

18/01/2003 S13

European Central Bank

**ECB - restricted tender for the supply of hardware, software and related maintenance services for the data network of the European system of central banks (ESCB-Net) (D-Frankfurt-on-Main)**

**2003/S 13-009154****European Central Bank****(Supply)**

1. **Name, address, e-mail, telephone and fax numbers of the contracting authority:** European Central Bank, Kaiserstraße 29, D-60311 Frankfurt am Main. Tel.: (49-69) 13 44 75 31. Fax: (49-69) 13 44 75 03. E-mail: [humphrey.rudgard@ecb.int](mailto:humphrey.rudgard@ecb.int).
2. (a) **The award procedure chosen:** Restricted tender procedure.  
(b) **Where applicable, a justification for use of the accelerated procedure:** Not applicable.  
(c) **Form of the contract for which tenders are being requested:** Fixed-term, fixed-price contract.
3. **Place of delivery:** All 15 Member States of the EU (Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Spain, France, United Kingdom, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Sweden and Finland), and 10 EU accession countries (Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Cyprus and Malta).  
(a) **The nature of the goods to be supplied, including whether tenders are requested for purchase, lease, rental or hire purchase or a combination of these:** Hardware and software components for a pan-European network, replacement/upgrade at the European Central Bank and EU national central banks and their backup sites, and new network hardware and software components for additional disaster standby sites, the accession country central banks and their backup sites. The ECB is looking to purchase the goods, but may also be interested in an alternative, separately priced leasing option.  
The data communications network utilizes the secure communication channels provided by an underlying wide area network infrastructure.  
The service provider is expected to deliver the following services:
  - the supply of network hardware (e.g. gateways, servers, firewalls) and software products and consequent system integration services;
  - the provision of expert technical support services to enable the utilization of the underlying wide area network services and the interfacing of existing local area networks;
  - the provision of expert technical support services to enable the migration of the existing network components to the new ones; this will also include the secure decommissioning and disposal of current components;
  - documentation and training services for operational and support staff;
  - maintenance and ongoing support services some of which may be required on site;
  - system integration and development services to implement future enhancements as specified at that time.
- (b) **The quantity of the goods to be supplied, including any options for further procurement and, if known, an estimate of the timing when such options may be exercised. In the case of regular or of recurring contracts, also, if known, an estimate of the subsequent call for tender for the supplies to be procured:**
  - The supply and full installation of network hardware (e.g. gateways, servers, firewalls) and software upgrades at 41 existing nodes. Up to a further 70 nodes may be required to be equipped and brought online, making this a maximum of 111 (a

production environment node currently consists of ESCB-Net hardware that fits in one 19 inch rack cabinet. A test environment node currently consists of ESCB-Net hardware that fits in four 19 inch rack cabinets), with 41 existing nodes, and up to 70 additional nodes.

- Migration of the existing network components to the new ones at the 17 current ESCB sites (two ECB sites in the Frankfurt area and 15 sites at the EU national central banks): this will also include the secure decommissioning of current components.

- Documentation and training for operational and support staff at all sites.

- Maintenance and ongoing support for an initial period of 5 years. It is intended that the maintenance contract will include the option to provide additional equipment to new locations that may be added to the network plus all spares, upgrades and replacements that may become necessary during the initial and any renewal contract term to ensure that the products implemented are maintained at supportable versions.

4. **Time-limit for the completion of supplies or duration of the supplies contract and, as far as possible, time-limit for starting or delivering supplies:** The pan-European network hardware and software components should be implemented, tested and migrated by August 2004. First orders are expected to be placed from September 2003.
5. **Where applicable, the legal form to be assumed by the grouping of suppliers to whom the contract is awarded:** For joint submission between two or more suppliers, one supplier must act as prime contractor for organizational and administrative purposes. No special legal form is required, but in the case of groupings of suppliers each provider shall be jointly and severally liable for the contract until the moment of acceptance.
6. (a) **The final date for the receipt of requests to participate:** 17.30 hours CET on Wednesday, 19 February 2003.  
(b) **The address to which they must be sent:** A written application must be submitted and sent to the address below with the envelope marked 'Restricted tender for ESCB-Net Technology Refresh - for the attention of Humphrey Rudgard'. In addition applicants are requested to enclose a copy of all appropriate parts of their application on a diskette or CD preferably in Microsoft Word 97/Excel 97/Powerpoint 97 or Adobe Acrobat Reader (.pdf) or to send a copy to the e-mail address in 1 above: European Central Bank, Postfach 16 03 19, D -60066 Frankfurt am Main.  
(c) **The language(s) in which they must be drawn up:** English.
7. **The earliest date for the dispatch of invitations to tender:** 28 February 2003.
8. **Where applicable, any deposits and guarantees required:** None.
9. **Information concerning the supplier's personal position and the information and formalities necessary for an appraisal of the minimum economic and technical standards required of him:** Organizations interested in tendering should submit with their application the following information:
  - (a) company name, address, telephone number, fax number and contact name with extension/direct numbers and e-mail address;
  - (b) legal status of the company and give details of all parent or subsidiary companies, if applicable;
  - (c) statement of the company's overall turnover and the turnover in respect of the goods to which the contract relates for the previous three years;
  - (d) demonstrated evidence of contracts for the supply and services of similar systems integration in the past 3 years in which the supplier was acting as single point of contact for the service, delivery and operational support on a pan-European basis (especially if this should include references to those countries listed in section 3. This should include the value of the contract, recipient and contact name to whom reference may be made.
10. **The criteria for the award of the contract where they are not mentioned in the invitation to tender:** As defined in the invitation to tender (ITT).
11. **Envisaged number or range of suppliers which will be invited to tender:** More than 3.
12. **Where applicable, prohibition on variants:** None.

13. **Other information:** This is a new and separate tender and should not be confused with the ECB's recent tender for pan-European WAN the Core Net.
14. **Date(s) of publication of the prior information notice in the 'Supplement to the Official Journal of the European Communities' or references to its non-publication:** Not applicable.
15. **Date of dispatch of the notice:** 14.1.2003.
16. **Date of receipt of the notice by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities:** 14.1.2003.