

UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN
Office of University Services
Purchasing Department
1700 "Y" Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68588-0645

June 6, 2008

Invitation Number 204240 & 204243

ADDENDUM NO. 2 - Request for Proposal #204240
ADDENDUM NO. 1 - Request for Proposal #204243
For
CMS Upgrade
& RCF Purchase

The following information is provided regarding questions to the initial Request for Proposals #204240 & 204243, CMS Upgrade & RCF Purchase which proposals are scheduled for public opening **June 12, 2008** at 2:30 PM & 3:00 PM, local time respectively:

1. Q: In section 1.2.3 it's stated that "a headnode of compatible hardware is preferred." can you provide details on what is desired? should we include 1 or 2 head nodes? Would you prefer the same system be used, headnodes and compute nodes, or would you prefer a system with greater redundancy?

A: We prefer the same system. Thus, in effect, no head node is required.

2. Q:-Should racks and power distribution systems be included with our proposals?

A: Racks: yes (see answer to other question below). PDUs: no (see answer in other question below).

3. Q: Are there any requirements for Rack enclosures or will UNL provide the racks for the servers? If UNL will provide the racks, what will be the manufacturer and model of the racks?

A: We request the vendor supply racks and all mounting rails. A standard 42U compute node rack from APC (AR3100) or other similar product from another vendor will be sufficient.

4. Q: Do we need to supply the Power Distribution Units (PDUs) for the cluster? If provided by UNL, what will be the manufacturer and model of the PDUs?

A: UNL will provide these. We have commonly used APC model 7990 (L21-20 receptacle, 120V output) PDUs. We would also accommodate 208V input servers, probably with something like a Geist XPBM308-103IN6TL21 (we have several).

5. Q: Do we need to supply the required network cables to connect the servers to the existing network infrastructure? If the answer is yes, what is the current floor layout and where will the new cluster be installed in comparison to the location of the existing network infrastructure? Also, if the answer is yes, are there any requirements for the cable color schemes and cable labeling schemes?

A: UNL will provide networking cables

6. Q: Is there any requirement for Software? That is, do we need to install any SW prior to delivery?

A: SW may be installed upon delivery. The software to be run for testing is detailed in both RFPs.

7. Q: If IPMI is provided, should the IPMI use the same network port on the motherboard that is used for OS and data transfer? That is, do we need a separate dedicated network for IPMI and remote management?

A: The same network port may be used -- UNL will provide this cabling

8. Q: Is there a guideline on how to read the CMSSW benchmark results and to determine how good a particular result may be?

A: UNL will judge the results, but ballpark figures are on an Opteron 175 platform the test ran in 1894 seconds (single job) and on an Opteron 2216 node a single run took 1725 seconds

9. Q: In Section 1.3 of both bid's, they request itemized list and corresponding costs for all products being quoted. Are they requesting line item component level pricing?

A: We need itemized costs for options that are quoted, such as additional nodes, additional harddrives, etc. It is, however, preferred to know the type (manufacturer) of the various components (e.g. Mushkin RAM, Seagate Harddrive, so on) -- but this is not a hard requirement.

10. Q: In Section 1.2.3 of the bids, UNL references the installation, racking and moving of systems into location. This would also include troubleshooting of any issues that may arise with the hardware during the installation process. Are there any other expected services that UNL would like quoted with the nodes?

A: Delivery estimates (shipping, in particular, if not included). RFP 204240 (CMS) -- no, other than 3-year hardware warranty.

RFP 204243 (Campus) -- yes. Technical support is preferred for this system, and help with tuning the system and/or application support (MPI, OpenMP, etc.) would be an attractive optional item. These should be itemized to protect the vendor from being underbid by a response that does include this type of support.

11. Q: Cover Page - Bids are due on June 12th at 2:30PM central. For us to make an informed decision on being able to meet the 20 days, we would like to know how soon after the June 12th do you expect to make an award? When do you hope to have a purchase order to the successful bidder?

A: No later than 10 days following the receipt of bids for an award, but possibly sooner. We would have a purchase order submitted according to normal bid award procedures following the award.

12. Q: 1.1A - Are there any special regulations, licenses or forms required to be qualified to do business with the State of Nebraska or is being a US corporation in good standing allow us to do business in NE?

A: No special requirements.

13. Q: 1.1B - Are unaudited financial statements acceptable?

A: We will accept unaudited financial statements, however, other information or guaranties may be required if your firm is selected.

14. Q: 1.2.3 and 1.7 - 3yr hardware warranty. Do you require on-site support or is an advanced replacement with shipping covered both ways by the bidder acceptable?

A: The latter is acceptable.

15. Q: 1.2.3 - Is this 20 business days or 20 calendar days?

A: 20 business days for delivery is acceptable.

16. Q: 1.2.3 - Are fully assembled cabinets acceptable so that there is less waste and less time needed for installation?

A: Yes. In this case, verification of successful delivery should be done by vendor.

17. Q: 1.2.3 - Is remote access acceptable for the single test system or do you need the node at your location?

A: Remote access is acceptable

18. Q: 1.2.4 - "ease of use", is Serial console an acceptable remote management option?

A: Yes

19. Q: 4.27 - Is a drivers license and company shirt acceptable?

A: Should your firm be chosen, an ID process will be established. Although a company shirt should be worn during installation it does not, however, take the place of a photo identification badge.

20. Q: 1) Can the RCF and CMS needs be met with a single system? Or, does the CMS system need to be a separate physical entity?

A: A single system is fine, as long as the needs outlined in the 2 RFPs are met.

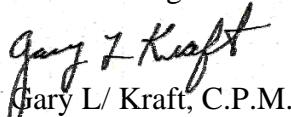
21. Q: 4) (RCF bid) What IB blocking topology is preferred?

A: We would prefer a complete (star) topology, but will consider alternatives if substantial savings result. Vendor is welcome to offer alternatives within a single response.

All other specifications remain the same.

For further information, please contact the buyer, Tom Hansen, Purchasing Department, Phone (402) 472-8398.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Board of Regents


Gary L/ Kraft, C.P.M.

Director of Purchasing & Materiel Services