

Technical Requirements

The provision of a dark fibre link for the South African National Research Network (SANReN) between Nelson Mandela University South Campus and Internet Solutions Gqeberha, to the CSIR

RFP No. 3608/29/11/2023

Table of Contents

1	Requirement Level Keywords	6
2	Technical Compliance	6
2.1	Technical Evaluation Criteria	6
3	Link Requirements	7
4	Link specifications	7
4.1	Context	7
4.2	End Points	9
5	Fibre Requirements	10
5.1	Fibre pairs	10
5.2	Optical fibre specifications	10
5.3	Termination Details	10
5.4	Civil Build Specifications	11
6	Reliability	11
6.1	Service Requirements	11
6.2	Maintenance	12
7	Project Plan	12
8	Acceptance Documentation	13
8.1	Test results	13
8.2	Customer Acceptance Certificates	14
8.3	Sample Acceptance Documentation	14
9	References	14

Glossary

Abbreviation	Term	Description
CAC	Customer Acceptance Certificate	Certificate of Acceptance that the SANReN customer needs to sign off on when work done (including civil work) is done on the SANReN customer's premises.
CSIR	Council for Scientific and industrial Research	A statutory body established in terms of Scientific Research Council Act 46 of 1988, as amended
GIS	Geographic Information System	A system designed to capture, store, manipulate and visualise spatial or geographic data.
IETF	Internet Engineering Task Force	A body that defines standard Internet operating protocols such as TCP/IP.
IS	Internet Solutions	
ITU	International Telecommunication Union	The International Telecommunication Union, originally the International Telegraph Union, is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is responsible for issues that concern information and communication technologies. It is the oldest global international organization. Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland Founded: 17 May 1865
LC/APC	Lucent/Little/Local Connector - Angled Physical Contact	Fibre optic connector of the LC type with angle-polishing on fibre end-face.

Abbreviation	Term	Description
NMU	Nelson Mandela University	Institution of Higher Learning
ODF	Optical Distribution Frame	A passive device that terminates fibre cables.
PoP	Point of Presence	A location where networking equipment may be accessed.
RFP	Request for Proposal	A request for organisations and companies to submit a proposal to supply goods and services to CSIR
RU	Rack Unit	Unit of measure describes the height of electronic equipment designed to mount in a 19-inch rack. One rack unit is 1.75 inches (44.45 mm) high. ¹
SANReN	South African National Research Network	The South African National Research Network (SANReN) is a high-speed network dedicated to science, research, education and innovation traffic.

Definition of Terms

1

Term	Definition
Attenuation	Gradual loss in intensity of light through the fibre-optic medium. Specified in decibel (dB) for light at a specific wave-length.
Chromatic Dispersion	The phenomenon where the phase and group velocity of light in an optical fibre is dependent on the frequency of the light.
Fibre Pair	Consisting of two fibre cores/strands.
Fibre Link	The contiguous fibre between two sites or Points of Presence
Polarization Mode Dispersion	When different polarizations of light travel at different speeds due to imperfections and asymmetries in the optical fibre, results in spreading of optical pulses.

Technical Requirements

Bidders must comply with the technical requirements in this document. These requirements will be evaluated in Annexure C1 – Technical Compliance Matrix – Gqeberha Dark Fibre Link. Failure to complete the technical compliance matrix will exclude the bidder from being considered.

1 Requirement Level Keywords

To eliminate ambiguity, bidders are to interpret the meaning of functional (technical) requirements using the keywords; "must", "must not", "required", "shall", "shall not", "should", "should not", "recommended", "may", and "optional", as defined by the IETF RFC (Request For Comments) document designated as RFC2119.

2 Technical Compliance

Bidders shall note the evaluation criteria applicable, and the weights attached to each criterion and complete the Technical Compliance Matrix accordingly.

2.1 Technical Evaluation Criteria

- The evaluation of the bidder's proposal will be based on their response to Annexure C1 – Technical Compliance Matrix – Gqeberha Dark Fibre Link.
- The bidder must complete the Technical Compliance Matrix in accordance with the instructions tabled in the Technical Compliance Matrix spreadsheet. The Technical Compliance Matrix is a mandatory submission designed to facilitate evaluation.
- Proposals with functionality / technical points of less than the pre-determined minimum overall percentage of 70% and less than 50% on any of the individual criteria will be eliminated from further evaluation on Price and Preference Points Evaluation.

3 Link Requirements

Bidders are invited to offer a dark fibre link specified in **Table 1** of this document. The dark fibre link must be capable of transmitting multiple wavelengths of a bit rate of at least 100 Gbps between the end points specified below in **Table 1**. The bidders must ensure that their solution adheres to all the requirements specified in the sections that follow. Bidders must be cognisant of the following:

- The routing of the fibre will be dependent on the bidder's available infrastructure, and the bidder must ensure that it is optimised for minimum total distance.
- GIS Maps indicating the proposed routes in ESRI Shapefile or KML format must be provided, as well as diagrams annotated with sufficient detail to allow the CSIR to identify any and all shared infrastructure components, including the physical location of cable routes and ODFs (fibre optic patch panels), so that CSIR may independently determine where such infrastructure is shared among links.
- Bidders must include documentation for the physical installation and optical engineering standards used, as well as specifications of the fibre optic cable itself and the ODF to be installed at each site.
- CSIR expects the bidder to conduct a desktop study to plan for the required solution regardless whether the bidder intends to build a new route or propose an existing route;
- The bidders must cater for an access build if it is required for the solution.
- Bidders must provide an end-to-end solution, i.e. from one ODF to the next ODF.
- The proposed link MUST NOT share any common infrastructure with SANReN's existing links, with circuit IDs **027PORT292014191898**, and **027EPPI292014083582**.

4 Link specifications

4.1 Context

The following diagram summarises the requirements for this tender. CSIR will require the bidder to provide dark fibre between the endpoints detailed in **Table 1** section 4.2 below. The existing SANReN PoP is indicated for connection to the required infrastructure. The network diagram in **Diagram 1** below illustrates the generic solution required. Bidders must adapt the

sample diagram for an optimal implementation topology (optimising for a balance of cost and reliability) given available infrastructure.

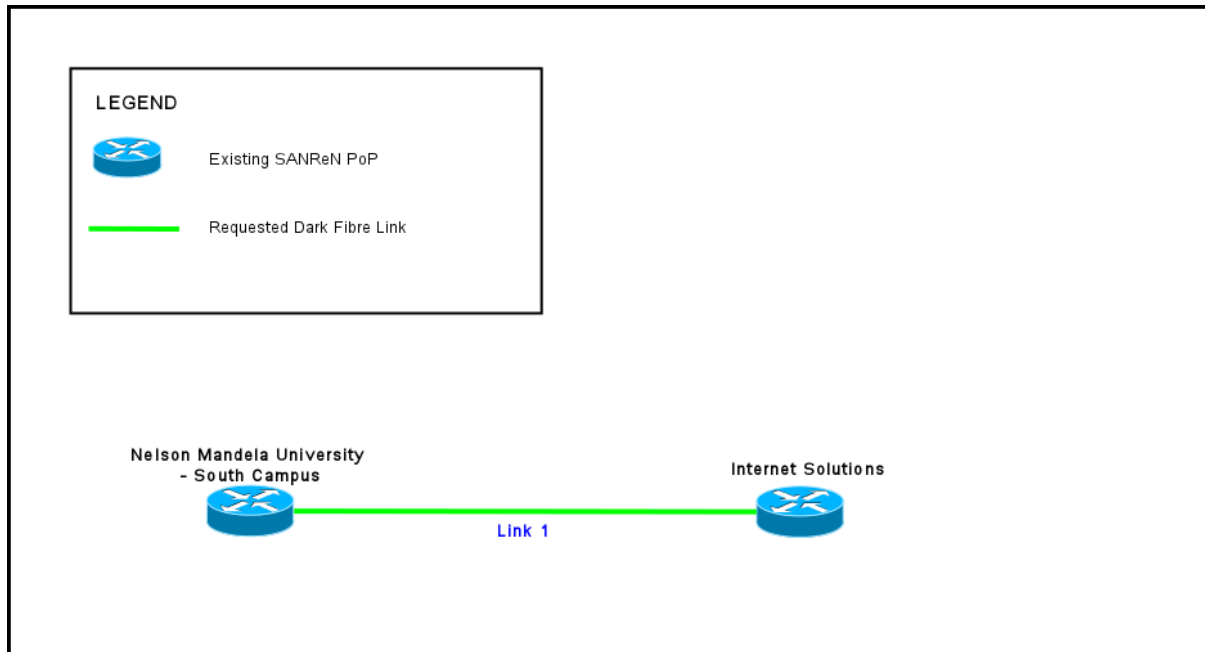


Diagram 1: Schematic diagram of dark fibre link between NMU South Campus and IS Gqeberha

4.2 End Points

The bidder must provide dark fibre between the two end points specified below in **Table 1**, where the address and GPS coordinates for each SANReN PoP are specified.

Table 1: Site Details

Link	Site Name	Address	Co-ordinates
Link 1	Site A: Nelson Mandela University South Campus	University Way, Building 07, South Campus, Summerstrand, Gqeberha, 6001	Latitude: -34.009600 Longitude: 25.668000
	Site B: Internet Solutions (IS) Gqeberha	Mutual Place, Cnr Cape Road and CJ Langenhoven Drive, Newton Park, Gqeberha, 6055	Latitude: -33.950700 Longitude: 25.574000

5 Fibre Requirements

5.1 Fibre pairs

Bidders are requested to quote for 1 and 2 fibre pairs respectively.

5.2 Optical fibre specifications

Bidders shall provide either G.652.D, G.657.A1 or G.657.A2 fibre in compliance to the cable specifications (including chromatic and polarization mode dispersion) specified by the ITU.

5.3 Splicing specifications

Overall, the splices on the network must comply with the following:

- The two-way average splice loss at 1550 nm for all splices on a fibre span SHALL not exceed 0.08dB per splice.
- The two-way average splice loss at 1550 nm SHALL not exceed 0.10dB for any individual splice.
- Total measured losses for any single fibre span, ODF to ODF, SHALL not exceed 0.38 dB/km at 1310 nm.
- Total measured losses for any single fibre span, ODF to ODF, SHALL not exceed 0.25 dB/km at 1550 nm.
- Total measured losses for any single fibre span, ODF to ODF, SHALL not exceed 0.28 dB/km at 1625 nm.

5.4 Termination Details

- The provided fibre must terminate on an ODF in a rack that CSIR specifies.
- The connector specifications and type must be provided in the bid. The CSIR requires the use of LC/APC or LC/UPC connectors.
- All terminated fibre spans must be clearly and accurately labelled.

- Sufficient fibre slack must be provided for at all points where the fibre connects to a patch panel.

5.5 Civil Build Specifications

Bidders must provide the following information:

- In the case of new fibre builds, construction specifications, such as depth of trenching, backfill specifications, manhole specifications, marking standards and method of trenching used/proposed.
- In the case of new access builds, building entry specifications.

6 Reliability

6.1 Service Requirements

The CSIR requires that a minimum end-to-end up-time of 99% (calculated per month) to be maintained for the link specified in **Table 1**. To manage these requirements, the CSIR encourages all bidders to include a standard SLA (Service Level Agreement) as part of its response. The bidder must commit, as a minimum, to comply to the following criteria to pass the evaluation:

1. 24/7 access to a Network Operations Centre (NOC) to log support requests;
2. Maximum response time of 4 hours;
3. Maximum service restoration time of 8 hours; and
4. Quarterly end-to-end up-time reports for each circuit that is part of this tender.

The 99% is calculated as follows:

- Using the formula: total number of days in the month, multiplied by 24 hours multiplied by 99% equals minimum end-to-end up-time;
- For a 30-day month, 99% equates to an effective uptime of 712, 8 hours out of 720 hours, allowing for 7.2 hours of downtime in the month; and
- For a 31-day month, 99% equates to an effective uptime of 736.56 hours out of 744 hours, allowing for 7.44 hours of downtime in the month.

For suppliers who wish to calculate the minimum end-to-end uptime on a quarterly basis, the number of days in the quarter under review, multiplied by 24 hours multiplied by 99% will equal the minimum end-to-end up time. Suppliers need to **explicitly state** whether their minimum end-to-end uptime of 99% will be calculated either monthly or quarterly.

6.2 Maintenance

Details about the following aspects of the bidder's maintenance and support capabilities are required in order to evaluate the quality of the maintenance that the bidder will provide with respect to this link:

1. Mean Time to Repair;
2. Same day response, Working day response only, etc.;
3. Fault logging procedures;
4. Maintenance down time procedures and advance warning procedures;
5. Fault Monitoring and Alerting capability;
6. Scheduled reporting of incidents & performance measurements; and
7. Customer responsibilities indicated;

The bidder must specify whether the link being provided in this tender will be actively monitored or not. If the link is actively monitored, the bidder to provide the CSIR, or a CSIR designated party, regular notifications on the status of the link and other specific details when requested.

7 Project Plan

Bidders must submit a project plan and schedule for this Project.

The project plan must, at a minimum, cover the following items:

1. Planning Planned activities
2. Last Mile Civil Works (if applicable)
 - a. Way Leaves
 - b. Trenching
 - c. Blowing Fibre

3. Access Build
 - a. Civil Works from bidder's nearest manhole to PoP's Access Build (if needed)
 - b. Pulling/Blowing fibre into the PoPs
4. Link Testing
5. Handover

Bidders who plan to deliver the link within 6 months from the date of award will obtain full marks in the 'link delivery times' section of the Technical Compliance Matrix. Bidders who plan to deliver the link within 9 months from the date of award will obtain partial compliance points. Lastly, bidders who plan to deliver the link after 9 months from the date of award for the project link will fail the evaluation.

8 Acceptance Documentation

In accepting a link, the CSIR will require several documents:

1. Test results for link.
2. CACs for the access builds at the end points (if applicable).
3. As-deployed documentation e.g., KML file; and
4. Acceptance test certificate documentation.
5. Photographs of the deployed terminating ODF at each endpoint with clearly identifiable and labelled demarcation points.

8.1 Test results

The test results are to be provided for each fibre provided by the bidder. The following information must be included on the Test Result Sheet / Acceptance Test Sheet:

1. Both Summarised and Detailed OTDR Test results. This must include:
 - a. Fibre link designation
 - b. Fibre core number
 - c. Attenuation figures and return loss specifications and results.
2. Logical diagram of each link showing where splices and patches occur in the link.
3. Physical Routing GIS file/maps of the fibre that was provisioned in ESRI Shapefile or KML format.

8.2 Customer Acceptance Certificates

For access builds, CACs need to be signed off to ensure that all involved parties are satisfied with the work done by the supplier including required plans developed by the supplier be approved by relevant parties.

8.3 Sample Acceptance Documentation

Bidders must provide sample test results for previous similar work. The sample of the test result documentation must include samples of all acceptance documentation described above.

9 References

All bidders must provide references for two (2) clients for whom the bidder provided Dark Fibre. The references must be able to testify to the bidder's capability in:

1. Provisioning of metropolitan area Dark Fibre; and
2. Providing support and maintenance of Dark Fibre services.

The following details need to be available per reference:

1. Name of Company
2. Name of account manager that the bidder has dealt with (optional)
3. Contact detail for company/account manager (email or telephone number)
4. Reference letter from company/account manager (optional)