

24/04/1999 S80

European Central Bank

**ECB - encryption units (D-Frankfurt-on-Main)****(1999/S 80-56606/EN)****Accelerated restricted procedure for the supply of hardware encryption units for public X.25 communications****ECB X.25 encryption hardware (Frankfurt -on-Main)****Accelerated restricted tender procedure (equipment)**

1. **Awarding authority:** European Central Bank, Kaiserstraße 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main. Facsimile (49 69) 13 44 77 05 (Mr Duncan Archer).

2. **Description of the fields covered:** (CPV 30200000). Hardware to provide encryption of data over switched public X.25 networks.

The units must be capable of handling X.25 packet-oriented communications with transmission speeds ranging from 19,2 kbps up to 1 024 kbps.

The planned encryption security level to be attained with the introduction of hardware encryption is equivalent to triple DES or higher; in addition the units must include compression that can be activated independently of encryption. The encryption units must be Year-2000 compliant and the supplier must have support capability throughout all European Union countries.

3. **Place where services are to be provided:** At the above address.

4., 5.

6. **Number of bidders to be invited to tender:** A shortlist of 3-5 will be sent the tender documents and invited to submit a bid.

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8. **Duration of contract or time-limit for completion of the service:** The contract will be awarded in May 1999 and installation of the units system is targeted for the middle of June. The units should be fully operational by the end of June 1999.

9. **Legal form in case of group bidders:** No special legal form is required. In any consortium bid, 1 bidder must act as prime agency. Other members of the consortium may be required to become jointly and severally liable.

10. a) **Justification for use of the accelerated procedure:** A moratorium, related to Year-2000 changeover, on implementing new systems.

10. b) **Deadline for receipt of applications:** First assessment of applications will be made at the beginning of May 1999.

10. c) **Address to which applications should be sent:** As in 1. The envelope should be marked: 'Restricted tender for X.25 encryption hardware, for the attention of Duncan Archer'.

10. d) **Language(s):** English.

11. **Final date for dispatch of invitations to tender:** Foreseen date for final tender submission: 21. 5. 1999.

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13. **Qualifications:** Bidders are expected to be substantial suppliers of appropriate hardware to organizations and companies with similar security and data-protection requirements. Potential providers are asked to provide the following information:

a) name, legal status, VAT number, address, telephone and facsimile numbers, as well as the contact person's name,

b) number of years' trading. Copies of annual reports and accounts for the past 3 years and a list of any and all legal claims and/or lawsuits pending against the company,

c) a statement explaining the preparedness of your company for Year 2000 and specific information on the Year-2000 compliance of the proposed hardware,

d) a list of companies using the proposed hardware, including the names and addresses of 3 companies (together with the name of a contact person) that may be contacted as referees,

e) any other pertinent information.

14. **Award criteria:** To be specified in the tender documents.
15. **Other information:** All applications, proposals and presentations must be submitted/conducted in English.
16. **Date of dispatch of the notice:** 19. 4. 1999.
17. **Date of receipt by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities:** 19. 4. 1999.