

1. Purpose

The purpose of this solicitation is to solicit interest from Architectural, Engineering and Construction firms (both General Contractors as well as Trade Contractors) who may wish to obtain a: **RELIABILITY STATUS** = Designated Organization Screening (DOS) or **SECRET** = Facility Security Clearance (FSC) granted by the Canadian and Industrial Security Directorate (CIISD) of Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC).

2. Background information

Organization Security Screening

An organization security screening/clearance is an administrative determination that an organization is eligible, from a security point of view, for access to information and assets of the same or lower protection/classification level as the screening/clearance being granted.

RELIABILITY STATUS (DOS)

A DOS registered organization permits the organization and its employees possessing Reliability Status access to PROTECTED information, assets and/or certain restricted work sites.

A DOS will be processed when an organization or a consultant requires either:

- access to 'PROTECTED A, B or C' information, assets or restricted work sites; and/or
- document safeguarding capability, production, EDP or COMSEC at the 'PROTECTED A, B or C' level at their site.

SECRET (FSC)

An FSC, at the appropriate level of sensitivity, permits the organization and its security cleared employees, access to CLASSIFIED information and/or assets of Canadian, NATO and foreign origin. It allows for access to CLASSIFIED information and assets marked with the caveats 'Canadian Eyes Only', 'COMSEC' (communications security), and 'NATO' (North Atlantic Treaty Organization). An FSC is the only internationally recognized clearance standard. It is the more stringent of the two standards in the CLASSIFIED domain.

***** It will take around one year to obtain.*****

An FSC will be processed when an organization or a consultant requires either:

- access to 'CONFIDENTIAL, SECRET or TOP SECRET' information, assets and/or restricted work sites; and/or
- document safeguarding capability, EDP or COMSEC at the 'CONFIDENTIAL or SECRET' levels at their site.

Additional information on security screening can be found on the following web site <http://ssi-iss.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/ssi-iss/org/enrgstrmnt-rqstrtn-eng.html> or by dialling **1-866-368-4646** (Toll free).

3. Sponsorship of Firms

Defence Construction Canada (DCC) will sponsor firms that do not have a RELIABILITY STATUS or SECRET clearance so that CIISD can initiate procedures for the Security Clearance.

CIISD (not DCC), by letter, will request your firm to provide information on its organization. Clearance action cannot commence until the requested information is received. **If your organization fails to provide the information requested by the date identified in the letter it will be assumed that your firm is no longer interested.**

Interested firms are encouraged to submit their response as soon as possible. There are no direct costs charged to companies wishing to obtain a security clearance.

4. Information Required:

Firms interested in being added to the Pre-Screened List are to provide the following information (on the separate PSOS form) (**typewriter if possible**):

- **Section B - Items 1 to 10:** Please use head office information.
- **Section E - Item 1:** Pick between RELIABILITY STATUS **or** SECRET.
- **Section E - Item 4 Additional Information:**
Please indicate your type of business (what is your speciality).

5. Response

The PSOS form (no handwriting please) can be sent by e-mail, fax or mail to the address below:

Richard Allie, manager, Contract Services
Contract Services Division
Defence Construction Canada
350 Albert St, Suite 1900
Ottawa (ON) K1A 0K3
Fax: (613) 998-9547
E-mail: richard.allie@dcc-cdc.gc.ca

Response is not required from firms that have already applied to the PWGSC.