

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

ECMWF/RFP/2025/397

FOR

PROVISION AND INSTALLATION OF AN ADDITIONAL CHILLER UNIT

AT

ECMWF DATA CENTRE, BOLOGNA, ITALY

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1. INSTRUCTIONS TO PROPOSERS

1.1 Introduction

This Request for Proposal (RFP) has been prepared by the European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts, (governed by its Convention and associated Protocol on Privileges and Immunities which came into force on 1 November 1975 and was amended on 6 June 2010) ("ECMWF") for the purposes of obtaining proposals from suppliers for provision and installation of an additional chiller unit at ECMWF Data Centre in Bologna, Italy.

The submission of a response to this RFP shall constitute an offer that may be accepted by ECMWF so as to become a binding contract. However, ECMWF is not bound to accept any quotes. If ECMWF elects to accept a quote, subject to contract, the parties shall execute a formal contract incorporating the terms and conditions contained in the RFP and any other agreed terms.

Introduction to ECMWF

ECMWF is an independent intergovernmental organisation supported by 35 States. Information on ECMWF's activities can be found at <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about>

ECMWF has currently three sites: its Headquarters at Shinfield Park, Reading, UK, a data centre in Bologna, Italy, and an interim site in Bonn, Germany, hosting all of ECMWF's EU-funded activities.

1.2 Background to the project

The background to this RFP is described in Annex 1.

1.3 Confidentiality

The contents of this RFP together with all other information, materials, specifications or other documents provided by ECMWF, or prepared by respondents specifically for ECMWF, shall be treated at all times as confidential by the respondents unless it is already in the public domain. Respondents shall not disclose any such information, materials, specifications or other documents to any third parties or to any other part of the respondents' group or use them for any purpose other than for the preparation and submission of a response to this RFP nor shall respondents publicise ECMWF's name or the project without the prior written consent of ECMWF. Respondents shall ensure that all third parties to whom disclosure is made shall keep any such information, materials, specifications or other documents confidential and not disclose them to any other third party except as set out above.

ECMWF reserves the right to retain all documents submitted by respondents in response to the RFP. Any information in such documents that is proprietary and confidential to the respondent will be handled confidentially by ECMWF provided it is clearly and specifically identified as such. Such obligation shall not apply if such information is or was obtained from other sources that do not bind ECMWF as to confidentiality or if the information is

in the public domain. ECMWF may make responses available for evaluation purposes to authorised people including its governing body, committees, and professional advisers in addition to ECMWF's own personnel under the same conditions of confidentiality.

Please also note that all personally identifiable information (PII) requested by ECMWF or provided by respondents will be treated in accordance with the ECMWF Policy on Personally Identifiable Information Protection (PIIP). It is available at <https://www.ecmwf.int>. ECMWF shall process all PII submitted by your response for the sole purposes of assessing your response. In doing so, ECMWF may share such PII with consultants or external advisors.

1.4 Enquiries and contact procedure

Any enquiries or requests for clarification of any matters arising from this RFP should be sought from the Procurement Section at ECMWF and must be made in writing by e-mail as follows:

Contact name: Procurement at ECMWF

E-mail: procurement@ecmwf.int

The subject of the email must be: **"Clarification to RFP/2025/397"**

Where ECMWF supplies further information regarding the RFP or issues clarifications as a result of the questions received it will make them available through its web page in accordance with the timetable in Section 1.5, unless the question is specific to a supplier's proprietary solution. The identity of the questioner will not be revealed. The bidders are advised to follow ECMWF website for any updates or clarifications that may be announced.

1.5 Timetable for procurement

ECMWF envisages the following timetable for this RFP:

RFP issuance date	14 October 2025
Final date/time for receipt by ECMWF of clarification questions	22 October 2025, midnight
Date by which clarification questions will be answered	29 October 2025
Closing date/time for submission of responses	6 November 2025, 16:00 (CET)
Evaluation of proposals by ECMWF	November
Negotiations with one or more Proposers	November

Contract signature	End November 2025
Start of works	February-March 2026

1.6 Submission of responses

The respondent must submit their response to RFP397@ecmwf.int as an email with attachments containing its complete response to this RFP including its response to Annexes 1A, 1B, 2 and 3. The attachments must contain a printable version of the response in Microsoft Word format, Rich Text Format (RTF) or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) and in Microsoft Excel format for any spreadsheets. The email should confirm that the response has been submitted by a duly authorised director or senior officer of the respondent.

The subject of the email must be: “Response to RFP/2025/397”

You will receive an automated receipt confirmation upon submission of your response. If you do not receive one, you should contact procurement@ecmwf.int immediately.

You must NOT send or copy your response to the contact email address in 1.4 above.

Please note that ECMWF reserves the right to contact bidders during the evaluation process in order to clarify points in their response, therefore the contact point should be monitored during this period.

1.7 Timeliness of response

ECMWF will not consider any late or partial responses to this RFP nor will it consider requests for extension of the time or date fixed for the submission of proposals. It may, however, at its own absolute discretion extend the time or date fixed for submission and in such an event ECMWF will notify all Proposers who have provided ECMWF with an e-mail address for communication of additional information.

Technical failure, including of a computer, browser, e-mail system or internet connection, is not a valid reason for late or failed submission of a response, unless as a result of a failure of the ECMWF’s IT systems, and in the case that there was no reasonable course of action the respondent could have taken to submit the response on time. **It is important that you do not leave the submission of your response to the last minute.**

1.8 Language for responses

All Tender documentation, manuals and diagram labelling shall be written in English.

1.9 Costs of preparation of response

Recipients of this RFP will be responsible for and bear all of their own costs, liabilities and expenses which may be incurred in the preparation of their responses to this RFP.

1.10 Evaluation method and selection criteria

Responses to this RFP will be evaluated based on the criteria and weights shown in the table below:

Evaluation criteria	Weighting
Quality	40%
Price	60%

ECMWF reserves the right to negotiate with one or more respondents before taking a decision on the placing of a contract. This may involve a meeting either in person (on site in Reading) or via video-conferencing. ECMWF cannot reimburse the respondents for any costs relating to such meetings. Following notification of the result of your bid you may request feedback on the evaluation from ECMWF.

1.11 Warnings/disclaimers

Nothing contained in this RFP or any other communication made between the respondent and ECMWF or its representatives shall constitute an agreement, contract or representation between ECMWF and any other party (except for a formal award of contract made in writing by ECMWF). Receipt by a respondent of this RFP does not imply the existence of a contract or commitment by or with ECMWF for any purpose.

ECMWF reserves the right to change any aspect of, or cease, the RFP at any time.

While ECMWF has taken all reasonable steps to ensure, as at the date of this document, that the facts which are contained in this RFP are true and accurate in all material respects, ECMWF does not make any representation or warranty as to the accuracy or completeness or otherwise of this RFP, or the reasonableness of any assumptions on which this document may be based. ECMWF accepts no liability to respondents whatsoever and however arising and whether resulting from the use of this RFP, or any omissions from or deficiencies in this document.

ECMWF may use the information included in a response for any reasonable purpose connected with this RFP.

1.12 Validity

The proposal shall remain valid for a minimum of three months after the closing date for this RFP.

1.13 Diversity and inclusion

At ECMWF, we believe that scientific progress thrives in an environment that values diversity and inclusion. We are committed to fostering an organisation that is equitable, diverse, and inclusive, and to promoting gender balance in all aspects of our operations. We recognise that diversity and collaborative environment are essential for advancing scientific discovery and innovation, and we are dedicated to creating a culture that encourages and supports the contributions of individuals from all backgrounds. As part of this commitment, we encourage responses from companies who share our values and demonstrate a commitment to diversity and inclusion in their own organisations. In the

event that multiple bidders present equally qualified proposals (discrepancy lower than 1%), ECMWF will take into consideration the diversity and gender balance of each bidder's organisation as a tiebreaker when making the final decision. Therefore, we invite all Proposers to provide details on their policies, programs, and practices related to diversity and inclusion, including gender balance and any initiatives or activities that they have implemented to support underrepresented groups in their organisation.

2. SCOPE OF REQUIREMENTS

See Annex 1 as separate documents:

- Annex 1A: Technical report (including Appendices for drawings)
- Annex 1B: Specifications

3. REQUIRED INFORMATION

3.1 Summary

Respondents should include a brief executive summary at the beginning of the proposal.

3.2 Company and contact details

Please give details of your company, stating its full registered address and company registration number. ECMWF may check the financial status of the company.

Please supply details of the person at your organisation who can be contacted by ECMWF in relation to your proposal. Please give their name, title, address and location, telephone number and e-mail address.

3.3 Track record, customers and references

Please describe in brief terms your company's history and your recent provision of the services requested in this RFP. Please supply a list of three customers to whom similar services to those requested in this RFP have been provided.

ECMWF reserves the right to seek references from one or all of these customers.

3.4 Staff resources

- (a) Please give details of your staff numbers, skills and locations relevant to the services requested (including CVs or an outline of the particular qualifications and experience by key staff proposed);
- (b) Please set out any key skill or employee dependencies and the availability of replacement skills in those areas, particularly as regards the envisaged permanent point of contact.

3.5 Commercial arrangements

Respondents shall provide their commercial offer in line with Annex 2 Pricing tables.

The price shall be inclusive of all constituent elements, such as unit price, overhead rates (if any), expenses etc. The price shall be firm and fixed and quoted in Euros net of taxes and VAT.

3.6 Responses to the Specification of Requirements

Respondents should demonstrate their ability to meet the requirements set out in Annex 1. Respondents should also provide a detailed implementation plan of proposed activities for the duration of the contract, describing the main objectives, the respective proposed activities and a set of Deliverables and Milestones. Deliverables should be consistent with the technical requirements specified in Annex 1. Milestones should be designed as markers of demonstrable progress and/or quality of service delivery.

The following management aspects should be described in the proposal: quality assurance and control, communication management (ECMWF, stakeholders, internal communication), conflict resolution, subcontractor management, personal data management.

A list of subcontractors, if any, describing their contribution and key personnel, legal name and address, should also be provided.

3.7 Terms and Conditions

The terms and conditions for this contract are at Annex 3.

Please note that as a result of ECMWF's immunity from jurisdiction, any contract resulting from this RFP must contain an arbitration clause which is offered by ECMWF to all contracting parties. Further information may be found at <https://www.ecmwf.int/en/about/suppliers> in document "ECMWF's status: Arbitration and VAT".

Please confirm that you agree to the Terms and Conditions at Annex 3. The proposal which you submit, clarified if necessary, will be part of the contract.

3.8 Additional matters

Please set out any additional information or other relevant matters which you think have not been adequately addressed in the RFP and/or merit further consideration in your response.