

Medium-sized supplier organisations

Background

Companies that supply products and services to Government and/or Emergency service organisations are often faced with Invitation-to-Tender documents that contain security requirements which warrant specialist attention. If these requirements are not addressed properly bids will be produced and submitted which are non-compliant, over-priced (over-engineered), unacceptable from the ‘user’ perspective or not-sufficiently ‘future-proofed’. In such cases the bid will almost certainly be lost.

Furthermore even after a bid has been ‘successful’ there is considerable risk of overrun or rejection by the Client if security requirements are not managed effectively, for example:

- ‘Poor’ security documentation, e.g. ‘Risk Management & Accreditation Document Set’ (RMADS)
- Security requirements not addressed in-parallel with the wider system design, implementation and ‘rollout’
- Little contact with the security authorities, e.g. accreditor and CESG¹. Furthermore it should be noted that companies supplying systems protectively marked at RESTRICTED require support from a CESG listed advisor (CLAS).

Advisec Ltd

AdviSec Ltd is a small independent consultancy which has considerable experience with regard to procurement, having supported both Clients and Suppliers in the procurement of several systems and networks, e.g PNN3², Network Northern Ireland³, MoD RAPTOR system⁴, e-PIMS for UK OGC⁵, and the DH Ambulance Radio Programme⁶.

In support of supplier organisations Advisec Ltd are offering the following Consultancy services:

- Documentation service, including the production of bid documentation, RMADS, risk assessments, Security aspects letters and Security plans.
- Support to Project teams on security matters by providing advice on the most appropriate architectural solutions, mechanisms and products for implementing security requirements, whilst at the same time complying with Government and industry standards for security and business continuity. The consultant will work closely with other members of the supplier team.

¹ UK National Technical Security Authority (CESG)

² Police National Network 3 (PNN3)

³ Network Northern Ireland inter-connects Civil Service departments in Northern Ireland as well as providing a shared service environment and a converged telephony and data solution.

⁴ Imaging system for RAF Tornado aircraft delivered by Raytheon Inc. to the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD)

⁵ Electronic Property Information Management System (e-PIMS) and UK Office of Government Commerce (OGC)

⁶ Department of Health (DH)

- Accreditation support based on: (i) review and approval of the RMADS by the Client's security authorities, (ii) ensuring that security requirements have been implemented (or a plan is in-place to address the more 'minor' requirements), (iii) ensuring there is sufficient provision for maintaining compliance after 'go-live', and (iv) organising IT security health checks⁷. The consultant will work closely with the Client's security authorities in a team-based approach.
- Support with regard to sub-contractors and third-party services providers, in respect of their procurement and subsequent delivery activities, i.e. quality reviews.

Ad-hoc Support

Medium-sized companies normally maintain a level of expertise to address IT security matters however they are usually too 'small' to retain their own CLAS consultant. One solution to this problem involves establishing a framework or Associate agreement with Advisec Ltd for ad-hoc support.

Our terms and conditions are competitive.

Further details

Further details are available on request, including Case Studies, references and testimonials. And a short presentation can be arranged if required.

Contact us:

Further details, including case studies, presentations and references are available from Nigel Strutt. Please call 07780 526195. Head office; 41, Barry Avenue, Bicester, Oxfordshire. OX26 2DZ.
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⁷ Also referred to as penetration test.