

PART A: Questions from potential bidders for ITP RFP

#	Question	Response
1	Is a recording of the pre-proposal RFP briefing session available for download?	Due to technological challenges, we are unable to share recording with external members to Transnet. However, presentation that used to direct briefing session has been shared with potential bidders. This was also uploaded on the portal. Potential bidders are also at liberty to ask any question.
2	Clarify current state of network covered by Train Authorisation/ Traffic Management System (CTC1000) - is the project to convert to CTC complete for all networks?	<p>TFR operates from the basis of two types of train authorisation methods/systems:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. CTC system that operates on colour light signalling and VDU track warrant system, as well as 2. Single man cabins (total 19) that operate on the basis of mechanical/electromechanical lever frames/control panels. <p>All dark territories (track warrant, etc.) have been converted into a Visual Display Unit (VDU) train authorisation system for all networks.</p>
3	Does the Train Authorisation/ Traffic Management System (CTC1000) have a public API for information exchange?	There is no public API available for the Train Authorisation System.
4	Ref 7.1.10 Are all modules of overall solution required to be available on the mobile app?	Not all modules will be available on mobile app. The details of modules to be made available on mobile app will be discussed/clarified with the successful bidder/s.
5	Ref 7.2 What are the current systems deployed for ROAM - Yard operations?	The platform used for ROAM is IBM Maximo. Nothing has been deployed yet for Yard operations
6	Ref 7.2 What are the current systems deployed for ROAM - Crew operations/management?	The platform used for ROAM is IBM Maximo. Nothing has been deployed yet for Crew Management.
7	Ref 7.4.2.6 can TFR clarify if the hardware replacement shall be priced as part of this proposal?	The potential bidders are not expected/required to include hardware price as part of the proposal; however, potential bidders are requested to provide specifications of the hardware required for the simulation
8	Can TFR provide business process document(s) detailing capacity planning	The applicable business processes will be provided to the successful bidder.
9	Can TFR provide business process document(s) detailing base train planning	
10	Can TFR provide business process document(s) detailing production planning	
	Deviation Management	
11	Is there currently a deviation management system installed at TFR	Yes
12	If so, what system is used and can the system functionality be described in brief	<p>Train Execution Management System (TEMS).</p> <p>The specification of the required deviation management system is defined in the scope document of the RFP.</p>
13	Can TFR provide a business process document detailing deviation management	The applicable business processes will be provided to the successful bidder.
	Project Management	

14	Ref 8.1 does TFR have any implemented/ preferred agile PM tools e.g. Jira?	No, TFR ICT PMO uses Microsoft Projects Online to track and monitor all IT related projects. TFR ICT PMO also uses Trello Kanban boards to track and monitor milestones
	Training	
15	Can TFR clarify approximate number of super users of the current planning information system?	There are currently just under 20 super users. The application is used across the planning and execution monitoring teams.
16	Can TRF clarify approximate number of operational of the current planning information system?	Please provide clarity: "approximate number of operational..." what?
17	Can TRF clarify approximate number of ICT application support of the current planning information system?	3
	Simulation	
18	Can we have statistics of TFR operations like Track length, No. of Yards, No. of Stations, No. of Wagons and Locomotives.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. No. of Wagons = 68 038 (as at 15 March 2023) 2. No. of Locomotives = 1 982 (as @ 15/03/2023) 3. No. of Yards = 58 4. No. of Stations = 801 5. Rail Infrastructure approx. route distance = ±20 100 km 6. Rail Infrastructure approx. track distance = ±30 000 km 7. Number of sidings = 1 449
19	What is the hierarchy of organization in TFR for Train planning and Operations department?	Of what importance is the "hierarchy of organization in TFR" in relation to the solution being sought in the RFP?
20	What are the top 5 commodities handled by TFR.? What is the colume share of Intermodal traffic handled by TFR.	<p>TFR requires a planning solution that will cater for all its current commodities, Top 5 and all others, including intermodal.</p> <p>What is the importance of TFR's intermodal 'colume' (sic) (we assume you mean volume share) in relation to the provision of a planning solution?</p>
21	Are there any specific security or compliance requirements that the solution should meet?	Kindly refer to the scope document for further details and information on this question (section 7 of the scope document).
22	Is there a budget for the implementation?	Yes, as stated in Annexure E, Scope of Work document section 8.2.
23	Is there a preference for on-premises or cloud-based deployment of the solution?	As stated in Annexure E, Scope of Work section 7.1.14.
24	What is the expected timeline for the implementation and deployment of the solutions?	Three and a half years in accordance with what is stated in section 10 of the Scope of Work (Annexure E), which states " <i>the envisaged solution will be fully deployed in a maximum period of 36 (thirty-six) months, followed by 6 months of hypercare. The successful bidder will be expected to provide a support period of 10 (ten) years after successful deployment</i> "
25	<p>Please provide some of the key challenges TFR faces for the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Schedule adherence b. Service recovery c. Service impacts d. Reducing carbon intensity/footprint 	<p>The key challenges that hinder schedule adherence and service recovery are externalities such as cable theft, vandalism, asset failure, force majeure, etc. These externalities are thus what impact on the service currently.</p> <p>Of what relevance is the question on reduction in carbon footprint to the planning solution project?</p>

26	Please provide more details on the current planning and scheduling processes used by TFR today and how they are managed.	The applicable business processes will be provided to the successful bidder(s).
27	Please provide more details on the train scheduling conflicts that may arise, and how these should be identified and resolved.	The successful bidder is expected to provide a solution that is able to identify and resolve any conflict(s) in the schedules.
28	Please provide more information on the specific types of reports needed for business and technical operations, including but not limited to the frequency, format, and delivery of these reports? Any govt mandated reports?	Please consult the scope document for details of the kinds/types of reports sought. Also, any refinement on the frequency and report type will be agreed upon with the successful bidder(s).
29	What is the current IT landscape in place being used by TFR?	Section 7.2 of the scope document (figure 22) provides details behind the IT architecture. Further details of the IT landscape will be provided to the successful bidder(s).
30	What kind of data modelling capabilities should the solution have to allow for easy modification of optimization rules and models?	At the most detailed level, a microscopic modelling of the network is required. Additionally, modelling of the network infrastructure should cater for mesoscopic and macroscopic models (to enable high level analyses of plans)
31	What kind of user-friendly interface features are required for data points and rules configuration and updates?	Successful bidder(s) to provide as user friendly interface as possible according to industry standards.
32	What is the quantum of trains being cancelled per month due to absence of integrated planning?	What is the relevance of this question to the planning solution that is being sought by TFR?
33	What is the current middleware integration stack customer is having?	WebMethods/Future IBM cloudpak for integration
34	Please share the current architecture diagram?	Kindly refer to section 7 of the scope document.
35	If customer is planning for any cloud platform, If yes, Azure/GCP/AWS??	Cloud Service Provider (CSP) agnostic, however the TFR workloads must be hosted in data centres that are within the borders of South Africa.
36	If customer doesn't have any integration platform, what is customer preference? Any API implementation is in scope?	Please refer to section 7 of the scope document for a clear integration platform diagram.