

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

RFI# - 07ITZ0119

Department of Information Technology

Request for Information

For

Statewide Communications Interoperability

Issue Date:

October 12, 2007

Response Deadline:

October 26, 2007, @ 2:00 P.M. EDT

Issued by:

Connecticut Department of Information Technology
101 East River Drive
East Hartford, CT 06108

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1 Background

The State of Connecticut is developing a Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan to enhance communications among public safety organizations. State, federal, local, non-governmental organizations and tribal nations are working together to develop a plan and maximize available funds to meet this need. The objective of this Request for Information (RFI) is to obtain information about the products available to enhance or replace existing public safety communication systems or services.

The project stakeholders are interested in learning about available products and services. While the RFI is intended to allow providers to present information about available solutions, responses to the RFI should not be voluminous, highly detailed documents. Brief synopses of available communication products and services that address public safety interoperability applications are sought.

Responses needn't address specific size and scale of Connecticut's applications, but should provide an overview of the type and capability of products and services that can be applied.

Additional information and/or presentations may be requested by the State following review of the initial submissions.

2 Deadline and Format for Responses

Responses to this RFI may be submitted until 2:00 pm EDT on October 26, 2007. Late responses may or may not be reviewed, and the Department of Information Technology (DOIT) will determine this. The postal address for RFI responses is:

Bernard O'Donnell
State of Connecticut
Department of Information Technology
101 East River Drive
East Hartford, CT 06108

Parties responding to this RFI should provide 1 printed copy and 10 CD-ROM copies of their information. No submissions should be made via e-mail. Responses will be reviewed and additional information and/or presentations may be requested. The State may or may not request additional information and/or presentations from all responders, based on the best interests of the State. No contract will result directly from this RFI. This RFI process is intended to help the State research a variety of available communication products and services to help determine its strategy.

DOIT is seeking responses to this RFI for informational purposes only and will not be obligated in any way to use any of the information received. Parties responding to this RFI will not be compensated in any way. This RFI will not directly determine any vendor's chances of receiving future work from the State, nor will a response or lack of response have any direct effect on a vendor's eligibility to compete for future work. The intended effect of the RFI is to provide awareness of available products and services. All RFI responses submitted will become the property of the State of Connecticut.

2.1 Questions

All questions concerning the scope of Connecticut's requirements, products and services, existing systems, applications, funding, procurement, or the planning process should be submitted in writing as part of the RFI response. Questions about the RFI process may be submitted to Bernard.ODonnell@ct.gov

2.2 Quality of Responses

Well-organized and concise responses are encouraged in order to facilitate the State's assessment. Responses should follow the same order as this RFI document and utilize the same section numbering.

2.3 Product and Service Availability

The State expects that the products and services described in response to this request for information are generally available as of the date that responses are due. Responders should explain any exceptions.

3 Scope

Responses to this RFI should be structured to address the project outlines described in the paragraphs below. The planning function is still underway and it is possible that the State will address interoperability through projects similar to those listed or through other methods. Responses needn't address specific size and scale of Connecticut's applications, but should provide an overview of the type and capability of products and services that can be applied.

3.1 Interconnectivity of E-9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points and Communications Systems on a Proprietary Resilient IP Network

- Provide redundancy
- Fiber based network
- Connectivity to radio sites

3.2 Mobile Communication Vehicle & Equipment for Restoration of Communications

- Restore communications
- Quickly mobilized
- Antenna masts of sufficient height
- Accommodate radio and antenna equipment, for public safety communications for all available frequency bands
- Software driven programming interoperability
- DC power plant, battery and/ generator backup,
- Provide replacement for public safety communications equipment typically found in an indoor environment
- Transport associated equipment such as antenna cable and radio cache

3.3 Mobile Emergency Operations Center/ Public Safety Answering Point that combines all functions of an E-9-1-1 PSAP and Dispatch Center

- Capable of connecting to landline phone system including VoIP
- Satellite up/down link for voice, data, and Internet
- Positions for call takers and dispatchers for Police, Fire, and EMS
- Adaptable for a variety of configurations
- Software driven programming
- Workstations
- Accommodate radio equipment for all public safety communications frequencies
- DC power plant, battery and/ generator backup

3.4 Enhancement and Migration of Regional Communications Systems to 700 MHz

- Identify how existing communications systems could be enhanced to achieve interoperability.
- Identify how existing communications systems could be migrated to 700 MHz, while maintaining current radio communications capabilities.
- Describe the migration of all public safety practitioners/first responders to a common bandwidth over time.
- Describe the process for integration with 700 MHz.
- Describe the process for providing an interface to a statewide network.
- Describe the daily use as well as incident-specific interoperable use of this communications system.
- Describe the capability to maintain operations in the event of system failure.

4 Resources

Based on your experience in other locations, provide a description of the staffing and financial resources required from the using organizations to plan, procure, implement, test, and maintain the products and services that you have described in response to this RFI.

5 Training

Based on your experience in other locations, provide a description of the training required to properly utilize the products and services that you have described in response to this RFI.

6 Transition

Describe how a transition to new products and services would be accomplished with no impact on current operations. Include a sample timeline for planning, installation, training, and testing of the system.

7 References

Provide at least three references, similar in size to the State of Connecticut, that are currently utilizing the described products and services. For each reference, provide:

- The reference organization's name
- Contact person name
- Address
- Telephone number
- Electronic mail address
- A brief description of the equipment and services used by the reference.

8 Freedom Of Information Act

Due regard will be given for the protection of proprietary information contained in all proposals received; however, vendors should be aware that all materials associated with the procurement are subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and all rules, regulations and interpretations resulting therefrom. It will not be sufficient for vendors to merely state in general terms that the proposal is proprietary in nature and, therefore, not subject to release to third parties. Any proposal that makes such a general or overarching claim may be subject to disqualification. Those particular sentences, paragraphs, pages or sections which a vendor believes to be exempt from disclosure under the Act must be specifically identified as such.