

**PRIOR INDICATIVE NOTICE (PIN)**

**OPEN TENDER SUMMARY**

IO/24/OT/70001185/AJI

*for*

**Framework Contract of Manufacturing and Supply of Base  
Materials for In-Vessel Parts.**

**Abstract**

The purpose of this summary is to provide prior notification of the IO intention to launch a competitive Open

## 1 Introduction

This Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) is the first step of an Open Tender Procurement Process leading to the award and execution of a Supply Contract.

The purpose of this document is to provide a basic summary of the technical content in terms of the scope of work, and the tendering process.

The Domestic Agencies are invited to publish this information in advance of the forth-coming tender giving companies, institutions or other entities that are capable of providing these supplies prior notice of the tender details.

## 2 Background

The ITER project is an international research and development project jointly funded by its seven Members being, the European Union (represented by EURATOM), Japan, the People's Republic of China, India, the Republic of Korea, the Russian Federation and the USA. ITER is being constructed in Europe at St. Paul–Lez-Durance in southern France, which is also the location of the headquarters (HQ) of the ITER Organization (IO).

For a complete description of the ITER Project, covering both organizational and technical aspects of the Project, visit [www.iter.org](http://www.iter.org).

## 3 Scope of Work

The present tender process aims to set up a Framework Contract for Manufacturing and Supply of Base Materials for In-Vessel Parts. Within the ITER Organization, The Diagnostic program will be in charge of implementing this Contract.

The Supplier is responsible for procurement of austenitic stainless steel (SS316L(N)-IG) raw materials in their different forms (forgings, plates and bars) for the manufacture of in-vessel components for the Equatorial Port Plugs (EPP) # 2, 8 & 17 and Upper Port Plugs (UPP) #4, 5 and 6., its delivery to the ITER Site and for ensuring that the product meets the technical requirements defined in this Technical Specification.

## 4 Procurement Process & Objective

The objective is to award a Supply Contract through a competitive bidding process.

The Procurement Procedure selected for this tender is called the Open Tender procedure.

The Open Tender procedure is comprised of the following four main steps:

Ø Step 1- Prior Indicative Notice (PIN) :

The Prior Indicative Notice is the first stage of the Open Tender process. The IO formally invites the Domestic Agencies to publish information about the forth-coming tender in order to alert companies, institutions or other entities about the tender opportunity in advance. **Interested tenderers are kindly requested to return the expression of interest form (Annex I) by e-mail by the date indicated in the procurement timetable below.**

Ø Step 2 - Invitation to Tender (ITT) :

Ø Step 3 – Tender Evaluation Process :

Tenderers’ proposals will be evaluated by an impartial, professionally competent technical evaluation committee of the ITER Organization. Tenderers must provide details demonstrating their technical compliance to perform the work in line with the technical scope and per the criteria listed in the invitation to tender (ITT).

Ø Step 4 – Contract award :

A Supply contract will be awarded based on best value for money according to the evaluation criteria and methodology described in the Invitation to tender (ITT).

## 5 Procurement Timetable

The tentative timetable is as follows:

Milestone	Date
Publication of the Prior Indicative Notice (PIN)	
Deadline for Submission of Expression of Interest Form	
Request for Proposals (RFP)- Invitation to Tender (ITT) advertisement	
Clarification Questions (if any) and Answers deadline	
Answers to Clarifications	
Tender Submission in IPROC	
Tender Evaluation & Contract Award	
Contract Signature	

## 6 Quality Assurance Requirements

Prior to the commencement of any work under this Contract, the selected Contractor shall produce a “Quality Plan” and submit it to the IO for approval, describing how they will implement the ITER Procurement Quality Requirements.

## 7 Contract Duration and Execution

The duration shall be for 48 months. No work shall commence before the date of final signature of the Contract.

## 8 Experience

in the following:

### Experience in Manufacturing Forgings According to European Standards and RCC-MR 2007 Product Procurement Specifications

Proven experience in producing forgings from austenitic stainless steel in nuclear grades (with limitations in Co, Ta and Nb).

Ability to manufacture various shapes, including bars, discs, rings, shafts, and custom components.

Proficiency in hot and cold forging processes, ensuring control of critical parameters such as temperature and deformation.

**Heat Treatment and Microstructural Control:**

Experience in applying heat treatments such as **annealing and solution treatment**, crucial for optimizing corrosion resistance and mechanical properties.

Knowledge of controlled cooling processes to prevent distortion and achieve the desired microstructure.

Experience in production low inclusion grades and use of refining treatments (Electroslag Remelting).

**Quality Assurance and Certification Compliance:****Relevant Standards:**

- **EN 10204:** Inspection documents (Types 3.1 and 3.2 certification).
- **EN ISO 9001:** Quality management systems.

Ability to issue quality certificates (3.1 or 3.2) ensuring full traceability and compliance with chemical and mechanical specifications.

Experience in implementing and maintaining **ISO 9001** quality management systems, including internal and external audits.

**Mechanical, Chemical, and Non-Destructive Testing (NDT):**

Experience conducting **destructive tests** (tensile, hardness, impact) and **non-destructive tests** (ultrasonic, radiographic, dye penetrant).

Personnel certified according to **EN ISO 9712** for NDT methods.

**Dimensional Tolerances and Surface Finishing:**

It is expected that the designated consortium lead will explain the composition of the consortium members in a covering letter at the tendering stage. Following this, the Candidate's composition must not be modified without notifying the ITER Organization of any changes. Evidence of any such authorisation shall be submitted to the IO in due course in the form of a power of attorney signed by legally authorised signatories of all the consortium members.

## **10 Sub-contracting Rules**

All sub-contractors who will be taken on by the Contractor shall be declared with the tender submission in IPROC. Each sub-contractor will be required to complete and sign forms including technical and administrative information, which shall be submitted to the IO by the tenderer as part of its tender. The IO reserves the right to approve (or disapprove) any sub-contractor which was not notified in the tender and request a copy of the sub-contracting agreement between the tenderer and its subcontractor(s). Rules on sub-contracting are indicated in the RFP itself.