

15841 Questions & Responses - Set 1

- Q1. When preparing the schedule of prices, shall names of staff be provided in 5.1 or are position titles sufficient.
A1. Position titles will be sufficient.
- Q2. When responding to Form and Content sections 4.2.4 Specifications and Technical Requirements and 4.2.15 Work Plan, can a submittal combine responses to these similar sections? If distinct information is required by each section, can additional clarification be provided to distinguish between the information requested?
A2. Bidders are to respond to the requirements in each subsection of Section 4.2.4 in as much detail as possible. Section 4.2.15 -Work Plan should be the overall approach to meeting or exceeding the requirements by proposing the selected goods or services to meet the need of the bid proposal. In addition to the detail in Section 4.2.4, bidder's work plans should include items such as timeline, additional functionality and any other pertinent information that would assist the evaluators in making the final recommended award.
- Q3. Will the State grant an extension for submission of the RFP response by another four weeks?
A3. No.
- Q4. Would the State consider a comprehensive 100% cloud-based/SaaS solution designed specifically for the public sector that cannot be hosted in State facilities? How will both "cloud" and "on-premise" solutions be graded and evaluated against the other?
A4. The solution should be web-based and not hosted in State facilities. Proposals will be evaluated based on the evaluation criteria.
- Q5. Did the State evaluate solutions that could meet its requirements through vendor demonstrations leading up to the RFP release? If so, what types and names of solutions and vendors were evaluated (vendor-hosted and on-premise) including date of demonstrations?
A5. We are aware of systems used by other state DOTs and cities. However, the requirements in this RFP were based on the needs and workflow of our agency.
- Q6. Did the State use any vendor(s) to help develop the RFP? If so, will the State please share the name of the vendor(s)?
A6. We reviewed system capabilities from other states. Again, the requirements in this RFP were based on the needs and workflow of our agency.
- Q7. Does the State have a budget allocated for this project? If so, will the State provide the dollar amount?
A7. Yes. No.
- Q8. What is the State's desired implementation timeframe (project start to go-live)?
A8. We would like to start using this during the 2016 construction season.
- Q9. Please confirm that all the functional, technical and interface requirements have been defined in the RFP.
A9. Confirmed.
- Q10. How many inspectors and other users will be accessing the proposed solution?
A10. Unknown, but an estimate is over a thousand.

- Q11. Will the State need off-line inspection capability for remote areas, as part of this project or at a later date? How many users will need offline mobile inspection capability?
A11. Yes. All users should have the capability.
- Q12. Per section 3.1 of the RFP, it states: “The purpose of this RFP is for the *development* of a software as a service (SaaS) [solution]...” is the State looking to purchase a custom developed SaaS solution or will you consider a commercial off the shelf (COTS), cloud-based/SaaS solution already in use within the State of Iowa and also with other State governments?
A12. We are not aware of any COTS system that meets the requirements. However, if there is one that does, it will be considered.
- Q13. What types of mobile devices (e.g. Android, iOS, tablet, smartphone, etc.) is the State currently using or anticipating using with the proposed solution for field inspections?
A13. Field inspectors are primarily using iPads.
- Q14. Is the State using a GIS tool? If so, please identify the name and version number.
A.14 GIS: ArcGIS 10.3.1.
- Q15. Could we get samples or copies of the permits? How many permits are issued per year?
A15. Yes. The DOT receives approximately 70 permit authorizations from the DNR.
- Q16. Could we get samples of your current inspection checklists being performed? How many inspections are performed per year?
A16. Yes. [https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20\(Mobile\).pdf](https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20(Mobile).pdf)
However, we anticipate the current form will not translate well to the new system, and there will be changes. Inspections are performed weekly, year-round statewide. Estimate is in the thousands.
- Q17. Could we also get samples of your reports?
A17. Please refer to answer 16.
- Q18. Does the State require a public-facing portal? If so, what capabilities should this portal provide (i.e permit applications, inspection requests)? Also, how many portal logins does the State anticipate on a monthly basis? Will the State be accepting online payments related to permit/inspection activity? If so, considering using card readers at the counter for payment processing? If so, would this need to be part of this project, or at a later date? To understand your fee types, please provide a copy of your current fee schedule. What is the State’s current payment gateway?
A18. The portal should be access-controlled and a log-in will be required. The system will not be used for applying for permits, and there will be no payment processing. The DNR has a system for this.
- Q19. Under section 3.3 of the RFP, Mandatory 6. Automate Reports d., does the State mean “publishing inspection records” to a portal for public consumption?
A19. Intent was the ability to publish a hard-copy of the report.
- Q20. Please confirm that a Bid Bond is not required with the submission with the response.
A20. No bid bond is required for this proposal.

Q21. Under section 3.3 of the RFP, Desired 1., the State indicates the proposed solution will need to “pull fields from existing AASHTOWare and IDOT database,” Please describe the database/language used and available APIs. Are there other integrations required? If yes, please name the database/language used and available APIs for those.

A21. These databases are Oracle type.
DATABASE: Oracle 11.2.0.3, Microsoft SQL Server 2012+
API: Microsoft Visual Studio 2015

Q22. Under section 3.3. of the RFP, are the Technical specifications a requirement of the vendor-hosted solution or can a superior solution leveraging other systems be proposed instead since the State is ultimately seeking a SaaS solution?

A22. We are not sure what the question means when referring to a superior solution, so we are unable to answer.

Q23. Estimated number of users for the system ? broken down by role for training and licensing purposes

Administrative Staff (office users)

Field Inspection Staff or Mobile Users

A23. Admin staff: Several dozen
Inspection staff or mobile users: Unknown, but an estimate is over a thousand.

Q24. What databases (sql, access. Etc...) are available to interface to meet the desired requirement. Do these programs support web services ?

Eliminate duplicate entry of information by pulling fields from existing AASHTOWare and IDOT database (Learning Management Software)such as certifications, pay item information, etc.

A24. Please refer to Answer 22.

Q25. How many reports are generated and their complexity [low/medium/high]? Can you show us a sample?

A25. Currently, weekly inspections are performed. Link to form:
[https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20\(Mobile\).pdf](https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20(Mobile).pdf)
However, we anticipate the current form will not translate well to the new system, and there will be changes. Additionally, starting this season, quality assurance inspections will be performed.

Q26. How many different types of permits are inspected?

A26. Projects are inspected to ensure compliance with the storm water permit. This is either according to NPDES General Permit #2 or an individual storm water permit.

Q27. How many different types of inspections are performed?

A27. Currently, weekly inspections are performed. Starting this season, quality assurance inspections will also be performed.

Q28. How many Users total?

A28. Unknown, but an estimate is over a thousand.

Q29. How many of those users need mobile capabilities?

A29. All users should have mobile capabilities.

- Q30. We understand your need to implement quickly, but would you be willing to extend the due date some?
- A30. Letting date has been moved to March 9, 2016 per Addendum 1..
- Q31. In Section 4.2.7, "Personnel," the State requires resumes for all "key personnel" involved in providing the goods and/or services... " Can the State kindly clarify whether the vendor's designation of "key" personnel is acceptable to meet this requirement, or are resumes required for all personnel?
- A31. Submit resumes for any personnel assigned to this project.
- Q32. (p.23) Should an option to use the application on a mobile device also be included in addition to being able to be used by a browser on an iOS device? Will other mobile platforms need to be supported in the future?
- A32. Solution should allow for completion of inspection report when wireless service is unavailable. Report to then be uploaded to the website at a later time. Unknown.
- Q33. (p.24) How will projects be "pulled" from AASHTOWare and IDOT database? What type of database is it (i.e, MS SQL Server, Oracle, MySQL). Are web services available to query IDOT data? Should the data be updated in realtime or batch? Approximately how many tables, fields and records? Does historical data need to be moved into the solution? How many records need to be migrated?
- A33. Pulling information from AASHTOWare and IDOT databases could be done by web services. Refer to Answer 22. Previous inspection reports do not need to be migrated. However, other project information will.
- Q34. (p.24) Does the system need to generate permit documents? How many different types of permits need to be issued?
- A34. No. The system will not issue permits. Permits are issued by the DNR. Permit documents from the DNR will be .pdf documents.
- Q35. (p.24) Do historical photographs need to be migrated into the system? How many photographs need to be migrated? What is the approximate size of those photographs historically?
- A35. No.
- Q36. (p.24) Can you please clarify what is meant by Printable Mapping Tool? Is the expectation that the area where the inspection took place is mappable? What controls are expected to set the Printable mapping tool?
- A36. This means to create a map showing locations of controls, deficiencies, or observations that were made during inspections.
- Q37. (p.24) Please provide a list of NPDES and State regulatory reports that must be delivered with the solution.
- A37. Permit requirements can be found here: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/water/npdes/GP2_2012.pdf Currently, weekly inspections are performed. Link to form: [https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20\(Mobile\).pdf](https://forms.iowadot.gov/FormsMgt/External/830214%20(Mobile).pdf)

However, we anticipate the current form will not translate well to the new system, and there will be changes. Additionally, starting this season, quality assurance inspections will be performed.

- Q38. (p.25) Should the vendor provide a contingency of "Enhancement Programming" hours within the scope of the proposal?
A38. Vendor shall submit a schedule of prices per the proposal. Enhancement Programming is for modifications and enhancements following Phases 1 and 2.
- Q39. What GIS systems are available to be integrated into the solution?
A39. Arc GIS desktop, Arc GIS server.
- Q40. Is mobile guidance to a site a requirement of the solution?
A40. No.
- Q41. (4.2.8.1) We are a privately held company and can provide quick ratio of our financial performance. Would a quick ratio and an attestation of our health be sufficient to demonstration financial health sufficient to effectively support this project?
A41. Per Section 4.2.8.1 this may be required if your company is short listed.
- Q42. What is the approved budget for this RFP?
A42. This will not be provided.
- Q43. (4.2.5.11) Our firm is privately held and we disclose our accounting firm when we are selected for demonstrations. Will you accept a deferred disclose of our accounting firm?
A43. No. This is a requirement of Section 4.
- Q44. Are there any constituents external to the Department that will need access to the system?
A44. Yes.
- Q45. Does data in the system have to reside within the United States?
A45. Yes.
- Q46. Is a security review of the proposed system required?
A46. Yes.
- Q47. Does the solution need to be compliant with Fedramp and / or NIST requirements?
A47. No.
- Q48. Are there any field encryption requirements?
A48. If the security review discovers possible vulnerabilities, (some) fields may require encryption.
- Q49. Is there an event monitoring requirements wherein changes from some or all of the activities in the system need to be tracked and reportable?
A49. Yes, but it depends on the activities.
- Q50. How many different documents need to be generated from the system?
A50. This has not been determined.

- Q51. How many different notification emails need to be generated from the system?
A51. This has not been determined.
- Q52. Please describe the project team who will be supporting this project? What are their high-level roles and responsibilities?
A52. Project is being led by the Office of Construction and Materials.
- Q53. Will a system administrator be assigned to support daily tasks associated with maintenance of this system?
A53. Without knowing the specifics of the daily tasks, we are unable to answer.
- Q54. How many users of the system will there be? Please describe the roles of each unique groups of users and the numbers of users that will be assigned to each unique role?
A54. Unknown, but an estimate is over a thousand. Roles and numbers of unique user groups has not yet been determined. However, user groups will include administrative staff, DOT inspectors, consultants, and contractors.
- Q55. Is there an existing middleware that can be utilized to migrate data between this system and IDOT systems? Are there other systems in the future that may need to integrate into this system? (helps determine the best integration solution)
A55. Yes.
- Q56. Is there a project management protocol the vendor needs to comply with?
A56. No.
- Q57. Is there a change management / approval process the vendor needs to comply with?
A57. No.
- Q58. Does IDOT have the staff and processes to manage the platform after implementation?
A58. If this question refers to managing users, then yes. If this question refers to system maintenance and support, then this is part of the schedule of prices.
- Q59. Does the vendor need to provide a change management plan as part of the proposal?
A59. Yes.
- Q60. Are there additional capabilities that will need to be added in the future that may need to be considered in the architecture of the solution?
A60. Unknown.