RULES ON REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS
n. PN-B26-02357-AA

Supply of a stacking machine for battery electrodes

The main steps in the procedure are as follows:

Steps in the Procedure	Calendar (deadline)
Application Deadline	**November 4, 2026, before 12:00 p.m.**
Deadline for submitting bids if your application is selected	**The deadline for submitting bids will be specified in the request for proposals**

Applicants are advised that the deadline for submitting bids will be set by mutual agreement with the selected bidders and that, in the absence of such an agreement, this deadline may not be less than 10 days from the date the invitation to bid is sent.

CEA

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ARTICLE 1 - PURPOSE

These rules on requests for proposals aim to define the conditions of the request for proposals on the **supply of a stacking machine for batterie electrodes**.

The bidder selected as per the procedure for the services defined in these rules will be awarded a contract established by CEA.

Justification for Not Dividing the Contract
The contract concerns the purchase of a single piece of equipment that does not allow for the identification of distinct services pursuant to Article L 2113-10 of the Public Procurement Code.

ARTICLE 2 - DOCUMENTS APPLICABLE TO THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

This procedure is governed, in descending order of priority, by the following documents:

- the Safety Requirements and their appendices (corresponding standards);
- the specific provisions set forth in these bidding regulations;
- the technical specifications and their appendices (specifications referenced as **2026-03**, drawings, etc.);
- the electrode samples (submitted after the application phase);
- the draft contract referenced as **PN-B26-02357-AA**;
- the rules applicable to External Companies (Contractors or subcontractors), Index A, and the internal regulations;
- the CEA's General Terms and Conditions of Purchase (GTCP) (January 2022 edition);
- the normative documents (standards, unified technical documents, etc.).

The bidder expressly acknowledges having read and accepted these documents.
The bidder's general terms and conditions of sale, except those arising from mandatory legal provisions, are not enforceable against the CEA in any form.

The CEA's General Terms and Conditions of Purchase (January 2022 edition) may be provided to bidders upon request.

The following appendices are an integral part of these consultation regulations:

- Appendix 1: Digitization of the Procedure
- Appendix 2: Rules Applicable to External Companies (Contractors or Subcontractors)
- Appendix 3: Application for Approval of a Subcontractor
- Appendix 4: Price Breakdown Table and Its Environmental Component

ARTICLE 3 - CONDITIONS FOR REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS

3.1 - Procedure

3.1.1 - General
The procedure selected is a formal procedure with negotiation pursuant to Articles L.2124-3 and R.2124-3 of the Public Procurement Code, because the need cannot be met without adapting immediately available solutions.

This procedure consists of two phases:

1. An application submission phase;
2. A bid submission phase.

Candidates will not be entitled to any compensation for the research and miscellaneous expenses they have incurred in preparing their bid.

Without incurring any liability, the CEA reserves the right to:

- declare the solicitation unsuccessful if it has received no bids or only bids that are irregular, unacceptable, or inappropriate within the meaning of Articles L2152-2 through L2152-4 of the Public Procurement Code,
- not proceed with the solicitation,
- not to proceed with the project after the bids have been evaluated, the confidentiality of which it guarantees under all circumstances.

Participation of applicants in this request for proposals is considered as full acceptance of this procedure.
If you are unable to submit a proposal, please indicate this point to us rapidly.

Your company shall not be entitled to any compensation for the studies and miscellaneous costs incurred in preparing the proposal.

CEA may not be held liable for the following, however it reserves the right to:
- declare the request for proposals unsuccessful if no proposal is received or if all proposals are incomplete, unacceptable or inappropriate, as defined in article 59 of decree no. 2016-360 of 25 March 2016,
- not conclude a contract after the request for proposals,
- not follow up with the project after analysing the proposals, whose confidentiality shall be protected under all circumstances.

CEA reserves the right to modify the details of the request for proposals no later than six (6) days prior to the deadline for the submission of proposals.
On this basis, the bidders must respond with reference to the modified request for proposals, and may not submit any claim in this respect.

If the deadline for the submission of proposals is deferred during the period of assessment of the RFP by bidders, the previous provision would apply, with reference to the new deadline.

The CEA contract performance conditions and the various applicable provisions are subject to a draft contract enclosed with the request for proposals. The financial provisions of this draft must be specified, however the selected company will be asked to sign this draft, subject to minor contractual modifications.

3.1.2 - Question from bidders

Any questions from bidders must be submitted in writing and sent via PLACE no later than seven (7) days before the deadline for submitting bids.

The CEA will provide a written response to all bidders.

3.1.3 - Minimum requirements applicable to proposals

As part of the negotiated procurement procedure, bids must meet the following minimum requirements, which are **non-negotiable** (Article R2161-17 of the Public Procurement Code):

Technical requirements:
- The overall functionalities of the equipment defined as F0 in the summary table of specifications on §7.3 of the specifications.

Administrative requirements:
- Documents to be submitted (EC Certificate of Conformity and safety instructions in French)
- Installation, testing, and commissioning
- Maintainability
- Payment terms
- Tax and customs regulations

- Insurance
- Governing law and jurisdiction.

3.1.4 - Variants
The CEA does not allow the submission of variants

3.2 - Sub-contracting
Bidders are informed that no operations entrusted to a sub-contractor, by themselves, with the explicit, prior written approval of CEA, may be sub-contracted by the sub-contractor, unless CEA grants an exceptional concession.
If the bidder is considering sub-contracting the whole or part of the services, the former must specify the identity and address of the sub-contractor(s) and the types of sub-contracted work or services when submitting the proposal. Sub-contractors may also be declared during the performance of the contract. Use of sub-contractors shall be governed by Act 75-1334 of 31 December 1975, amended by Act no. 2001-1168 of 11 December 2001 enforcing urgent economic and financial reforms ("MURCEF" act).
CEA reserves the right to request sub-contracting agreements or (and) to reject proposed sub-contractors.
The bidder shall also submit subcontractors to CEA's approval. For this purpose, the bidder shall submit the sub-contractor acceptance form appended to the draft contract.

3.3 - Non-disclosure
Confidentiality requirements are governed by article 11 of CEA's General Purchasing Conditions.
The companies contacted must not use or transmit information from this request for proposals to third parties for any purpose other than responding to this request for proposals.
The bidder must never disclose or publish the results of the studies contributed to by its employees, and any type of information obtained in the context of this request for proposals and particularly information on sites with an environmental classification (ICPE), in France or abroad, without the prior written authorisation of CEA.
The bidder must specify which information contained in the proposal is confidential. The bidder must specify the allowed usage of the confidential information, the duration of the non-disclosure requirement, the parties bound by secrecy and the parties which are not authorised to receive this information.

3.4 - Validity of proposals
Proposals shall remain valid for a period of six (6) months from the submission deadline.

3.5 - Using CEA's electronic platform PLACE
The procedure for the use of the electronic platform is included in appendix 1 of these rules on requests for proposals.

ARTICLE 4 - SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION AND THE PROPOSAL

4.1 - "Application" file:
The application must comprise the items mentioned in the Notice of the Government Request for Proposals published in the Official Journal of the European Union and specified as follows:

- the DC1 form (Application letter and authorisation of the representative issued by the co-contractors) or an application letter signed by a party authorised to commit the applicant or authorising the representative of a group to represent the group, with a sworn statement including all information requested on page 3 of this form.
- the DC2 form (Declaration of the individual applicant or a member of the partnership).

These forms can be obtained from the following website:

http://www.economie.gouv.fr/daj/formulaires-marches-publics
or a European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) available at
https://ec.europa.eu/tools/espd/filter?lang=fr

- if the applicant is part of a partnership, a certificate indicating its commercial independence and competitive situation in relation to the other companies in the partnership.

Economic and financial capacity:
- A declaration on the total turnover of the applicant and, if necessary, turnover in the business segment covered by the government contract, covering the last three available periods, or less, depending on the date of incorporation of the company or the start of activity of the economic operator, if turnover information is available for these periods;
- Appropriate declarations by banks or, if applicable proof of insurance for relevant professional risks;

If, for any proven reason, the economic operator is unable to produce the required information and documents, the former may prove its economic and financial capacity by any other means.

Technical and professional capacity:
- A list of the main deliveries completed or the main services provided over the last three years, including the amount, date and public or private recipient. Deliveries and services are proven by certificates issued by the recipient, or, failing this, with a declaration by the economic operator;
- Descriptions or photographs of supplies;
- Certificates issued by institutes or official services responsible for checking quality and authorised to certify the conformity of supplies with reference to specific technical specifications. However, other proof of equivalent guarantees for quality produced by the applicants shall be accepted, if the applicants are unable to access these certificates or cannot obtain these certificates within the stipulated timeframes;

Sub-contracting:
If the applicant uses the services of sub-contractors, the former must produce the same documents for said sub-contractor. Furthermore, in order to justify that the applicant can use the resources of each sub-contractor for the performance of the contract, the applicant must produce a written commitment by each sub-contractor.

4.2 - "Proposal" file:
The proposal must include the following:

4.2.1 - Administrative proposal:
- Valid **civil, professional liability insurance** certificates,
- The draft contract and the specifications for contractual documents, duly signed and initialed to certify the bidder's acceptance of their terms.
- The bidder must specify the amount and type of services considered for sub-contracting, for each planned sub-contractor, in the proposal.

Documents to be produced at a future stage (when allocating the contract):
- Certificates issued by the competent authorities and bodies, proving that the applicant has satisfied its tax and social obligations or equivalent documents for foreign applicants.

4.2.2 - Technical proposal:
The technical proposal must include at least the following points:

- All of the characteristics of the proposed equipment, in accordance with the requirements of the specifications.
- The deadlines listed in the corresponding section of the draft contract.
- A description of the training courses offered (content, duration of the various modules, etc.).
- All specifications of the options offered in accordance with the requirements of the request for proposals,
- Details of the equipment's hardware configuration, dimensions, and footprint; special attention will be given to optimizing these specifications.
- A technical proposal detailing the maintenance contracts (Preventive, Corrective, and Full Service) that you must offer upon expiration of the equipment warranty.
- Details of the organizational structure established to carry out the installation of the equipment at the CEA site.
- A description of the supply chain management and monitoring systems that the bidder will implement during the performance of the contract.
- The test report for the samples provided in accordance with Appendix 4 of the specifications.

4.2.3 - Environment proposal:

The bidder **must** submit an **environmental proposa**l in accordance with the details specified in Annex 4 to these regulations.

This proposal may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Information regarding the bidder's environmental approach or policy, including, where applicable, any certifications or standards applied;
- Actions or best practices implemented regarding the design, repairability, durability, scalability, limitation of hazardous substances, or the manufacture or assembly of the Equipment (e.g., choice of materials, reduction of consumption);
- Measures adopted to reduce the environmental impact associated with packaging, delivery, or logistics;
- A guide to ensure optimized, sustainable, and eco-responsible use of the Equipment;
- This may involve presenting equipment manufactured with recycled or remanufactured used parts that carry the same warranty period and meet the same technical specifications.

Please note that your price must also include the provision, in French, of all documentation related to the installed equipment (user manual, maintenance manual, safety instructions, etc.).

4.2.4 - Commercial proposal:

A commercial proposal setting forth firm, lump-sum prices and based on Annex 4 to these regulations, detailing:

- The price of the equipment, broken down as follows:
    - A breakdown of the equipment price—FCA (ICC Incoterms 2020),

- The bidder must indicate the approximate weight and volume of the equipment/supplies and whether they require special shipping precautions (e.g., air cushions).

- If the equipment originates from a third country outside the European Union, the bidder must indicate the equipment's customs nomenclature number (HS code).

- For informational purposes, the cost of the maintenance contracts proposed after the warranty expires.
  The bidder must provide details and a comparison of the various annual contracts, including different types of maintenance (preventive, corrective, and full service).

The bidder must also submit:

- A complete list of spare parts as well as a comprehensive list of consumables required for the equipment's operation, including the functions, part numbers, and prices of each component. These lists may serve as the basis for drafting a contract for the supply of spare parts and consumables. The contractor must specify the standard delivery time as well as the delivery time in the event of an emergency.

Cost of mandatory options:
- Option 1: All tooling required to perform stacking according to Format 2

The cost of optional items:
- Option 2: A laser cutting module for lithium metal
- Option 3: A separator layer removal system for the three magazines
- Option 4: One year of preventive maintenance
- Option 5: Shipping costs, including insurance, under DAP CEA Grenoble terms (ICC Incoterms 2020)

ARTICLE 5 - SUBMITTING OF APPLICATIONS

5.1 - Deadline for submitting proposals

The proposals of bidders must be submitted no later than **November 4th 2026,12 p.m.** (strict deadline).

All applications received after this date shall be automatically dismissed.

The deadline for submitting bids will be provided at a later date in the invitation to bid. **Bidders are advised that the deadline for submitting bids will be set by mutual agreement with the selected bidders and that, in the absence of such an agreement, this deadline may not be less than 10 days from the date the invitation to bid is sent**.

5.2 - Format for submitting proposals

5.2.1 - Electronic format

Bidders may submit their proposals via the electronic platform for CEA contracting procedures, which can be accessed via the following URL:

https://www.marches-publics.gouv.fr

The applicable provisions are included in appendix 1 of these rules on requests for proposals.

Bidders should respect the formalism for the presentation of proposals and application files indicated in paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 of this Annex 1.

If a proposal is submitted via CEA's electronic platform for requests for proposals, it is specified that the proposal (in .ZIP format) must not exceed 200 Mb after ZIP compressing.

Back-up copy

If the applicant opts for electronic submission, a back-up copy of the documents submitted electronically can also be sent, in parallel, either as a hard copy or on a physical electronic support medium.

The back-up copy must be submitted in a sealed envelope with the following clear indication: "Back-up copy".

This copy must be sent before the deadline for the submission of applications and proposals to the following address :

CEA GRENOBLE
17, avenue des Martyrs

38054 GRENOBLE Cedex 09 (FRANCE)
To the attention of Anthony ANDRÉ

The back-up copy shall be opened:
- if malware is detected in the applications or proposals submitted electronically.
- if the applications and proposals submitted electronically are not received in time or could not be opened by CEA (providing that the back-up copy is received before the submission deadline).

Reminder:
Economic operators are required to submit their applications and bids electronically via PLACE, except in the cases provided for in Articles R2132-12 and R2132-13 of the Public Procurement Code.

ARTICLE 6 - ASSESSING PROPOSALS

6.1 - Verification of Applications

The CEA verifies that applicants meet the eligibility requirements specified in the Request for Proposals and reiterated in Article 4.1 of the consultation rules. The CEA does not wish to limit the number of economic operators that may apply. A minimum of 3 applications is desired. However, if the number of applicants meeting the eligibility requirements is less than the specified minimum, the CEA may proceed with the process using those applicants.

6.2 - Award Criteria

The bidder's proposal will be evaluated in accordance with the following weighted selection criteria:

Criteria	**Weighting**
Economics creteria:	
Equipment price	45%
Proposed full-service maintenance cost performance[1]	5%
Technicals criteria :	
Technical performance of the bid in meeting the specifications of Process 1 "Generation 3 Stacking," described on page 20 of the specifications.	10%
Technical performance of the bid in meeting the specifications of Process 2 "Generation 4 Stacking," described on page 20 of the specifications.	10%
Quality of the results from the de-stacking tests performed on the samples provided (in Appendix No. 4 of the RFP)	20%
Environment criterion :	
Relevance of the proposed environmental measures ensuring the scalability and maintainability of the Equipment	10%

[1] If there is insufficient information to evaluate this criterion, the bid will not be deemed non-compliant, but a score of 0 will be assigned. The calculation is based on the discounted price of the equipment in the initial bid.

To this end, the bidder shall ensure that it clearly specifies and/or elaborates on the points relating to these criteria in its bid.

Regarding Negotiations
After reviewing the initial bids and establishing an initial ranking of valid bids, the contracting authority will enter into negotiations with the three bidders whose bids receive the highest scores based on the bid evaluation criteria listed above, provided that a sufficient number of bids have been received.

It is specified that the CEA reserves the right to negotiate or not to negotiate the bids after the submission of the initial bids under this call for proposals.

Negotiations may cover all or part of the bidders' proposals. Negotiations may take place in successive phases, so as to reduce the number of bids to be negotiated by applying the award criteria set forth above.
Bidders' attention is drawn to the fact that any non-compliant or unacceptable bid may be corrected during negotiations, and that only a non-compliant bid may be corrected in the absence of negotiations. However, any inappropriate bid will be systematically eliminated.
Any bid that remains non-compliant may be corrected within a reasonable timeframe.
A bid may be corrected provided that it is not abnormally low.
Without violating the principle of the finality of bids, a bid may be corrected in the event of a purely clerical error of such a nature that no one could rely on it in good faith.

ARTICLE 7 - DOCUMENTS ON COMPLIANCE WITH TAX AND SOCIAL REGULATIONS, TO BE PROVIDED BY THE CONTRACTOR

The company selected by CEA may only be awarded the Contract after providing the following prior to signing the contract and within the period indicated by CEA:
- the documents listed in articles D.8222-5 (co-contractor based in France) or D.8222-7 and D.8222-8 (co-contractor based abroad) of the French Labour code, which must be produced every six months until the completion of the performance of the contract;
- certificates issued by the competent authorities and bodies, proving that it has satisfied its tax and social obligations (Order of 22 March 2019 establishing the list of taxes, contributions or social contributions giving rise to the issue of certificates for the award of public contracts).

Should the selected company fail to produce these documents within the stipulated timeframe, the proposal shall be rejected without any other formality.

ARTICLE 8 - COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

For any clarifications and/or additional information, bidders are asked to use the CEA's **electronic procurement platform (PLACE).**
The CEA's electronic procurement platform is accessible at the following URL:
https://www.marches-publics.gouv.fr
The procedures to be followed are set forth in Annex 1 of these bidding regulations.
This call for bids is followed by:

8.1 - Technical contacts
- Annaïg LECOMTE - Service LITEN/DEHT/STB/L2PC - Tél. : 04.38.78.09.99.

8.2 - Sales contacts
- Anthony ANDRÉ - Service des Marchés et Achats - Tél. : 06.58.19.15.48.
- Anne MANGIN- Service des Marchés et Achats Tél. : 06.71.99.38.40.

ARTICLE 9 - MONITORING SUPPLIERS

CEA uses an assessment tool for contract performance in order to monitor its suppliers. In this context, CEA can be required to carry out audits and/or request corrective action plans from its suppliers.

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