



MALTA RESOURCES AUTHORITY

MRA/WAT/19/2013

Clarification Note 8

12th September 2013

Tender: Acquisition of an underwater remotely operated vehicle (ROV)

Question 1: I have just found your clarification 1 on the website, however you did not reply to my question. I asked you to give us the operating depth (which is different to depth rating which is usually the maximum tested depth). This also ties with the last question i sent you with regards to the operation of mini-rov's at depths over 150-200mt.

Reply 1: As stated in Clarification 1 the depth rating (i.e. maximum tested depth) being requested is of 250m. It is however further clarified that normal operating depths for the ROV are not expected to exceed 150m. Higher depths exceeding 150m may be required only in exceptional circumstances.

Question 2: Further to my first question, we have been in discussion with experts in the field and they are saying that a mini-rov (this is what you are asking for in the tender document due to the size limitations) will find it very hard if not impossible to work at depths exceeding 250 mt (which is the minimum depth rating you are asking for). To work properly at these depths you need an ROV which is capable of towing a 200-300 mt long cable which as you can imagine is quite a drag (especially if there is some current etc) and this would mean that you will not be able to work with a mini-rov of the dimensions in the specifications. What this means is that if you want to operate the vehicle up to 150 mts (even if the depth rating is higher) then you can work with an off-the-shelf mini ro, if you want to work at depths of over 250 then you need a larger ROV and hence you need to adjust the size specifications.

Reply 2: Reference is made to Reply 1 above.

Question 3: Also, in 8.2.2 you state that "If a tenderer fails to declare his/her delivery period where indicated on the Schedule of Rates, it shall be construed that the delivery period quoted above has been accepted." Could you please confirm that if we declare a longer delivery date, our tender will not be deemed ineligible?

Reply 3: In terms of the tender, the delivery period is not to exceed 8 weeks. Accordingly, a tender which quotes a longer delivery period would not be compliant with the tender conditions.

