



EUROPEAN UNION
DELEGATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

CONTRACTING AUTHORITY'S CLARIFICATIONS No. 1

Tender title: EU for Serbia - Supply of ICT equipment for Judicial Academy

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No.	Question	Answer
1.	For item #2 Backup solution. You have requested that form factor is 2U. Please consider and confirm that you will accept backup solutions which are 4U high. It is very likely that there is enough space in existing datacentre racks, difference in form factor between 2U and 4U height might not be really important and crucial for this kind of solutions.	Item No. 2 Backup solution, 2.2 Form factor 4U is acceptable
2.	For item #2 Backup solution. You have requested minimum support for 4x10Gb Ethernet BaseT ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports and Item #3 10GE interconnection switch contains only SFP+ based optical ports. In other words requested 4x10GbaseT ports can not be easily and cost effectively connected to required 10GE switch, thus they are most probably specified just for future expansion in which case 2x10GBase-T port are sufficient. Please consider and confirm that you will accept offers that include 2x10Gbase-T ports and 4x10GE SFP+ optical ports!? This would mean that you would decrease current requirement for 10Gbase-T ports from 4pcs to 2pcs. We confirm that just one 10GE SFP+ optical port is sufficient to achieve 22TB/hour performance and that 2 such ports are required for non-stop operations and high-availability scenario. All other technical requirements ensure overall high performance of solution and options for system expansion. Existing technical specification should be general and aligned to real customer needs, but not related to some specific vendor product, i.e. it should allow and be opened for fair competition which currently not the case.	Item No. 2 Backup solution, 2.10 Decrease of 10Gbase-T ports from 4pcs to 2pcs is not acceptable. Technical specification “4x10Gb Ethernet BaseT ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports” presents minimum requirements. Tenderers can offer better specifications compliant with minimum technical requirements for total number of requested 10Gb Ethernet ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports.
3.	. In the “Annex II + III: Technical specifications + Technical offer” document under item number 1. Hyper Converged Infrastructure do you require a system that is factory packaged as a single solution (HCI) or it is possible to offer a	Item No. 1 Hyper Converged Infrastructure The HCI system must be fully factory integrated, tested, certified and supported for offered virtualisation platforms.

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	system composed of independent HW and SW components (for example: server + virtualization + SDS)?	
4.	In the "Annex II + III: Technical specifications + Technical offer" document under item number 2.5 do you require deduplication only at source side, or is it necessary for the deduplication to be distributed to the target device also?	Item No. 2 Backup solution, 2.5 Deduplication on the source is required. Requested specifications are minimum requirements.
5.	<p>In the "Instructions to tenderers" document, under point 10.4 it is stated that the technical and financial offer must be placed together in one sealed envelope, and then again together in the other:</p> <p>The technical and financial offers must be placed together in a sealed envelope. The envelope should then be placed in a single sealed envelope / package, unless their volume requires separate submission for each lot.</p> <p>Point 11 states that the offer besides this two parts (technical and financial) also has part 3 - Documentation.</p> <p>Could you, please, confirm whether each of these parts (1. technical offer, 2. financial offer and 3. Documentation) should be packed in separate envelopes and then all together in one envelope/package?</p>	It is acceptable to submit technical offer, financial offer and documentation in separate envelopes / folders placed in a single sealed envelope / package in required number of copies as specified in the ITT 10.2.
6.	<p>In Special conditions, Article 14 it is stated:</p> <p>All equipment must be supplied with the technical documentation requested in the Technical Specifications. This documentation must be supplied in English and Serbian, as described in the Technical Specifications both in electronic (digital) and hard copy format.</p> <p>Since most manufacturers do not have technical documentation in the Serbian language, and the translation of such documentation would be expensive, please confirm that the technical documentation which would be delivered with equipment does not have to be in Serbian language.</p>	<p>Special conditions, Article 14 it is stated:</p> <p>All equipment must be supplied with the technical documentation requested in the Technical Specifications. This documentation must be supplied in English or Serbian as described in the Technical Specifications, both in electronic (digital) and hard copy format.</p> <p>Technical documentation supplied only in English language is acceptable.</p>
7.	Regarding item #2 Backup solution. Specification defines that physical form factor of backup solution is 2U. It might be the case that there is enough free unused space in existing datacentre racks, thus it might not be required to insist on 2U height. The difference in form factor between 2U and 4U height, might not be	Please refer to answer No. 1.

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	really important. Please consider and confirm that you will accept backup solutions which are 4U high.	
8.	<p>Regarding item #2 Backup solution. Specification defines minimum support for 4x10Gb Ethernet BaseT ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports. This specification is related with Item #3 10GE interconnection switch which contains only SFP/SFP+ based slots for SFP/SFP+ modules. In other words requested 4x10GbaseT ports on backup solution can not be directly connected to 10GE switch ports. In order to establish 10Gbase-T connection between backup device and switch, expensive 10Gbase-T SFP+ modules are required but they are not specified. Thus we assume that requested 4x10Gbase-T are most probably specified just for future expansion, in which case 2x10GBase-T ports would be sufficient. Please consider and confirm that you will accept offers which contain fewer number and different combination of 10GE ports, assuming that all interconnection and future expansion requirements are fulfilled. In that case it would be sufficient to require minimum total of 6x10GE ports and at least 4x10GE ports must be SFP+ based!?. This would in fact mean that you would slightly decrease number of required 10Gbase-T ports from 4pcs to 2pcs. This decrease would not in any means affect performance as well as potential for expansion and continuous operations.</p>	Please refer to answer No. 2.
9.	<p>Item number 2.2 Form factor: 2U</p> <p>Due to requested scalability of a backup solution would you accept solution with 4U form factor that will meet required parameters in terms of scalability?</p>	Please refer to answer No. 1.
10.	<p>Item number 2.10 4x10Gb Ethernet Base T ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports</p> <p>Under Switch requirements (Item 3) it is required that switch includes 16 active 10Gbps SFP+ and 16 x 1Gbps SFP+ Modules without mentioning of BaseT ports. Considering that required switch solution is based only on optical SFP modules of 1Gbps and 10Gbps, is it acceptable to offer solution that still meets required Throughput meaning that our offered solution has 4x10Gbps optical ports that meets Throughput requirements without use of any additional ports?</p>	Please refer to answer No. 2.

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	Furthermore, according to our knowledge, only one Manufacturer meets the set requirements.	
11.	Based on your request for item 1.7 “Min 2 x 10 Gbps SFP+” and fact that BaseT technology is out dated, would you accept for item 2.10: “4x10Gb Ethernet BaseT ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports” solution with 8x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports?	Please refer to answer No. 2.
12.	In your request for item 1.5 “Minimum total storage capacity of 10.8TB in a hybrid configuration (HDD +min 800 Gb SSD); Min 6 hot swap disks” the expected usable capacity of Hyper Converged Infrastructure solution will be approximately 15TB, requested 22.4TB/h seems very high compared with requested usable capacity in production environment. Would you accept solution that can provide backup throughput of 7TB/h?	No
13.	Based on your request for item 2.2: “Form factor: 2U” which is minimum required specification; is it possible to offer Backup solution with form factor of 4U?	Please refer to answer No. 1.
14.	Based on your request for item 1.26 “Functionality of replication of virtual machines to an external system”; would you accept solution where the functionality is part of virtualization platform instead of Hyper-Converged platform?	Yes
15.	Related to request in item 2.10 “4x10Gb Ethernet BaseT ports and 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports”, is it possible to offer 4x10Gb Ethernet Optical ports and 4x10Gb iSCSI ports?	Please refer to answer No. 2.