EUROCONTROL
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i- CALL FOR TENDERS

Current opportunity

Procedure No.	ECTL_SRC_260065
Title:	Senior expert support for Datalink Test Facility

General:

Open Call for Tenders No. ECTL_SRC_260065 relates to the Senior Datalink Expert for the Datalink Test Facilities (DTF) in Brétigny-Sur-Orge. This procurement aims to provide expert support to EUROCONTROL for the maintenance and operation of its Datalink Test Facility (DTF), as well as the preparation, execution, and reporting of datalink interoperability and validation activities for the period of two years.

A key objective of this contract is to ensure resilience of DTF operations, mitigate the current dependency on a single expert, preserve critical technical knowledge and support the transition towards future EUROCONTROL testing capabilities beyond the planned closure of the EIH facility.

Technical subject matter:

The EUROCONTROL Network Manager (NM) is responsible for supporting the deployment, monitoring and efficient operation of datalink services across the European ATM Network as part of its Network Functions responsibilities. Through the CNS Datalink Programme, the NM supports stakeholders in improving the operational use, performance, interoperability and resilience of datalink services while preparing the deployment of future datalink capabilities.

To support these activities, EUROCONTROL operates the Datalink Test Facility (DTF) located at the EUROCONTROL Innovation Hub (EIH) in Brétigny-Sur-Orge. The DTF provides a unique capability enabling interoperability testing, technical validation, investigation support and stakeholder assistance related to ATN Baseline 1 datalink services and future ATS-B2 capabilities. The facility supports EUROCONTROL's role under the Network Functions Implementing Regulation by providing interoperability testing, technical investigation and stakeholder support capabilities that help resolve operational issues, reduce deployment risks and facilitate the efficient deployment and operation of datalink services across Europe.

The Contractor shall provide technical support for the operation, maintenance, and configuration management of the EIH Datalink Test Facility, ensuring its continued availability and effectiveness as a platform for datalink interoperability testing. The services shall include support to EUROCONTROL in the planning, coordination, preparation, and execution of testing activities involving Air Navigation Service Providers (ANSPs), aircraft operators, avionics manufacturers, and Communication Service Providers (CSPs).

The Contractor shall also provide technical expertise to support EUROCONTROL's datalink programmes, including stakeholder coordination, technical analysis, troubleshooting, and validation activities related to ATS-B2 and future datalink services. In addition, the contractor shall contribute to the preservation of critical technical knowledge associated with the EIH Datalink Test Facility and support its evolution and transition towards future testing and validation capabilities.

Main selection and assessment criteria:

TECHNICAL CAPACITY CRITERIA
The proposed expert shall have a completed university degree in Computer Science, Telecommunications, Aeronautical Engineering or equivalent technical discipline.

TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT CRITERIA
CV of the proposed expert shall be provided.
Full compliance with the mandatory requirements presented with the word “shall” in the Technical Specifications and Annex A to the Technical Specifications.
Minimum 8 years of experience in ATM datalink systems, ATN architecture, CPDLC and ADS-C services.
Minimum 5 years of experience in interoperability testing, validation campaigns and technical investigations.
Minimum 5 years of experience operating, maintaining or managing a technical test facility or validation platform.
Minimum 5 years of experience supporting operational stakeholders (ANSPs, airlines, CSPs, manufacturers).
Minimum 2 years of experience producing technical reports, procedures and technical specifications.
Experience with ATS-B2 services, activities and associated standards.
Minimum level in English – B2 as defined by Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) of the Council of Europe.
Proposed approach and understanding of the required support.

The economically most advantageous offer will be established in accordance with the following Award criteria:

For the Technical tender, a weighting of 50% is applied, for the Financial tender, a weighting of 50%.

Tender closing date:

30 October 2026 at 15:00 Brussels time

Point of Contact:

Please see the "Important Notice" below and if you have any other related questions, please contact:

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If this Call for Tenders should interest you, please read the important information below:

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The full i-Call for Tenders documentation is in electronic format (.pdf).
If you wish to obtain the i-Call for Tenders documentation, please read and follow carefully the instructions below:

1. If you are already registered in the EUROCONTROL Supplier Portal, you can search for this Call for Tenders, and its relevant documentation, in the "*View Active Negotiations*" section of the Supplier Portal.
2. If you are not yet registered as a EUROCONTROL supplier, please follow the process described on the following link: https://www.eurocontrol.int/portal/new-supplier-portal.
3. EUROCONTROL accepts no responsibility whatsoever for the completeness, accuracy and/or timeliness of the transmission of the electronic documents (nor for the electronic documents themselves).
4. Submission of tenders shall be made electronically and shall be exclusively made in strict accordance with the instructions given in the tendering documentation.
5. You may:
   a) print out the documents;
   b) forward the documents further on a strictly need to know basis (always fully acknowledging the source, i.e. EUROCONTROL), and
   c) use printouts of the electronic i-Call for Tenders documents for the submission of tenders (especially the Price Offer Form ref: I-TSF-E).
6. You may not:
   a) modify, edit and/or change the electronic documents other than to submit the required info and to sign/stamp where required;
   b) transmit such documents to any third person who has no need to know them;
   c) post such documents on any private or public website;
   d) alter the originating source (EUROCONTROL) and or copyright signs etc., and
   e) transmit the documents without indication of the source.

An environmental notice:
With a view to reduce the exponential growth of paper consumption, we would invite you only to print out electronic documents received and/or request paper copies of the price enquiry documentation if you are actually considering to submit a tender.