



Office of the Electoral Commission

Electronic Vote Counting Solution
Request for Information

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01 Introduction

The Electoral Commission is a constitutional body as outlined in article 60 of the Constitution of the Republic of Malta. One of the functions of the Electoral Commission is to conduct elections and referenda in the Maltese archipelago.

For electoral purposes the Maltese Islands are divided into 13 electoral districts and 68 local councils. With around 400,000 registered voters, Malta is one of the countries in the world which elect their national legislatures by way of a method called the single transferable vote (STV). STV is regarded as one of the fairest ways to translate the wishes of voters into parliamentary seats for candidates and parties.

The Electoral Commission is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to conduct a market research for the proof of concept of an

Electronic Vote Counting Solution

A soft copy of this RFI may be obtained free of charge from Electoral Commission's website:
www.electoral.gov.mt.

Further information regarding the Maltese electoral process may be obtained from the following web portal:

Malta Elections

<http://www.um.edu.mt/projects/maltaelections/stvsystem/howmaltavotes>

Electoral Commission

<http://www.electoral.gov.mt>



02 Objectives

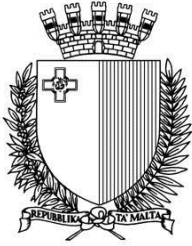
02.1 Scope

Counting and sorting of thousands of ballot papers received centrally from 110 polling centres and close to 700 ballot boxes is a large and delicate task. The consolidation of voting results requires thorough logistical planning and strong communication to carry out in a timely and secure manner. The current manual counting process, which is carried out in one central location, is long and laborious. Since Malta uses the single transferable vote system the time to issue the official result takes days. The Electoral Commission is looking for adequate solutions that reduce the counting time whilst retaining the current ballot paper format, voting system and centralized counting centre.

02.2 Business Need

The single transferrable voting system allows each voter to make his/her preference on the ballot paper by inserting a unique number near each candidate's name in the space provided. The Electronic Vote Counting Solution needs to be able to scan and compute all the results, be able to filter dubious ballot papers and be able to produce various reports including detailed and statistical ones. The main objective is to be able to publish the official result in the shortest possible time. The maximum size of the ballot paper is 170 mm x 835 mm.

The current national election results take 12 hours for the official result of the first count and up to 4 days for the full result to be issued after all the counts are worked out.



03 Response

- 03.1 Interested parties are requested to submit the following information:
- Details on the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution** including the product history highlighting the functionalities of the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution**;
 - infrastructure requirements including operating environments (if any);
 - licensing structure (if any);
 - information on any maintenance and support that can be provided on the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution**;
 - information on environments where the product is currently implemented;
 - Any additional information (including advertising material) on the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution**;
 - Options for the provision of the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution**, indicating the indicative market price, exclusive of VAT, for licences, infrastructure requirements, implementation, training, maintenance and support.

03.2 **The Electoral Commission reiterates that this RFI is for market research only and the prices to be submitted are for information purposes only.**

03.3 The Electoral Commission may request interested parties to give a presentation through a demo of the **Electronic Vote Counting Solution** preferably utilizing ballot papers supplied by the Electoral Commission; at the Electoral Commission's premises.

03.4 Any clarifications related to this RFI should be submitted in writing by e-mail to the Chief Electoral Commissioner, joseph.church@gov.mt, by not later than Friday 31st July 2015. Verbal questions will NOT be accepted. All clarifications will be posted within a reasonable time on www.electoral.gov.mt and will be made available to all interested parties.

03.5 Interested parties are requested to send both a hard and soft copy of the requested information on the addresses below:

**The Chief Electoral Commissioner
Office of the Electoral Commission
Evans Building
Merchants Street
Valletta
VLT 2000
Malta**

Tel: 356 2121 1994

Fax: 356 2124 8457

Email: joseph.church@gov.mt

03.6 Interested parties are requested to indicate the reference number of the RFI (i.e. EVCS2015) on the package/envelope and in the subject area of the email when submitted electronically.



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- 03.7 The Electoral Commission shall retain possession of all documents received. All materials provided by the interested parties will be treated as confidential and are non-returnable.
- 03.8 This RFI is to be treated solely as exploratory market research for the purpose of gaining knowledge of the solutions available in the market and an estimate of their corresponding costs. This RFI should not be regarded as an invitation to tender or as an obligation to procure on the part of the Electoral Commission. No contract will result from any response to this RFI.