

Question/ Answer

Open call to tender EMSA/OP/17/2014 concerning contracts for provision of maritime surveillance services from TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X/PAZ satellite images

Question 1 dated 16/01/2015

With reference Paragraph 8.0.0.9

EMSA shall be able to order archived data. Archived data shall be made available in a timely manner. Does this apply to Native L1B Products only, or also the related information products (wind, ships etc.)?

Answer to Question 1

Tender Enclosure 1, Technical Specification for Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17/2014 section 8.0.0.9, refers to the Agency's requirement to be able to order TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X/Paz data from the contractors archive. The requirement refers to the Native L1B images only.

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Please refer to Q&A 14, Published 06/03/2015

Question 2 dated 16/01/2015

For each satellite acquisition the following data products shall be delivered to the EODC:

- i. EO product SAR-Native1 image (EOP)
- ii. Quality notification (QNO)
- iii. SAR derived products (DER)
- iv. SAR vessel detection (DER ->VDS in future)
- v. Activity detection (ACT)
- vi. Quality Report (QUA)

Can you confirm that with the exception of 9.0.0.7 (non-delivery of image file), that this is indeed the case – the complete list of products is to be provided at all times? In other words, no differentiation is foreseen (e.g. only ordering activity detection, but not vessel detection?)

Answer to Question 2

Tender Enclosure 1, Technical Specification for Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17/2014 section 9.0.0.3, refers to the different types of data products, sometimes referred to as 'packages' which shall be delivered to the EODC. However, it is not correct to assume that complete list of product types (i) – (vi) are provided for every satellite acquisition.

For example, the Agency may order a vessel detection service based on one satellite image acquisition. In this case the packages to be delivered to the EODC are:

- i. EO product SAR-Native1 image (EOP)
- ii. Quality notification (QNO)
- iii. SAR derived products (DER)
- iv. SAR vessel detection (DER ->VDS in future)
- vi. Quality Report (QUA)

The Agency may order a vessel detection service AND an activity detection service associated with one satellite image acquisition. In this case the packages to be delivered to the EODC are:

- i. EO product SAR-Native1 image (EOP)
- ii. Quality notification (QNO)
- iii. SAR derived products (DER)
- iv. SAR vessel detection (DER ->VDS in future)
- v. Activity detection (ACT)
- vi. Quality Report (QUA)

In other words, while the EOP, QNO, QUA packages are provided for every satellite acquisition, the SAR vessel detection packages (DER ->VDS in future), and Activity detection packages (ACT), may or may not be delivered, depending on whether a vessel detection service and/or an activity detection service is ordered.

Please note that, as described in section 9.0.0.7, for some services EMSA may request non delivery of the image file. In that case the EOP product shall be delivered containing only the metadata of the image and not the image file.

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Question 3 dated 16/01/2015

Q3 (Paragraph 8.7.3.5)

Transfer of data package:

We understand the process as follows

- 1 Contractor calls Web service/Checksum
- 2 Contractor starts file transfer
- 3 Contractor provides list of files transferred, marks end of delivery

Can you confirm at which point the 'clock' stops ticking for the contractor in relation to the price co-efficient in Table 5? We presume it is in step 3?

Answer to Question 3

Tender Enclosure 1, Technical Specification for Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17/2014 Table 4 describes the 'Required maximum delivery times of products' and states that for each satellite acquisition, contractors should submit all required data packages.

As stated in section 9.0.2.2, 'In the event of delivery delays of the data packages, the coefficients described in Table 5 'co-efficient for delivery time delay' will apply to the base price and 'The calculation for each service will be based on the lowest price co-efficient for delivery time delay'.

In your question you refer to step 3 'Contractor provides list of files transferred, marks end of delivery'. It is important to note that there is no separate call to pass the list of files transferred. The list of files transferred is part of the call for the last package of the transmission.

Furthermore, in relation to the price co-efficient in Table 5, the clock does not 'stop ticking' until the last package of the transmission is sent. It should be understood that the contractor should transfer all the required data packages for every satellite acquisition even if this is later than the required maximum delivery time of 60 minutes for the EOP, QNO, DER, VDS or ACT packages, or later than 360 minutes for QUA package.

In practice contractors could submit the packages for transmission up to 4 days after the scheduled acquisition stop time. Section 10.1.0.3 states that contractors shall have 96 hours after acquisition stop time to contest, through the JOU, the information on delivered products and associated delivery times and quality, and section 10.1.0.4 states that after 96 hours, the contractor cannot contest information contained in the JOU.

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Question 4 dated 16/01/2015

Target Activity Detection. Can you in more detail describe some operational scenarios/criteria for suspicious target activity?

Answer to Question 4

Typical operational scenarios for target activity include monitoring of a port or beach area to determine the departure of vessels, or monitoring a rendezvous-at-sea, or monitoring a group of vessels, where for example migrants may be transferred from a large vessel to multiple smaller vessels. Target activity detection may require access to and consultation of ship position information from EMSA.

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Question 5 dated 16/01/2015

With reference to section 5.0.0.3, Tender Enclosure 1 Technical Specification for tender;
Can you confirm that EMSA plans to procure required maritime surveillance services within the greyed area in Figure 1 from the already contracted service providers in the EMSA/OP/15/2013 frame agreement, and that this greyed area is not then considered part of the bidding for services in this tender OP/17/2014?

Answer to Question 5

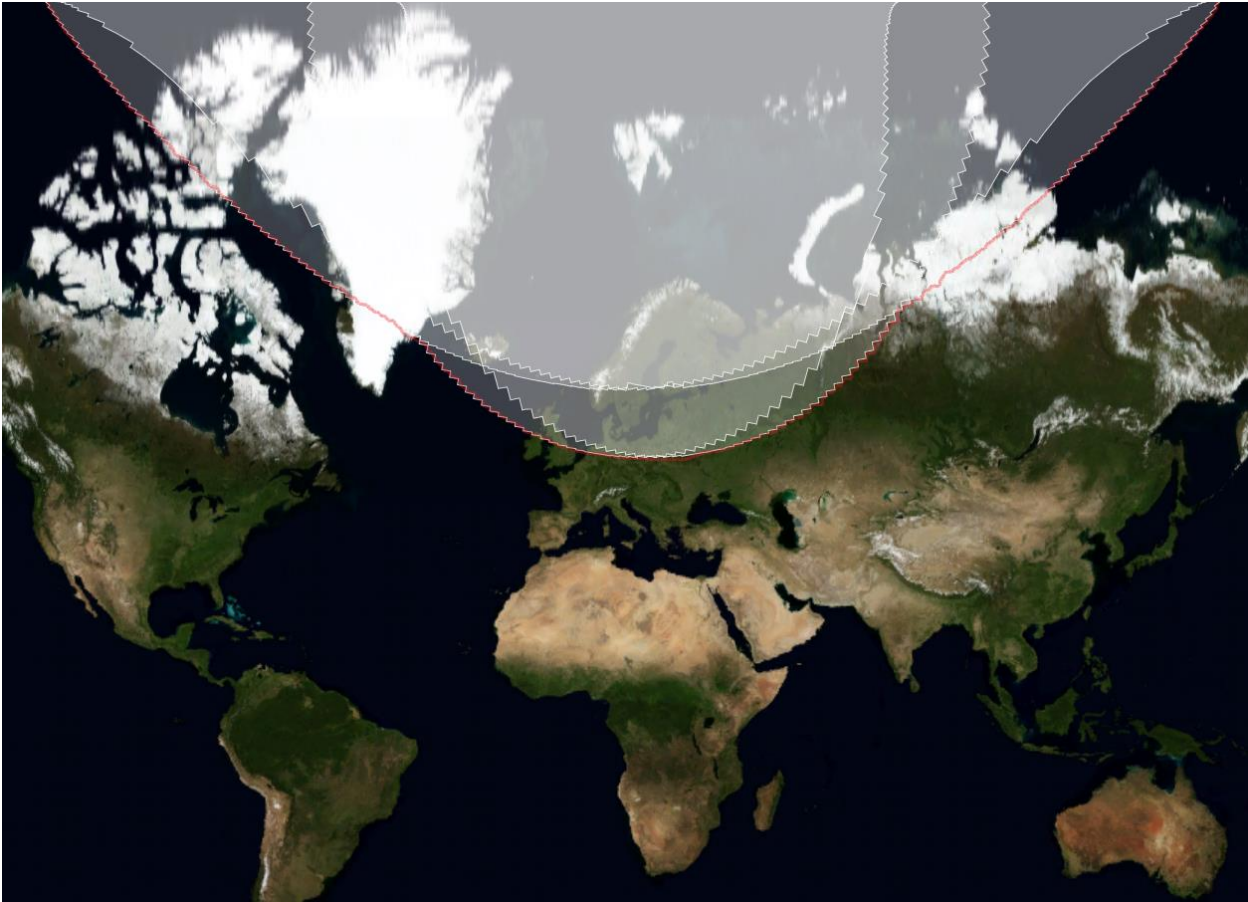
The scope of Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013 is primarily to provide services for oil spill monitoring and vessel detection for CleanSeaNet, and to supply EMSA's maritime surveillance activities, with mandatory satellites Sentinel-1 and RADARSAT-2, with other satellites as an advantage.

The scope of Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17 is to provide maritime surveillance services from TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X/PAZ satellite images only. The main area of interest for maritime surveillance from TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X/PAZ satellite images is in Southern Europe, but may be extended to new areas in the future.

Existing contractors under Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013 may also bid for Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17.

If the required maritime surveillance services based on TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X images can be provided in NRT 30 minutes, by existing contractors under Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013, then service orders shall be placed using this contract. Therefore, the greyed area is excluded with respect to delivery of NRT maritime surveillance services as requested under this Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17/2014.

Due to a clerical error the area in Fig. 1 did not accurately reflect 'The area covered by an existing contract for Terra-SAR-X/Tandem-X valued adding services'. The correct Figure 1 is provided below. All acquisitions in the area above the red line are excluded from the scope of Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17.



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Question 6 & 7 dated 16/01/2015

With reference to section 5.0.0.5 and section 6.0.0.2 Use Case B. Services outside the Ground Station mask, Tender Enclosure 1 Technical specification for tender;

Can you please clarify the relationship between the service requested for new areas worldwide and service from outside the ground station mask provided by the first ranked service provider in EMSA/OP/15/2013 as described in section 3.2.0.4 in Tender enclosure 1 Technical specification and new worldwide areas as defined in section 5.0.0.5 and this use case scenario as here described in 6.0.0.2 in the Tender enclosure 1 Technical specification for tender no EMSA/OP/17/2014?

With reference to section 5.0.0.2 it is stated that the purpose of the contract is to address the coverage gaps in Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013. Section 5.0.0.4 defines areas of interests for this NRT service.

Comparing the areas included through contract EMSA/OP/15/2013 and this new contract shows that there are areas included through contract OP/15/2013 that are not mentioned for this new contract. Can you clarify

whether maritime surveillance service for these areas are to be covered under the contract OP/15/2013 or under the new contract OP/17/2014?

Answer to Question 6 & 7

The overall objective of Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17 is to fill the gaps left by Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013 to be able to provide TerraSAR-X/Tandem-X services which meet timeliness requirements of operational users.

This is addressed:

- in section 5.0.0.2, 5.0.0.4 and 6.0.0.1 by extending the NRT coverage over the Mediterranean Sea, Straits of Gibraltar, and the Atlantic Ocean near the coasts of Morocco, Spain and the Canary Islands.
- In section 6.0.0.2 [Use Case B] when using OP17 would allow to meet timeliness requirements that would not be possible to meet under Framework Contract 2014/EMSA/OP/15/2013.

Section 6.0.0.2 [Use Case B] describes the situation where no Ground Station is able to provide NRT services. Consequently there is no relation between Use Case B and section 5.0.0.5 which refers to NRT services over hypothetical new areas.

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Question 8 dated 4/02/2015

The Compliancy Matrix

We detected a mismatch between compliance matrix and the technical specifications.

The Compliance Matrix ends with 14.0.0.16

The Specification document ends with 32.0.0.1

Is this correct or is there something missing in the compliancy matrix?

Answer to Question 8

The Compliance Matrix correctly ends with reference to section 14.0.0.6. There are no missing elements in the Compliance Matrix. Bidders are requested to complete the Compliance Matrix only for those requirements referred to in the Compliance Matrix.

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Question 9 dated 4 February 2015

We are currently in the process of proposal preparation and in order to have all the required information on hand clarifications have been submitted on January 16. Up to now we did not receive any comments and are now facing critical time conflicts due to unforeseen work load. [--] is aiming to provide the most suitable proposal and many technical details have to be clarified and defined between our partners. With respect to the challenging request of EMSA, the enormous level of coordination and the definition of details in combination with the open clarification, we hereby ask you for the extension of the deadline for proposal submission from March 02 to April 02. We would be pleased if EMSA can accept our request. We thank you in advance for a prompt reply.

Answer to Question 9

Due to a longer than usual response time for EMSA to publish answers to the questions posed by potential bidders, it has been decided to extend the deadline for submission of proposals to Invitation to Tender EMSA/OP/17 from 2 March 2015 to 2 April 2015.

Question 10 dated 17 February 2015

Order from archive (reference section 8.0.0.9)

It is not clear from your requirements which format is expected for delivery of archive products: Pure Native L1b or SAR Native1 image? Are QNO and QUA also expected for archive deliveries ?

In other words, is the delivery of archive products 'as is' for each mission (Pure Native L1B placed on Infoterra delivery server for EMSA Pickup), or does the delivery take place as EOP (Sar Native 1 image) via sftp push to EODC with the same metadata file and package naming convention as for NRT L1B Products, plus the delivery of QNO and QNA for the image?

Answer 10 dated 23 February 2015

Archive products shall be delivered according to the EO product format described in the EICD as for a standard service.

The EO image file shall be in SAR Native 1 image format, in the EOP package, delivered via sftp push and with the same metadata and naming conventions, plus the delivery of the QNO and QUA.

It should be noted that EMSA may request value adding services on archived products.

Question 11 dated 17 February 2015

Non-delivery of the image file (reference section 9.0.0.7)

In case non delivery of the image file is requested, which metadata is expected to be delivered:

Can you confirm that you mean the metadata GML file as specified per EICD?

Answer 11 dated 23 February 2015

Section 9.0.0.7 refers to the EOP.xml product metadata file, EOP.xml, and the package info XML, pck.xml, within the EOP package, as described in the EICD.

Question 12 dated 17 February 2015

Ordering of SAR derived products and SAR vessel detection.

Can you confirm that SAR Wind product and SAR vessel detection will always be ordered together?

Answer 12 dated 23 February 2015

SAR wind is a mandatory product that shall be delivered by Service Providers. As stated in section 8.3.0.5 Contractors shall provide a SAR retrieved wind field at the best possible resolution in relation to the algorithm being used for each input SAR product. This applies also to the 'archived' products.

Question 13 dated 24 February 2015

Re; section 9.0.1.2

All products have to be delivered at the latest according to Table 4 Required maximum delivery times of products as a function of SAR image acquisition length (calculated from satellite acquisition stop time) with EMSA product class applied as a multiplication factor.

We conclude that for Stripmap image of a standard length (8 seconds) the maximum allowed delivery time is 20 minutes. Based on 9.0.1.2, it is however unclear to us what maximum delivery times are for Stripmap scenes that are longer than a standard scene. Can we conclude that with a Stripmap Scene of 1.5 standard length the maximum delivery time is $1.5 \times 20 = 30$ minutes?

Answer 13 answered 6 March 2015

It is not correct to conclude that a Stripmap scene of 1.5 standard length the maximum delivery time is $1.5 \times 20 = 30$ minutes.

According to the Table 4 the maximum delivery time of the EOP product for a Stripmap scene of 1.5 standard length is 20 minutes.

Please note that Requirement 8.0.0.5 states that 'Bidders shall be able to process segments of varying length (up to four times the length of a standard image) to SAR-Native1 products as a single strip of continuous data or as a sequence of consecutive scenes if applicable'. Therefore StripMap mode, has a spatial resolution of up to 3 m. The standard scene size is 30 km x 50 km (width x length). The bidder should be able to deliver up to 4 standard scenes (therefore up to 200km length) as an EOP package in 20 minutes.

If the bidder is not able to meet this requirement, for example, if the processing would lead to an unmanageable image file size, then this should be stated in the bid.

Please note that Article 9.0.1.2 is not correct. Requirement 9.0.1.2 should state that 'All products have to be delivered at the latest according to EMSA product class'.

Question 14 dated 24 February 2015

Re: contradiction in your clarification answers: Q1/16.2.2015 compared to Q10/23.2.2015 and Q12/23.2.2015 It appears there is a contradiction in your answers.

Q1 seems to state that ordering from archive refers to Native L1B products only, and does not apply to information products (wind, ship)

The last sentence of Q10 states: EMSA may request value adding services on archived products.

In Q12, it also states that wind product shall be delivered as part of the archive products.

As we cannot find a specific requirement that would request value adding services on archived products; we think the correct answer is Q1. Can you please clarify and point us to the correct answer?

Answer 14 answered 6 March 2015

There is a contradiction in the published answers for Q1, Q10 and Q12.

The answer to Q1 is incorrect. The answers to Q10 and Q12 are correct. Archive products shall be delivered according to the EO product format described in the EICD as for a standard service. The EO image file shall

be in SAR Native 1 image format, in the EOP package, delivered via sftp push and with the same metadata and naming conventions, plus the delivery of the QNO and QUA.
It should be noted that EMSA may request value adding services on archived products.

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Requests for additional information regarding this tender should be sent by e-mail to the following address OPEN172014@emsa.europa.eu. Requests for additional information received less than five working days before the closing date for submission of tenders will not be processed.

The deadline for submission of the bids of this tender has been extended to 2 April 2015.

Responsibility for monitoring the Agency's website for replies to queries and/or further information remains with potential applicants.
