



Acquisition Office
Boulevard Léopold III
B-1110 Brussels, Belgium

NCIA/ACQ/2025/07639
10 October 2025

Market Survey - Request for Information

**Capability Program Plan DCIS Systems No. 1 "R1A1+"
DCIS FMN Spiral-4 and Spiral 5
Compliance**

NCI Agency Reference: MS-424309-DCIS FMN SPIRAL 4&5

The NATO Communications and Information Agency (NCIA) is seeking information from Nations and their Industry regarding the availability of providing potential solutions for the DCIS FMN Spiral-4 and DCIS FMN Spiral 5 Compliance Projects

NCI Agency Point of Contact (POC) for this Market Survey:

Ms. Estefania Nunez, Principal Contracting Assistant,
E-mail: estefania.nunez@ncia.nato.int



To : See Distribution List

Subject : NCI Agency Market Survey - Request for Information

MS-424309-DCIS FMN SPIRAL 4&5

1. The NCI Agency requests the assistance of the Nations and their Industry to identify potential solutions for the DCIS PCN and DCIS FMN Spiral-5 Compliancy from their national providers. Also to determine what could be made available to NATO to support future operations and missions.
2. A summary of the NATO requirement for DCIS PCN and DCIS FMN Spiral-5 Compliancy is set forth in the attached Annex A.
3. Respondents are requested to reply via the questionnaire at Annex B. Other supporting information and documentation of current and future capability programmes is also welcome (technical data sheets, marketing, brochures, non-binding catalogue price lists, descriptions of existing installations, etc.).
4. The NCI Agency reference for this Market Survey Request is **MS-424309-DCIS FMN SPIRAL 4&5**, and all correspondence and submissions concerning this matter should include this number.
5. Responses may be issued to the NCI Agency directly from Nations or from their Industry (to the staff indicated at Paragraph 9 of this Market Survey Request). Respondents are invited to carefully review the summary of requirements in Annex A to determine interest.
6. Responses shall in all cases include the name of the firm, telephone number, email address, designated Point of Contact, and a description of the capability available and its functionalities (not above NATO Unclassified). This shall include any restrictions (e.g. export controls) for direct procurement of the capability by the NCI Agency.
7. Non-binding product pricing information is also requested as called out in Annex B.
8. Responses are requested to reach the NCI Agency no later than by **17:00 Brussels** time on **27 November 2025**.
9. Please send all responses via email to the following NCI Agency Point of Contact:
 To Attention of: Ms. Estefania Nunez, Principal Contracting Assistant,
 E-mail: estefania.nunez@ncia.nato.int
10. Bilateral meetings with industry are not foreseen during this initial stage, however technical discussions may take place following the submission of responses, with the purpose of clarifying or further augmenting those responses where required.
11. This RFI aims to apply due diligence by 'testing the market' to determine the relevant technologies and products or services which may provide the basis for the DCIS PCN and DCIS FMN Spiral-5 capability development strategy, while also evaluating the potential solutions



available to NATO which may include “Adopt”-ing (an existing solution already in-service by Nations), commercial “Buy”-ing (acquiring a solution from industry), or “Create”-ing (developing a solution exclusive to NATO needs), or a combination thereof.

12. This Request for Information (RFI) does not constitute a commitment to issue a future request for proposal (RFP).
13. Note that this RFI is not a formal request for submissions as part of a procurement; but rather a general request intended to determine whether any possible solutions exist that should be considered or included in evaluating the options as part of the system requirements development.
14. Respondents are requested to await further instructions after submission of their responses regarding any potential future bidding process, and are requested to contact only the NCI Agency POC identified above in Paragraph 9 above with any further requests for information or clarification.
15. Any response to this request shall be provided on a voluntary basis. Responses to this request will help identifying and selecting firms eligible for any future procurement that may arise from this Market Survey.
16. In accordance with the NATO Management of Non-Classified NATO Information policy (C-M(2002)60), this **MS-424309-DCIS FMN SPIRAL 4&5** shall not be published on the internet.
17. Responses to this request, and any information provided within the context of this survey, including but not limited to pricing, quantities, capabilities, functionalities and requirements will be considered as informational only and will not be construed as binding on NATO for any future acquisition.
18. The NCI Agency is not liable for any expenses incurred by firms in conjunction with their responses to this Market Survey, and this Survey shall not be regarded as a commitment of any kind concerning future procurement of the items described.
19. Your assistance/participation in this Market Survey request is greatly appreciated.

FOR THE CHIEF OF ACQUISITION:

Estefania Nunez

Principal Contracting Assistant

Enclosures:

Annex A: Requirements Summary

Annex B: Questionnaire

Annex C: Distribution List



Annex D: Potential Industrial Suppliers

Annex E: Acronyms



Annex A

Requirements Summary

A.1. FMN Spirals Introduction

- [1] DCIS provides Command and Control (C2) Services for NATO led operations and enables collaboration between static and deployed users of the NATO Command Structure (NCS) and interaction with deployed elements of the NATO Force Structure and other Mission Participants.
- [2] Non-compliance with FMN Spiral Specification requirements; affecting the interoperability between NATO Command Structure (NCS), NATO Force Structure (NFS), and National entities, resulting in a reduced ability to execute C2 functions over forces assigned to NATO exercises and operations is identified as a shortfall.
- [3] The interoperability of DCIS capabilities is ensured through compliance with the technical requirements of the Federated Mission Network (FMN). The NATO DCIS will achieve a high state of interoperability and provide reliable and secure communication and information exchange between deployed and static command and control elements by means of the capabilities to be acquired by FMN projects.
- [4] The DCIS FMN Compliance projects will ensure all applicable DCIS services are FMN Spiral 5 compliant. Protected Core Network (PCN) and Network Monitor Cyber Defence (NMCD) functionality is included within the scope of DCIS FMN Spiral project as well.
- [5] This capability will be used during both peace-time and operations, garrisoned as well as in theatre. It will provide services in three security domains (NATO Secret, Mission Secret and NATO Unclassified).

A.2. Scope

- [6] Under the DCIS FMN Spiral 4 Compliance; PCN Architecture Design including Protected Core Segment (PCS) Design and Network Monitor Cyber Defence (NMCD) Design will be developed.
- [7] After the development of PCN Architecture Design, PCN is to be configured and deployed on a reference facility and on the MAFs. Finally, PCN configuration is to be rolled out and installed to all DCIS nodes.
- [8] Under the DCIS FMN Spiral 5 Compliance; The DCIS systems which are already in service and below Spiral 5 Compliance are to be upgraded to Spiral 5 following the FMN Swim Lanes;
 - 1. Federated Information Management
 - 2. Federated Distributed Collaboration
 - 3. Federated Core Services
 - 4. Federated Communications



A.3. Requirements and Capability Enhancement

[9] The intended PCN approach for the PCN implementation is in line with STANAGs 5637, 5640.

[10] The currently planned enhancements under for FMN Spiral 5 project are provided below;

1. Federated Information Management

- Provide mission participants the ability to exchange information between their mission environment and their own national information sources,
- Provide the ability to preserve operational information of long term value,
- Enhance information product management and exchange.

2. Federated Distributed Collaboration

- Enhance search capabilities by providing distributed metadata-based search (OPCIS),
- Provide users the ability to easily find information across separate information repositories through distributed free text search (OPCIS),
- Provide users the ability to ensure and validate the integrity and authenticity of documents,
- Provide the ability to collaborate by real-time sharing of screens,
- Provide federated Distributed Collaboration at the TACCIS level,
- Enhance Distributed Collaboration to support exchange between different information domains.

3. Federated Core Services

- Enhance the ability to share physical infrastructure among mission participants by defining management interfaces,
- Provide initial Middleware Services standards and profiles to harmonize protocols used to share information in a federation,
- Enhance security posture of federated Core Services,
- Provide an automated process for requesting and processing requests for digital certificates from other Mission Network Participants,
- Provide support for IPv6 in core services necessary for Protected Core Networking,
- Enhance the usability of federated Core Services by incremental improvements to implementation and configuration guidance.

4. Federated Communications

- Enhance Network Management and Cyber Defence functionality on the Protected Core with interface to SMC,
- Select and provide waveform profiles for wireless transmission services,
- Provide a federated identity management plan,
- Enhance the Protected Core Segment Operational Picture with cyber information products,
- Transition from IPv4 to IPv6 for communications services on the Protected Core,
- Provide a federated crypto solution for communications security,
- Provide capabilities to share communications services on the Protected Core in multiple concurrent missions,
- Enhance Network Management and Cyber Defence functionality on the Protected Core with better situational awareness,



- Provide capabilities for federated spectrum management,
- Provide profile for communications service interconnection between transmission services within TACCIS,
- Provide capabilities to support the use of public networks as an underlying bearer for Protected Core Networking.



Annex B

Questionnaire

Organisation Name:

Contact name & details within organisation:

Notes

- Please **DO NOT** alter the formatting. If you need additional space to complete your text then please use a 'Continuation Sheet' which you can append at the end of this Annex and please reference the question to which the text relates to.
- Please feel free to make assumptions, *HOWEVER* you must list your assumptions in the spaces provided.
- Please **DO NOT** enter any company marketing or sales material as part of your answers within this market survey. But please submit such material as enclosures with the appropriate references within your replies. If you need additional space, please use the sheet at the end of this Annex.
- Please **DO** try and answer the relevant questions as comprehensively as possible.
- All questions within this document should be answered in conjunction with the summary of requirements in Annex B.
- All questions apply to Commercial or Government respondees as appropriate to their Commercial off the Shelf (COTS) or Government off the Shelf (GOTS) products.
- Cost details required in the questions refer to Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) Procurement & Life Cycle cost, including all assumptions the estimate is based upon:
 - Advantages & disadvantages of your product/solution/organisation,
 - Any other supporting information you may deem necessary including any assumptions relied upon.



Questions

- A. Under the DCIS FMN Compliancy project; PCN Architecture Design including Protected Core Segment (PCS) Design and Network Monitor Cyber Defence (NMCD) Design will be developed.

Do you currently have a solution, planning to or currently working to deliver an operational PCN and/or NMCD capability similar to the description provided in Appendix 1? Please reply to all of the questions in the Appendix 1.

1. If so, when can such solution be made available to NATO, and for how long?
2. If so, please specify if your solution can be made available to NATO for evaluation or use.
3. If your solution can be made available for NATO use, can you specify any restrictions of use, including but not limited to Intellectual Property rights.
4. If your existing solution cannot be adapted or made available directly to NATO for use and evaluation, can you provide an alternative technology or solution? Please state any relevant condition(s) necessary for you to provide an alternative solution.

Answer:

- B. Can your solution be demonstrated to NATO staff members within a month notice?

Answer:

- C. Can you describe at what capability lifecycle stage is your PCN-like and NMCD-like solution for example, is it at exploratory, experimental, development, operational or deprecated stage.

Answer:



D. Are you able to share information on the system description including high-level architecture, of this solution? If so, can you provide this information in your response?

Answer:

E. Are you able to share any information that may enable the evaluation of completeness and appropriateness of your solution to meet our requirements?

Answer:

F. Is your PCN and NMCD registered as an approved product/solution under any national or international bodies' product catalogue? If so, please provide further information.

Answer:

G. Can you share publicly available product/solution documentation manuals including administration guide and other applicable reference materials for your PCN and NMCD technology?

Answer



H. Under the DCIS FMN Spiral 5 Compliance project; MAFs and the DCIS systems which are already in service and below Spiral 5 Compliance are to be upgraded to Spiral 5 following the FMN Swim Lanes stated above. (see A.2 and A.3 chapters)

I. Please reply to the questions in Appendixes 2, 3, and 4 for the FMN Spiral 5 Swim Lane of Federated Distributed Collaboration.

Answer

J. Please reply to the questions in Appendixes 5, 6, 7, and 8 for the FMN Spiral 5 Swim Lane of Federated Core Services.

Answer

K. Please reply to the questions in Appendixes 9 and 10 for the FMN Spiral 5 Swim Lane of Federated Communications.

Answer

L. Based on your experience, what do you consider to be the main cost drivers in delivering each of the projects (PCN and swim lanes for FMN Spiral 5 separately) described in this request for information?

Answer



- M. Please provide Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) cost estimates for the project activities described in this request for information (PCN and swim lanes for FMN Spiral 5 separately). Please include any assumptions that this ROM is based upon.

Answer



Please feel free to add any information you may think that may be of value to NCI Agency in the space provided below. Should you need additional space, please copy this page and continue with the appropriate page numbers.	Page
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Enclosures:

Appendix 1: PCN and NMCD

Appendix 2: Federated Distributed Collaboration

Appendix 3: Federated Distributed Collaboration-Calendaring and Scheduling

Appendix 4: Federated Distributed Collaboration-Informal Messaging

Appendix 5: Federated Core Services, Distributed Time

Appendix 6: Federated Core Services, Directory Data Synchronization

Appendix 7: Federated Core Services, Domain Naming

Appendix 8: Federated Core Services, Web Authentication

Appendix 9: Federated Communications

Appendix 10: Federated Communications, Communication Transport



Annex C

Distribution List for Market Survey

MS-424309-DCIS FMN SPIRAL 4&5

NATO Delegations (Attn: Investment Committee Adviser):

Albania	1
Belgium	1
Bulgaria	1
Canada	1
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Czechia	1
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Montenegro	1
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North Macedonia	1
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Poland	1
Portugal	1
Romania	1
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Slovenia	1
Spain	1
Sweeden	1
Türkiye	1
United Kingdom	1
United States	1

NATEXs

All NATEXs	1 Each
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ANNEX D

Potential Industrial Suppliers

Vendor	NATO Nation
Thales	France
Dainox	Germany
Forcepoint	Finland
ASELSAN	Turkiye



ANNEX E

Acronyms

Abbreviation	Content
COTS	Commercial off the Shelf
DCIS	Deployable Communication and Information System
FMN	Federated Mission Network
GOTS	Government off the Shelf
MAF	Mission Anchor Function
NMCD	Network Monitor Cyber Defence
PCN	Protected Core Network
RFI	Request for Information
RFP	Request for Proposal
RNM	Remote Network Module
ROM	Rough Order Magnitude
SMC	Service Monitoring and Control
STK	Small Team Kit
TACCIS	Tactical Communication and Information System