

The Connecticut General Assembly

Joint Committee on Legislative Management

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REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

Automated Closed Captioning for Legislative Proceedings

RFI NUMBER	JCLM20REG0007	
RFI ISSUANCE DATE:	6/12/2019	
RFI RESPONSE DUE DATE:	7/12/2019	TIME: 12:00 pm (noon)

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PART A CONTRACT INFORMATION

A.1 Executive Summary

The Connecticut General Assembly (CGA) is the legislative branch of government of the State of Connecticut. Through statutory enactments, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management (JCLM) is responsible for the coordination and management of legislative affairs and the supervision and approval of any and all legislative expenditures. The JCLM is comprised of the top legislative leaders from each political party and works through a subcommittee system. The Personnel Policies Subcommittee is comprised of the Senate President Pro Tempore of the Senate, the Senate Republican President Pro Tempore, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Majority Leaders of the House and Senate chambers and the Minority leaders of the House chamber. This Subcommittee is responsible for establishing legislative personnel policies, guidelines, regulations, and salary schedules, and also approves legislative expenditures exceeding \$50,000.

The JCLM, on behalf of the CGA, is seeking information and availability of possible automated captioning systems to be used to caption CT-N programming.

Respondents may provide informational documentation on all or part of this Request for Information (RFI), and may submit multiple solutions across manufacturers.

A.2 Official Agency Contact Information

Mail: Attention: Tina Nadeau Mohr
CGA Contracting Group
Office of Legislative Management
Legislative Office Building; Room 5100
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Email: CGAContracting@cga.ct.gov
Telephone: (860) 240 – 0100

Fax: (860) 240 – 0122

A.3 Schedule

This Request for Information (RFI) is posted on the portal website which can be found at the following address: http://www.biznet.ct.gov/scp_search/BidResults.aspx?groupid=128.

A.3.1 Issue the RFI

The RFI will be issued by 6/12/2019.

A.3.2 Site Visit

A non-mandatory site visit opportunity will be held on 6/17/2019 at 2:00 pm in Hearing Room 1C.

A.3.3 Deadline for Questions

All questions must be submitted in writing by 6/19/19. These submissions must be sent via email to CGAContracting@cga.ct.gov or addressed to the attention of CGA Contracting Group at the Office of Legislative Management, Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Room 5100, Hartford, CT 06106-1591.

A.3.4 Amendments to Request for Information

All amendments to the RFI and response to written questions will be published no later than 5:00 pm on 6/20/2019.

A.3.5 Submission Delivery

All sealed Submissions must be delivered by 12:00 noon on 7/12/2019, to the CGA Contracting Group at the Office of Legislative Management, Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue, Room 5100, Hartford, CT 06106-1591.

A.3.6 Presentations

Respondents may be contacted for a time to make presentations to provide an overview of their RFI Response, answer questions, and/or provide clarifications.

Respondents may also be asked to provide a demonstration of the equipment, and to leave the equipment on site for approximately four (4) weeks so that the CGA may perform its own evaluation. Further, Respondents may be asked to come on site for a follow-up presentation with other manufactures or integrators to provide a demonstration of the equipment in an integrated manner.

A.4 Freedom of Information

This RFI is being issued solely for informational planning purposes and does not constitute a solicitation. Pursuant to C.G.S. § 1-210, all responses to this RFI are considered public records and every person shall have the right to (1) inspect such records promptly during regular office or business hours, (2) copy such records in accordance with subsection (g) of section 1-212, or (3) receive a copy of such records in accordance with section 1-212.

PART B SCOPE OF WORK

The Office of Legislative Management is soliciting responses to this Request for Information (RFI) on behalf of CT-N for information and availability of possible Automated Closed Captioning systems for CT-N programming.

B.1 Existing Facts (Current Operation / System / Maintenance/ Equipment)

The Connecticut Network (CT-N), is the Connecticut General Assembly's video production facility taping and airing gavel to gavel legislative sessions, meetings, public hearings, news briefings, and off site forums and lectures for all three branches of Connecticut state government. CT-N is carried statewide 24/7 by cable providers, streams live and pre-recorded video over the Internet, and maintains a video library of pre-recorded material on the CT-N website. CT-N records and produces content through three production consoles, one of which doubles as a master control switcher. All video content is managed by Harmonic video servers and Telestream Vantage transcoders.

The CT-N production control room maintains five Evertz HD9084 HDTV Caption Encoders. When Master Control is used as a third production console (C), it is routed to Encoder C. The encoders are configured as follows:

- Encoder A is hard wired to the output of Production Console A
- Encoder B is hard wired to the output of Production Console B
- Encoder C & D are wired to/from the house router
- Encoder E is a spare

Encoders are currently configured to pass standard definition video, 608 captions on line 21. CT-N is anticipated to transition to high definition during the summer of 2019.

B.2 New (Operation / System / Maintenance/ Equipment)

The CGA is seeking respondents to provide information and availability of Automated Captioning Systems for the purpose of creating closed captions for three simultaneous video production streams for CT-N. The Automated Caption Systems proposed must provide 24/7 speech to text translation and must integrate seamlessly with existing closed caption encoders.

B.3 Minimum Specifications Necessary

Automated Captioning Systems must meet the following minimum specifications:

- Create English language closed captions
- Ability to "learn" or be trained regional terms and names
- Create closed captions at an accuracy rate of no less than 95%
- Create and output a closed caption data stream no more than 4 seconds behind the audio source.
- Must interface with Evertz HD9084 HDTV Caption Encoder
- Output CC data via serial port(RS-232)
- Accept AES and analog audio sources
- 24/7 Customer Support, remote login capability

B.4 Optional Specifications

The following optional specifications will also be considered:

- Ability to create Spanish language captions
- Redundant power supplies
- Output CC data via IP
- Accept embedded audio via SDI on BNC
- Output formatted closed captions to a public URL

PART C INFORMATIONAL DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Respondents should include the following documentation in the RFI Response.

- a. Copies: Submit one (1) original hard copy and one (1) soft copy of the RFI Response on a flash drive.
- b. Mailing Address: RFI Responses shall be mailed in a sealed envelope to the following address:
- Contracting Group
Office of Legislative Management
Legislative Office Building, Room 5100
300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
- c. Labeled Submissions: Respondents shall attach the label provided below to the outside of the envelope containing their RFI submission.

SEALED DOCUMENTATION TITLE - REQUEST FOR INFORMATION	Automated Closed Captioning for Legislative Proceedings
CONTRACT ID:	JCLM20REG0007
DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT:	7/12/19 @ 12:00 pm (noon)
CONTACT NAME:	Tina Nadeau Mohr

- d. Respondent References: Informational Documentation shall include a list of reference projects that utilize Automated Captioning Systems similar to the requirements described in this RFI in Section B.3 above. This reference list shall include: Name, title, address and telephone number of reference; overview of the project; length of the project; and the total fees associated with the project.
- e. Specifications: Respondents shall provide specification sheets that meet the minimum requirements as outlined in section B.3 above.
- f. Presentations: Respondents may be contacted for a time to make presentations to provide an overview of their RFI Response, answer questions, and/or provide clarifications