
Date: 05 November 2014

Clarification Note # 1

Request for Quotation No. PR 348965 - Supply and Delivery of Hydro Suits and Underwater Communication Systems

In accordance with issued RFQ No. PR 348965 - Supply and Delivery of Hydro Suits; Supply and delivery of Underwater Communication Systems, the OSCE would like to provide the following clarifications to the RFQ Documents:

Question 1: Regarding **Protection layer** on dry hydro suits: if we put 6mm of Kevlar on the knees of the dry suit - it will be absolute mistake. Usually for Professional diving suits 1-2mm of kevlar protection layer is more than enough. Otherwise elasticity of the suit will be lost in protected areas?

Answer 1: Protective layer means the thickness of the protective layer in those parts of the suit that are most likely to be impacted by friction, bending; near shoulders, elbows, but not the thickness of the whole suit. The suit we require should feature ballistic/heavy-duty properties since it will be used by qualified personnel in high-risk, potentially hazardous-environment operations.

Question 2: In the requirements one of the points states: at least 6mm protective Layer. Trilaminar cannot be produced in such thickness as one could not move anymore, or is a Crush Neoprene Dry suit meant? Furthermore the Temperature Range stated for the suit itself and not for the Undergarment, it is the Under suit which is the thermal protection for a Trilaminar Dry suit, should a Neoprene Dry Suit be meant then a 6mm suit is possible with thermal protection included.

Answer 2: Protective layer means the thickness of the protective layer in those parts of the suit that are most likely to be impacted by friction, bending; near shoulders, elbows, but not the thickness of the whole suit. The suit we require should feature ballistic/heavy-duty properties since it will be used by qualified personnel in high-risk, potentially hazardous-environment operations.

We require trilaminar membrane suits, the protective layer should provide for safety and resistance within the diver's most sensitive areas; many synthetic mixtures (often, crafted exclusively by a manufacturer) are being used now to ensure ballistic properties so we refer to Kevlar as a generic item for the purposes of the required protection level assessment leaving space for proposing its more innovative/elastic/sustainable equivalent by a Bidder.

With regard to the under suit, as it specified we require compatible under suit so we expect its use in conjunction with the dry suit.

Question 3: One aspect which is unclear is the shoe size required for the Dry suits as you require integrated boots? Our suits are tailored to demand and with vast possibilities of options which we will do our best to include in the offer.

Answer 3: With regard to the boots, indeed we require them integrated with the dry suit and possible to wear in conjunction with XXL Fins.

Question 4: Lot 2 Underwater Communication systems: How important is point about 4 channel communication as I am not aware of any system offering this in unwired systems.

Answer 4: 4 channel communication requirement is obligatory without reservations. From the PCU previous experience, there are such devices on the market (at least, used to be in late 2013) as we had ordered a batch of them within the same project.

Question 5: Usually dry suits come with attached or separate hood made of neoprene material. Thickness of material usually is between 5-7mm. To use dry suit without neoprene hood is absolutely not acceptable for diver.

Answer 5: Since the thermal range of the dry suit use is specified from 0°C, the delivery shall include cold water dry hood as the use of the suit will not be possible otherwise at lower range of temperatures.

Question 6: For diver communication set it is not mentioned whether it must come with rechargeable batteries and chargers or alkaline batteries, otherwise divers cannot use the communication set as its not powered up.

Answer 6: There is no specific requirement for the set's energy supply other than set forth in the technical specifications. Generally, both: rechargeable battery or alkaline batteries are acceptable. The supply shall include any of that as according to the technical specifications, the device will be used "for maintaining communication with surface control station", and without any energy element it will fail to perform this function. Costs might be considered as the proposal will undergo financial evaluation and proposing a more expensive option for the energy element might have an impact at this stage. There is no specific requirement for a charger other than provided in the technical specifications. Standard set of alkaline batteries is the minimum acceptable.

Question 7: In the description of a full face mask must be very clearly indicated whether it goes with the second stage ~SCUBA regulator or without. Otherwise, if the mask must come without 2nd stage regulator, must be indicated which model and manufacturer SCUBA system is owned by end-user to ensure it fits full face mask without any problems. Here I feel, that full face mask must come with 2nd stage regulator but it is not mentioned in technical parameters. 2nd stage breathing regulator usually costs more than a price of a full face mask.

Answer 7: We checked with the end-user and since they are unable to confirm specific breathing system models to be used with the full-face masks for the time being, the FFM shall be supplied with 2nd stage regulator. Please, find below the picture of a generic professional FFM set that is needed:



Question 8: There is a request for spare and repair accessory kit: Hydro suits to be supplied with 3 repair and accessory kits each of those to include: T-zip; Dry suit exhaust valve; Dry suit inflation valve; Hand seals; Neck seals (minimum 3 pcs. of each item per kit). So if I understand right it has to be 9 pcs of each item?

Answer 8: Yes, it is correct: there are 9 pcs of each item required to be supplied for spare and repair.

Sincerely,



Olena Gudym,
Alt. Chief of Fund Administration,
OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine