



United Kingdom Education and Research Networking Association

Commercial in Confidence

Procurement for the Supply of UKLight SDH Equipment

Clarification Note 2

This document and the information it contains are provided solely for the purpose of allowing potential suppliers to provide a tender for the services being procured. It is issued under the Open Procedure of the EU Services Directive.

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9th August 2006

Question:

In 1. Introduction it states the procurement process will be managed according to the open procedure as specified by the European Procurement Services Directive 2004/18/EC but within MR1, MR2, MR3 and MR4 it states EU directive 92/50/EEC.

Could you please clarify if both of these directives are the same.

Answer:

Apologies for the confusion. The procurement process mentioned in section 1 is correct (European Procurement Services Directive 2004/18/EC) and came into force at the end of January 2006 this year. The reference in MR1 - MR4 refers to the old directives. In terms of answering the questions in MR1 - MR4 there is no difference in the implementation of the directives and suppliers should answer the questions as they are able to.

25th July 2006

Question:

The OR states that the SDH equipment must integrate with the existing Ciena equipment. Does this mean that any alternative must interoperate in a stand-alone fashion with the current equipment or does it mean that any alternative must also be capable of being fitted into existing Ciena chassis?

Answer:

Under the current procurement directives, it is not permissible for UKERNA to mandate the supply of one particular brand of equipment in procurement such as this. Suppliers are able to offer alternative equipment so long as they can demonstrate that it provides the same functionality.

However suppliers should note that the equipment they choose to supply must provide the same functionality as the existing Ciena equipment. It must run an operating system directly compatible with the Ciena OS and be capable of being fully integrated into the existing Ciena network management systems. Any line cards must fit into the existing Ciena shelves and provide exactly the same functionality as the installed Ciena equipment.