

Explosives and Weapons Detection: 2010 Call for Innovative R&D Proposals Bidder Information

Terrorist attacks are characterised not only by their ferocity and ruthlessness but by their variety and unpredictability. Terrorists constantly innovate, trying new methods of attack, new weapons and new explosives. Those organisations whose job it is to protect the UK from terrorism need to innovate too. Improving the protection of the UK's key infrastructure, transport facilities and crowded places are key elements of the [Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy](#), known as CONTEST.

To support CONTEST, the Home Office, Department for Transport, Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure, MOD Counter Terrorism Science and Technology Centre and the Metropolitan Police Service are inviting companies and academic institutions located in the UK to submit proposals for innovative research and development in the field of explosives and weapons detection. This call is being conducted in association with the [Home Office Innovative Science and Technology in Counter-Terrorism](#) (INSTINCT) programme. We are keen to engage with new suppliers from outside the security field with technical expertise that may be relevant to security problems as well as those who have experience of working in the security sector.

The Home Office is using an eSourcing toolkit to enable the sourcing activities to be conducted over the Internet. Any organisation intending to submit an expression of interest must first be registered as a supplier with the Home Office eSourcing Portal. To register, visit the Portal's Login Page at <https://sourcing.homeoffice.gov.uk> and complete the online registration form by clicking on the "Register Supplier Organisation" link in the top right-hand corner of the page. The entire process should take no more than 10 minutes and need only be completed once. Passwords are issued via email, normally within 1 working day. If you have any difficulties registering please contact the eSourcing Help Desk for support in completing the online registration process; call 01633 581553 or email eEnablers@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk.

Once registered, organisations can submit an expression of interest, to do this you must send an email to eEnablers@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk any time up to, but no later than, 9th April 2010. The email should have "2010 Call for Innovative R&D Proposals" in the subject field and contain the following details within the body of the email: your organisation's name; your contact's email address; your contact's name and your contact's telephone number.

Organisations who have complied with the former will receive details of how to access and complete the online Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ). The online PQQ must be fully completed **no later than 16th April 2010**. Any expressions of interest not submitted in the required form (or not containing the requested information) may be rejected. If, however, you believe that there are reasons as to why you would be unable to use the eSourcing service, please let us know by emailing eEnablers@homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk and we will consider how best to overcome your difficulties.

The purpose of the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ) is to determine organisational, technical and financial capability, which is the first step in our selection process. Potential bidders who qualify from the evaluation of the PQQ will be invited to attend a bidders' conference (anticipated to be held in London in May 2010) for a more detailed overview of the requirements.