

**RFP 11 /2025: Request for proposals: Appointment of a panel of service providers for a period of five (5) years for the supply, maintenance and support of non-intrusive inspection, scanning and detection solutions**

**Communication #3**

**Date of Issue: 22 September 2025**

**Questions and Answers:**

No	Question	Answer
01.	<p>RFP 11-2025 3-3 Technical Functionality Evaluation.</p> <p>ANNEXURE B -TECHNICAL EVALUATION SCORECARD: RFP 11/2025</p> <p>- NON-INTRUSIVE INSPECTION SCANNERS (LOW ENERGY)</p> <p>2.3</p> <p>'Scanning Capability</p> <p>a) Scan ≥ 60 vehicles/hour at 10 km/h without image degradation</p> <p>Contrast @ 50%: 2%</p> <p>Wire detectability in open air (1.6mm)</p> <p>Spatial Resolution (Horizontal &amp; Vertical ) : &lt;4mm</p>	<p>These criteria align with the <b>ANSI N42.46-2008</b> standard, which is used to benchmark imaging performance for both <b>transmission and backscatter X-ray systems</b></p>

No	Question	Answer
	<p>b) The system should be able to generate dual-energy images using the same X-ray source. The backscatter imaging must provide photo-like images that are easy-to-interpret and highlight commonly-smuggled organic threats and contraband</p> <p>c) Material Discrimination</p> <p>The system should be able to generate dual-energy images using the same X-ray source. Images to be easy-to-interpret and highlight commonly-smuggled organic threats and contraband</p>	
02	<p>RFP 11-2025 3-3 Technical Functionality Evaluation.</p> <p>ANNEXURE B -TECHNICAL EVALUATION SCORECARD: RFP 11/2025 - NON-INTRUSIVE INSPECTION SCANNERS (LOW ENERGY)</p> <p>2.1</p> <p>' Image Storage with Integrated Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) &amp; Container Number Reading</p>	<p>The solution must be able to read container numbers if used with containers like in a sea port or in an international land port.</p>

No	Question	Answer
	<p>a) All scanned images must be stored in the latest WCO UFF image standard for sharing with other systems or other Governments or Government Agencies/Authorities</p> <p>b) The NPR and container number reader must be of latest generation camera equipment to ensure &gt;98% reading accuracy with misreads to be rectified by visual camera footage</p> <p>c) The NPR data should be displayed as part of the scanner dataset of the scanner image and stored in a searchable database.</p> <p>d). Needs to support multiple formats (Local &amp; international plates)</p> <p>Shall the backscatter system integrate Container Number Reading system?</p>	
03.	<p>Bidders to ensure that the scanner has the capability to perform high-scanning (&gt;60 vehicles per hour) of large truck</p> <p>Can SARS confirm if the request is for &gt; 60 per hour or &gt; 40 per hour?</p>	<p>&gt;40 HE</p> <p>&gt;60 LE/Backscatter</p>
04.	<p>The safety/radiation exclusion zone shall be as reduced as possible and not larger than 46x12 metres</p>	<p>The radiation exclusion zone is defined according to the WCO guideline document, which is recognized as very conservative. This</p>

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	<p>What is the required dose at exclusion zone boundary?</p> <p>Will occupancy rates be allowed to determine exclusion zone.</p>	<p>guideline specifies the largest required exclusion zone, particularly considering the confined nature of border posts. If the scanner's radiation dosage exceeds the limits set by SAHPRA and ANSI, gabions on absorption barriers should be quoted to ensure compliance with these standards, as measured in line with the active X-ray beam.</p>
05.	<p>a) Remote image analysis from a centralised area while maintaining the onsite image platform compatible with existing SARS systems. Could SARS provide more details on:</p> <p>1) Where is the location of the centralised office in relation to the scanner location(s)?</p> <p>2) How many remote analyst workstations are required?</p> <p>3) Please confirm that the centralised command and system location is established and will be customer</p>	<p>The centralized image analysis point will be located in Pretoria in close proximity of the data Mosothoane</p> <p>The total remote analysis stations are dependent on the number of scanners going forward and the starting point should be to work on one station per scanner site – currently 4 and projected to 12 in future – an estimate total of not more than 8 should be worked on</p>
06.	<p>b) Real time data transfer to the SARS National Targeting Operations Centre (NTOC). Please confirm the network bandwidth?</p>	<p>The supplier needs to provide the requirement of their images being sent and allow near real time processing – the bandwidth is setup to allow for flexibility on demand but has limits for very high</p>

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		requirements and the supplier should consider compression tools as part of the proposal
07.	<p>c) Interoperability with SARS manifest systems and case management software i.e. interface to accept manifest data through built in software</p> <p>1) Please provide details on SARS manifest information</p> <p>2) Does the manifest data on the SARS system need to be displayed or to make a call to the SARS system when an inspection is opened and automatically open the related manifest information in the SARS system?</p>	<p>1) SARS manifest information is widely available, and the system needs to be able to absorb the data widely advertised by the majority of the AI suppliers</p> <p>2) The manifest info must be displayed if the analyst conducts the analysis once the AI has flagged the cargo or the user picks an image to be analyzed</p>
08.	<p>h) Bidder must provide detailed data throughput, storage, and processing specifications</p> <p>Please provide details on the expected throughput and data retention period required so bidders can accurately size the server.</p>	SARS requires the data requirement per scan to project the size of the backup facilities to be procured

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09.	c) The installation to be free of complex groundwork and make use of the existing infrastructure (i.e., standard concrete paving) where possible to minimize the initial turn-around time. Please provide plans of the existing scanning areas	There is only one existing available official scanning platform at this point. The supplier needs to work with the level surface of a 30m x12m
10.	e) Equipment must include 24/7 UPS Backup and operate independently of grid failures Would having an independent diesel generator onboard for system power independent of power grid be sufficient that if loss of grid power a changeover switch will give power from the onboard diesel generator to continue operation?	The system should have a UPS on board to ensure power swings and sudden power interruptions are not detrimental to the system. The diesel generator for interim power should be included with the system.
11.	The in-line scanner must have advanced (latest advances in technology) scanning capabilities to enhance the process of image analysis or interpretation. Will the decision on the image analysis (pass/secondary inspection/etc) be made locally on the scanner or at the central command center?	Image analysis will not be made on site but only centrally  Please ensure the solution can send the images to a central image analysis team – there will not be image analysts deployed locally

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12.	<p>Contraband detection via AI/ML (a) auto detection of explosives, drugs, and weapons, with &gt;90% accuracy</p> <p>There are no industry standards for measuring detection rates of threats on large scale Non-Intrusive Inspection systems. Every supplier will have to provide their own method for testing. Making it impossible to evaluate each supplier the same. Please remove the detection accuracy percentages.</p>	<p>This method will be tested throughout, and the system needs to ensure the capability is capable of detecting known contraband, that is visible, automatically</p> <p>The point should remain but will be used to ensure service levels are met</p>
13.	<p>Digital billboards</p> <p>Could SARS provide details on what is required of the Digital Billboards?</p>	<p>It is used to communicate with the driver like green/red and go or no-go messages – i.e. very simple messages</p>
14.	<p>Scanning Capability</p> <p>Spatial Resolution (Horizontal &amp; Vertical): &lt;4mm</p> <p>It is not believed any bidder can offer 4mm spatial resolution with Backscatter without losing significant penetration capability. It is requested that this minimum requirement is changed to &lt;12mm.</p>	<p>The proposal should be considered for the trade off between penetration capability vs spatial resolution – the speed of the scan can be limited to less than 10kph to allow for higher resolution and maintain the throughput of around 60 units per hour or less for smaller border posts but still have good levels of penetration</p>

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15.	<p>The scanner should be able to provide a warning for cargo that exceeds 3.5m cargo width and higher than 4.7m above ground level. Cargo that is not loaded according to the South African Road Transport Act must be prevented from entering the facility through integrated sensors.</p> <p>Please confirm that the request is for Electronic Vehicle Gauge / Measurement.</p> <p>Can the vehicle itself be 3.5m w x 4.7 m h or are these dimensions specific to maximum cargo on a standard roadgoing vehicle with a track width typically of 2.6 m +/-?</p> <p>Does the customer require zero imaging cutoff at 3.5m w x 4.7m h scanned object size? Does this extend to the ground level?</p>	<p>The electronic gauge must then be connected to a barrier system that will stop any vehicle from entering the scanning area and thereby prevent the vehicle from damaging the equipment</p> <p>The vehicles must not exceed the road limits but the scanner should be able to scan items that are slightly bigger to accommodate the limits and protect itself at all times – items that are close to the limit must be stopped and not allowed into the scanner area</p>
16.	<p>The NPR and container number reader must be of latest generation camera equipment to ensure &gt;98% reading accuracy with misreads to be rectified by visual camera footage. The NPR data should be displayed as part of the scanner dataset of the scanner image and also searchable.</p>	<p>Front readers and containers for the borders</p> <p>Containers mainly for the sea ports</p> <p>Side view also important for land ports to ensure other details</p>



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	<p>Please confirm if License Plate Readers are required and if only required for Rear or Front and Rear</p> <p>Please confirm if Container ID is required and if so, is side view sufficient?</p>	
17.	<p>RFP 11-2025 3-1 Main RFP 6.4. Page 20 of 57</p> <p>Should bidders be successful into being awarded a place on the panel, how will the technical score from this phase be reflected in future calls for tenders / requests for proposals?</p> <p>Will these scores hold, or will new scoring requirements be issued with fine-tuned technical specifications?</p>	<p>The scores obtained from the panel will hold.</p>