

**PROJECT: ACQUISITION OF NETWORK EQUIPMENT FOR WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY INFRASTRUCTURE**

**A. QUERIES/CLARIFICATIONS RAISED DURING THE PRE-BID CONFERENCE**

Item No.	Queries/Clarifications	TWG/BAC Reply
1	For those who participated in the previous cancelled bidding, do we need to purchase Bid Docs?	No.
2	<p><b>a.</b> Can you allow us to propose a controller less wireless LAN architecture, so that it will eliminate or it will minimize the point of failure and at the same time network congestion but without sacrificing the functionality that is being required by the agency? Is it possible?</p> <p><b>b.</b> In the technical specification, it was mentioned that you will be requiring a BYOD functionality, with that may we ask for the estimated or calculated numbers of concurrent BYOD users because normally, in this kind of deployment there will be a separate license for the BYOD control.</p> <p><b>c.</b> About network switches, with regards to the VBST, any particular requirement? Although it was mentioned as equivalent, were you eyeing for a particular and direct equivalent of VBST?</p> <p><b>d.</b> So, any industry standard?</p> <p><b>e.</b> Because the primary function of VBST is per VLAN of STP, any industry standard is permitted?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>The initial concurrent users license requirement is 15,000.</p> <p>No. Any spanning tree protocol that prevents switching loops is considered equivalent.</p> <p>None. Any spanning tree protocol that prevents switching loops is acceptable.</p> <p>Yes.</p>

3	<p><b>a.</b> On the Firewall, can we use a third-party controller since it was indicated, 6 Gbit/s capability</p> <p><b>b.</b> About the switch, since the access points is at least 5.3 gbps, is it possible to use a multi-gig switch to maximize the speed of the internet?</p> <p><b>c.</b> It will not be used in access point?</p>	<p>Yes, provided that the requirements under Item 2.3 of the Technical Specifications are met.</p> <p>Yes. The 20 units of switch will be used and distributed for the main office.</p> <p>It will be used only for Main Office Access Points deployment.</p>
4	<p>In terms of security certification, any specific or any brand will be permitted?</p> <p>As we all know, a part of the hardware base controller has a firewall functionality or a stateful packet inspection, which is why we are wondering if they can add a separate firewall because controllers have some firewall capabilities.</p> <p>In Wireless LAN Infrastructure there is no security certification included, as for our side we don't have it because our main product is WiFi and Wireless LAN Infrastructure. That is why I am asking for any related security certification.</p>	<p>Any brand of security certifications is acceptable.</p>
5	<p><b>a.</b> Is it possible to request for an extension for of the delivery and installation?</p> <p><b>b.</b> Can we propose Cat6 in addition to the stranded Cat5e UTP cable specified in the cabling?</p>	<p>No. Delivery sites will be in Main office, DR Site, and the 3 branches located in Tarlac, San Pablo and Pampanga. SSS will be in charge for the deployment in other branches. Please refer to Bid Data Sheet ITB Clause 12 page 22 of the bidding documents.</p> <p>No. We maintain the requirement for Cat5e UTP cable due to existing standard infrastructure facility and tools. This supersedes the initial response during the pre-bid conference which we initially said 'Yes'.</p>

6	<p>a. With regards to controller can we propose a cloud base controller from Main and DR site?</p> <p>b. With regards to the controller 's security functionalities, would a controller be it on premises or cloud storage, with a separate appliance for Firewall for the security be accepted also or it must be integrated it to security function within the controller?</p>	<p>No.</p> <p>A separate appliance for firewall or an integrated firewall within the controller are acceptable provided that the minimum technical requirements are met.</p>
7	<p>Under page 37 8.3, can a supplier like us, who has been in business for almost 5 years this coming June, may participate in the bidding?</p>	<p>Yes. The requirement is that the Bidder must have completed, within five (5) years prior to the Submission and Opening of Bids a single contract equivalent to at least 50% of the ABC.</p>
8	<p>Is it possible for us to provide a different brand for the access point and switch?</p>	<p>Yes.</p>

#### B. WRITTEN QUERIES / APPEALS

Item No.	Queries/Clarifications	TWG Reply
1	<p>Controller</p> <p><b>1. Do you allow 3rd party firewalls for item 2.3 to 2.6? Can we propose Firewall - FortiGate 200F for the main office and Fortigate 100F for the other site. This will be connected to the Controller for firewall feature of the follow:</b></p> <p><i>Database of over 120 million URLs in the cloud; Have more than 80 URL Filtering Categories ;Support over 3000 applications identification and control</i></p> <p><b>2. Can we propose a Cloud Controller? Benefits are as follows:</b></p> <p>HIGH PERFORMANCE WI-FI 6 (802.11ax) AND 802.11ac APs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Patented BeamFlex® and ChannelFly® technologies in APs deliver better performance in challenging RF environments (high client density, high interference, and/or high loss)</li> <li>· Superior capacity and coverage than competitive</li> </ul>	<p>Yes, provided that the minimum technical requirements are met.</p> <p>No.</p>

solutions (30% to 50% more clients supported per AP)  
lower total cost of ownership

- Automatic client load balancing and band balancing ensure QoS for all clients

**SIMPLE, SECURE AND SCALABLE FIXED FORM-FACTOR FOR SWITCH**

- Zero-touch deployment and configuration
- Upgradable, flexible architecture
- Industry-leading price/performance
- Unique stacking capabilities simplify management
- Switch stacking creation and management
- Multigigabit Ethernet enables next generation wireless deployment

**INTUITIVE UI AND INTENT-BASED WORKFLOWS**

- Single-pane-of-glass web UI provides centralized visibility and control of venues, APs, switches, client details, and applications
- View historical client data and trends
- See the health of your network at a glance
- Intuitive UI makes management easy for administrators, reducing dependence on specialized IT resources
- Wizard-guided, intent-based workflows save time on everyday tasks

**REDUCED UNPLANNED DOWNTIME**

- AI-enabled detection and prioritization of complex network issues without IT intervention
- ML-powered network intelligence enables troubleshooting with speed and precision
- End-to-end client to AP to switch visibility and trace routing enable IT to quickly detect and react to potential user experience degradation
- Elasticsearch for comprehensive lookup
- Instant notification of network status via SMS, mobile app push notification, or email

**EASY, FLEXIBLE GUEST AND EMPLOYEE NETWORK SETUP**

- Self-help or sponsored guest WLANs
- Customized, branded captive portal for guests in six easy steps
- Guest captive portal can be customized in 20+ languages
- Integration with multiple validated third-party captive portal solutions

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Multiple options to secure guest networks: Social login, SMS, email, clickthrough, passcode</li> <li>· Secure employee access using PSK, DPSK, Cloudpath or 802.1X with AAA</li> </ul> <p><b>NATIVE MOBILE APP</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Provision, monitor and manage your networks using the Cloud by mobile app</li> <li>· Get push notifications to alert you of network issues or changes</li> <li>· Scan AP or switch barcodes with your smartphone camera to register devices</li> <li>· Scan business cards to generate guest passes</li> <li>· Set up and configure new employee and guest networks</li> <li>· Customize captive portal messages and images on the go</li> </ul> <p><b>BUILT-IN REPORTING AND ANALYTICS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Extensive report options, including traffic reports (by venue, AP, switch, SSID,radio), application visibility and unique clients</li> <li>· Up to 12 months of stored data to support long-term trending analysis</li> <li>· Reports available at granular intervals</li> <li>· Customizable data dashboards using Data Explorer</li> </ul> <p><b>COMPLETE INVESTMENT PROTECTION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Operational LAN, APs and switches even when Cloud subscription is no longer active</li> <li>· Complete flexibility to migrate from one management architecture to another without losing use of your APs or switches</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Item 2.14, what specific fault data to be captured?</b></p> <p><b>4. Item 2.20 and 2.28, what specific demarcating issues?</b></p> <p><b>5. Also may we raise &amp; manifest to the BAC and to your good office that the Technical Specifications is a tailored-fit to a "Specific Brand" (HUAWAI Brand) .</b></p>	<p>Fault Data such as Connectivity, Air Interface Performance, Roaming or Device Issues.</p> <p>Demarcating issues which relate to client access failure including specific points of failure within the infrastructure.</p> <p>The minimum technical specifications are designed to</p>
--	--

	<p><b>Section 18 of Republic Act (RA) No. 9184</b>, the Government Procurement Reform Act, and its 2016 revised Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR), mandate that reference to brand names shall not be allowed and thus, specifications for the procurement of goods shall be based on relevant characteristics and/or performance requirements. This mandate cannot be circumvented by setting specifications that point out to only one brand of goods or items, though without mentioning the name of the brand. What is prohibited directly is prohibited indirectly.</p> <p>Procuring Entities (PEs) can make technical specifications in their bid documents more detailed, they cannot, however, <b>“tailor fit” to a particular brand</b>. We further stated that the inclusion in the bidding documents of such detailed design and technical descriptions that leave the PE no other option but to procure from a particular brand or supplier defeats the very essence and purpose of competitive bidding, and in such a case where a specific brand is necessary, indispensable and justified under the IRR, the applicable alternative modalities of procurement may be utilized.</p> <p>Thus, as a rule, specifications for the procurement of goods shall be based on relevant characteristics and/or performance requirements. Reference to brand names, including tailor fitting, is not allowed. But where necessary to maintain the performance, functionality and useful life of the equipment, reference to brand names relative to the existing fleet or equipment is allowed.</p>	<p>be compatible with the existing wireless infrastructure.</p>
<p>2</p>	<p><b>1. Section 5.3, Bid Data Sheet:</b> For this project, contract similar to the Project shall be: a. Installation and implementation of Wireless Infrastructure</p> <p>We would like to clarify if a Network Project with Wireless LAN infrastructure components will be compliant to the this (SLCC) requirement.</p>	<p>Yes, if the Wireless LAN Infrastructure components (Access Points, Switches, Wi-Fi Controllers) are at least 50% of the ABC. This amends Section III. Bid Data Sheet, ITB Clause 5.4.</p>

<p><b>2. Technical Specifications – AP’s</b> Item 1.4: Maximum rate of up to 5.37 Gbit/s</p> <p>Please confirm if the following specifications complies with your requirement:</p> <p>- 6 GHz 160 MHz 2.4 Gbps, 5 GHz 80 MHz 1.2 Gbps, 2.4 GHz 20 MHz 287 Mbps or a total of Total 3.9 Gbps</p>	<p>No. The minimum total rate should be 5.37 Gbit/s. This amends Item 1.4 of Section VII of the Technical Specifications.</p>
<p><b>3. Item 1.6 Support 4x4 MIMO on the 2.4 GHz band and 4x4 MIMO on the 5 GHz band</b></p> <p>We would like to clarify if you can relax this requirement to 2x2:2 MIMO per band</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p><b>4. 1.12 Must supports flexible switchover of radio modes: 2.4GHz (4x4) + 5GHz (4x4), dual radios: 2.4GHz (2x2)+5GHz (4x4)+ independent radio scanning mode, triple radios: 2.4GHz (2x2) + 5GHz (2x2) + 5GHz (4x4)</b></p> <p>We’d like to clarify if this could be relax to supports flexible switchover on 2x2:2 MIMO</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p><b>5. Item 2.7 Minimum of 15,000 concurrent online users expandable to 50,000 concurrent online users.</b></p> <p>Please confirm if this specifications could be lower down to up to 32,768 concurrent user/devices</p>	<p>No.</p>
<p><b>6. Item 2.8 Must support interconnection with social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, and Google+. Guests can use the social media accounts to access the Wi-Fi network</b></p> <p>We’d like to clarify if Using ClearPass NAC (not controller) for this features would be Acceptable</p>	<p>Yes, provided the requirements under Item 2.8 are met.</p>
<p><b>7. Item 2.12 Must support the What You See Is What You Get (WYSIWYG) Portal editor and provides various system templates such</b></p>	<p>Yes, provided the requirements under Item 2.12 are met.</p>

	<p>as registration-free and self-service guest registration</p> <p>We'd like to clarify if Using ClearPass NAC (not controller) for this features would be Acceptable</p> <p>8. Network Switch: Item 3.4 Must have at least 874W of PoE Budget</p> <p>We would like to clarify if you could lower down this requirement to 700W to allow other brand and more qualified bidders to join the bidding</p> <p>9. TOR: Schedule of Requirements - Delivered. Weeks/Months: Ninety (90) Calendar days from the receipt of Notice To Proceed and Purchase Order</p> <p><b>Bid Clarification:</b></p> <p>We'd like to clarify if said <b>90 days timeline for schedule of requirement could be extended to One Hundred Twenty (120) calendar days considering the current Global shortage of Microchips</b></p>	<p>Yes. This amends Section VII Technical Specifications, Item 3.4.</p> <p>No.</p>
3	<p>1. It was not clear in the bidding document about installation and cabling. Does SSS have an existing structured cabling in place that the provider only needs to install the equipment? Or structured cabling shall be provided by the bidder?</p> <p>2. For item 3.3 and 3.4. it was stated that in your requirement that you are requiring 30W/port while the power budget requirement is 874W. As per computation, 30W x 24 ports is only 720W. May we kindly ask you to reduce the power budget requirement to 720W instead as the other 154W will not provide any additional function? Or can we rephrase the term "874W of PoE Budget" to "905W Power Consumption"?</p>	<p>For purposes of project acceptance, the bidder shall provide structured cabling for Main Office for the 120 units Access Points (AP), Tarlac 2 units AP, San Pablo 2 units AP and Pampanga 2 units AP.</p> <p>Please refer to B. Written Queries/Appeals, Item 2.8.</p>