Please reconfirm Training: if this is Overseas Training or Local Training (RFP looks like foreign)</p> <p>C: OEM certified training should be provided.</p>
<b>2.1 HCI Solution</b>	
Page No. 39 1.16	<p>Q: Is the 128 GB DDR4 Mandatory for RAM. Considering the Cost Benefit?</p> <p>C: 64 GB memory modules will be allowed. However overall memory requirement for each node should be matched accordingly.</p>
Page No. 39 1.17	<p>Q: Is the 4 x 1GE Interfaces mandatory?</p> <p>C: Yes</p> <p>Q: Is it possible to modify it to 2 Interfaces?</p> <p>C: No</p>
Page No. 39 1.22	<p>Q: This Clause is restricting the other OEM's to bid since the In-Kernel is a proprietary feature of VSAN. Please Generalize this clause</p> <p>C: Proposed HCI solution included Hypervisor, SDS and network layer should be integrate with kernel, code or OS level to get better performance and reduce compatibility issues in future. Which means Virtualization and storage layer services should manage without depending any separate VMs or proxy running on each node or connecting any other external hardware. No change in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 42 1.54	<p>Q: Please modify or add the clause to Gartner magic Quadrant leader for Data Center Networking since the switches will be deployed in DC environment</p> <p>C: In addition to mentioned Gartner category Wired and wireless LAN, the data center switches category also allowed, however it is mandatory to provide reports for year 2022, 2021, 2020 from a specific category only.</p>

Page No. 42 1.56	<p>Q: Please explain this requirement further. Since the switches will handle Layer 2 and 3 Traffic and NFS/SMB/iSCSI are Layer 7 Protocols. Could you drop this clause?</p> <p>C: This is not mandatory</p>
<b>2.2 Next Generation Firewall</b>	
Page No. 43 2.13	<p>Q: Does the solution really require 40Gig Interface, can we do port aggregation</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 43 2.15	<p>Q: Do the solution require this much of throughput, can we reduce it</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 44 2.16	<p>Q: Do the solution require this much of throughput, can we reduce it</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 44 2.17	<p>Q: Do the solution require this much of throughput, can we reduce it</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 44 2.18	<p>Q: Do the solution require this much of throughput, can we reduce it</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 44 2.19	<p>Q: Do the solution require this much of throughput, can we reduce it</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
Page No. 44 2.12	<p>Q: Is it mandatory, since you already requested a separate appliance for logging?</p> <p>C: Yes</p>
Page No. 44 2.22	<p>Q: Does the solution require such a concurrent session, is there any statistic taken to size this, Will 7M concurrent sessions be enough?</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement.</p>
<b>2.3 L2 Switches</b>	

Page No. 47 3.7	<p>Q: Please modify or add the clause to Gartner magic Quadrant leader for Data Center Networking since the switches will be deployed in DC environment</p> <p>C: In addition to mentioned Gartner category Wired and wireless LAN, the data center switches category also allowed, however it is mandatory provide reports for year 2022, 2021, 2020 from a specific category only.</p>
Page No. 47 3.1	<p>Q: Please explain the selection of 40G Uplinks</p> <p>C: If you went through our architecture carefully you will see that our backend throughput is around 40G. Since this will start monitoring most of the government typical infrastructure, the network might need more bandwidth. That's why we mentioned 40G.</p>
Page No. 47 3.14, 3.15	<p>Q: Stacking is a proprietary feature. Please drop this clause for wider OEM participation</p> <p>C: No changes in this requirement, however bidder can provide alternate solution to match this requirement.</p>
Page No. 47 3.16	<p>Q: Is this clause mandatory? hence Gigabit ethernet is backward compatible with 100BASE-TX</p> <p>C: not mandatory</p>
Page No. 48 3.24	<p>Q: Is there an actual requirement for POE in this switch?</p> <p>C: Point removed.</p>
Page No. 48 3.30	<p>Q: Is the Kerberos feature mandatory?</p> <p>C: Yes</p>
Page No. 49 3.31	<p>Q: Would it be fine if the open standards for the mentioned proprietary protocols are available (same functionality in different name/protocol)</p> <p>C: Yes, it should be covered all features that we have requested</p>
Page No. 49 3.34	<p>Q: Would it be fine if the open standards for the mentioned proprietary protocols are available (same functionality in different name/protocol)</p> <p>C: Yes, it should be covered all features that we have requested.</p>