



## Market Consultation Document

for selection of an Icy Road Alarm System

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**ICY ROAD ALARM SYSTEM MARKET  
CONSULTATION****1. Context of this market consultation**

Rijkswaterstaat has been using an automatic Road Weather Information System (RWISIRAS) since the early 1990s. The aim of this system is to support the Traffic and Water Management organisational unit of Rijkswaterstaat (known by the Dutch abbreviation VWM) in carrying out its duties relating to preventing icy roads. For this purpose, the system takes measurements on the road surface (temperature and condition) at more than 300 sites across the country and of the local weather situation immediately alongside the road (air temperature, air humidity and precipitation). Due to its nature, the system is more specifically known and referred to as the Icy Road Alarm System (IRAS). The IRAS aggregates this raw data into information that can be used to prevent icy roads and enables the duty coordinators to take decisions concerning the salt spreading policy to be followed. Rijkswaterstaat wants to replace the central software application for the IRAS.

THE IRAS system consists of the following functional units:

- Measuring stations

The measuring stations are located along the edges of roads in the trunk and secondary (provincial) road networks. The measuring stations collect the sensor data and send it to the IRAS2 server in the form of a measurement report. The total number of measuring stations is currently approximately 325. The measuring stations communicate wirelessly with the central application via GPRS/UMTS.

- IRAS server

The IRAS server forms the heart of the system. The server receives measurement reports from the measuring stations, validates and processes them, and then saves them. The server monitors whether the measuring stations are operational. The system also contains all the necessary business logic for issuing alarms. The alarms are transmitted by SMS to the duty Icy Road coordinator or, if the user is logged into the system, displayed on the IRAS client user interface. The IRAS2 server provides the various measurement data in geographic, table and graphic form via a web server. The IRAS server has a large number of customisable parameters. These parameters/settings must be able to be configured remotely via the IRAS client. The IRAS server is connected to meteorological offices and is therefore able to send road surface forecasts, regional weather forecasts and radar images to the IRAS client. The measurement data saved by the IRAS server is exported at set times (e.g. once a day).

The measuring stations along national roads are in good condition and have recently been overhauled. Management and maintenance of these measuring stations is outsourced: the contract runs until June 2017 with an option to extend to June 2020 at the latest. The central application and the user interface of the IRAS were updated in 2005 with a number of minor modifications. There have been no new releases since then. The central IRAS application is therefore an outdated system which runs on a Linux platform. It also has a laborious login procedure.

Rijkswaterstaat is looking at the possibility of replacing the current IRAS central application with an off-the-shelf product. It is important to note that the measuring stations will not be replaced.

## **2. Introduction**

### *2.1 Background*

The aim of this market consultation is to explore what applications are available that would be suitable for use as an IRAS. Rijkswaterstaat Central Information Services (RWS-CIV) sets great store by the opinions of market parties and wishes to involve them actively from an early stage.

RWS-CIV invites market parties to take part in this market consultation.

### *2.2 Purpose of the market consultation*

RWS-CIV has published this market consultation document on Tendered with the aim of reaching and interesting as many market parties as possible and encouraging them to put forward their ideas. Companies that can supply a common off-the-shelf (COTS) software application that meets the requirements referred to in section 3 are requested to register their interest by taking part in this market consultation.

By way of this market consultation, RWS-CIV aims to:

- a) identify parties that can provide an IRAS that has the functionality required by Rijkswaterstaat;
- b) involve the market in the project at an early stage in order to match the invitation to tender as closely as possible to the market situation;
- c) establish whether there are any other innovative/alternative solutions that could be suitable for a proposed solution for an IRAS;
- d) gain an understanding of the standard solutions that are already available for an IRAS in order to ascertain whether the market can meet the requirements set by RWS-CIV.

RWS-CIV emphasises that this market consultation does not form part of the invitation to tender and that no rights may be derived from it.

RWS-CIV will only use insights obtained from the market consultation in the invitation to tender and the tender documents (where relevant). RWS-CIV reserves the right not to use any or some of these insights.

Section 3 describes the method and approach to this market consultation in detail.

### *2.3 About Rijkswaterstaat*

Rijkswaterstaat is the executive agency that manages and develops the national networks on behalf of the Minister and State Secretary of Infrastructure and the Environment (known by the Dutch abbreviation IenM) in a sustainable way.

Rijkswaterstaat is dedicated to ensuring that traffic is able to flow quickly and safely, that there is a safe, clean and user-friendly national water system and that our country is protected against flooding. To achieve this, Rijkswaterstaat manages the national trunk road network (5,695 km), the national waterway network (1,686 km of canals and rivers and 6,165 km of waterways in open water) and the national water system (65,250 km<sup>2</sup>).

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RWS-CIV is one of the national organisational units of Rijkswaterstaat. RWS-CIV is responsible for collecting, managing and providing data, along with ICT management and development.

More information on Rijkswaterstaat and RWS-CIV can be found at [www.rijkswaterstaat.nl](http://www.rijkswaterstaat.nl).

### 3. The market consultation process

#### 3.1 Procedure

Companies that are able to supply a standard software application of this kind are requested to register their interest. In addition to registering for the purpose of providing information, interested companies are also asked to complete the questionnaire provided in section 4 and annexed to this document.

##### 3.1.1 Timetable

RWS-CIV will use the following timetable:

Activity	Date and time
Publication of market consultation document	12 October 2016
Deadline for submitting questions on the market consultation document	19 October 2016
Publication of Summary of Additional Information and Changes	26 October
Deadline for submitting completed questionnaire + annex	2 November 2016
Additional discussions, if any	TBA
Completion	9 November 2016

Interested parties may not derive any rights from the above timetable. RWS-CIV reserves the right to amend the timetable. The above timetable is therefore indicative, although the greatest possible care will be taken to abide by it.

##### 3.1.2 Questions on the market consultation document

Market parties will have the opportunity to ask questions about ambiguous formulations in the market consultation document with the aim of ensuring transparent and clear communication. Parties with questions about the market consultation document may e-mail them to [civ-offerte@rws.nl](mailto:civ-offerte@rws.nl) before the deadline for asking questions on the market consultation document stated in section 3.1.1, quoting "Market consultation on Icy Road Alarm Systems" in the subject line. RWS-CIV will respond to (anonymised) questions from market parties in a Summary of Additional Information and Changes which will be published on Tendered.

##### 3.1.3 Submission of questionnaire

Every interested market party that is of the opinion that it can contribute to the market consultation is requested to complete the questionnaire in the annex to this market consultation document and submit it by e-mail to [civ-offerte@rws.nl](mailto:civ-offerte@rws.nl) before the deadline for submitting the completed questionnaire stated in section 3.1.1, quoting "Market consultation on Icy Road Alarm Systems" in the subject line.

##### 3.1.4 Verbal explanations on the questionnaire

*Depending on the reactions submitted, RWS-CIV may give parties the opportunity to provide additional verbal explanations of their answers. RWS-CIV will contact these*

*parties to schedule a short meeting during the period "Dates for additional discussions, if any" stated in section 3.1.1.*

#### 3.1.5 Completion of market consultation and feedback of results

The market consultation will end on the date stated in section 3.1.1.

Should an invitation to tender be issued in the market on the basis of the information obtained, RWS-CIV will state clearly in the tender documents how the original ideas and/or questions based on the market consultation have been adjusted or implemented and will also provide a general outline of the conclusions there.

#### *3.2 Confidentiality*

RWS-CIV will treat input from participating market parties as confidential. RWS-CIV will only reveal this information to employees and consultants directly involved in the market consultation and/or the functional invitation to tender, unless RWS-CIV is required by law to make any further disclosure. However, RWS-CIV will be entitled to use the information provided for the purpose of drawing up the tender documents.

RWS-CIV will make no specific references to participants or commercially sensitive information in the tender documents.

#### *3.3 Other provisions concerning the market consultation*

The market consultation does not form part of a possible invitation to tender. In order to avoid giving participants in the market consultation an unfair advantage, RWS-CIV will publish the outcomes of the market consultation in the tender documents.

If an invitation to tender is issued, no distinction will be drawn between parties who have or have not taken part in the market consultation.

Information in this market consultation may differ from information provided later (as part of a functional invitation to tender or other procurement process). No rights may be derived from the information provided in the context of the market consultation. The information is indicative and intended solely to improve the quality of the market consultation. If this information conflicts with information provided at a later stage (as part of a functional invitation to tender or other procurement process), the latter information will take precedence.

RWS-CIV will not grant any monetary compensation to participants in the market consultation.

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**4. Questions**

The questionnaire is a separate document that can be found in the annex to this market consultation.