

TENDER NOTICE

No. EA/02-44-2024

For Providing Data Loss Prevention Tool (DLP Solution)

- **1.** Bids are invited from your esteemed Corporation for Providing Data Loss Prevention Tool in Afghanistan as per RFP Annexure. This bid Document is also available on the Etisalat website (www.etisalat.af, Tenders).
- **2.** RFP Deadline is **17 June 2025 Afghanistan time**.
- **3.** Bid received after the above deadline shall not be accepted.
- **4.** Bidders can provide either a sealed Hardcopy of the Proposal or a Softcopy of the Proposal through email. A hard copy can be submitted to Etisalat's Main office, Reception Desk (Tender Box). The softcopy shall be submitted through email (snabizada@etisalat.af) and cc: (Ihsanullah@etisalat.af) and marked clearly with the **RFP name, and number.**
- **5.** The bidder shall submit the proposal with separate (Technical and Commercial) parts. The commercial part must be password password-protected document for a softcopy of the proposal, and we will request the password once here the concerned committee opens bids (starts the bid's Commercial evaluation). The bids shall be first evaluated technically. Technical evaluation will be based on the conformity to required technical specifications and compliance matrix specified in the Bidding Documents. Only technically

Dated: May-2025

compliant bids that meet all the mandatory service-effecting requirements will be

evaluated commercially.

6. Etisalat Afghanistan reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids and to annul

the bidding process at any time, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected

bidder(s) or any obligations to inform the affected bidder(s) of the grounds for Etisalat

Afghanistan action.

7. All correspondence on the subject may be addressed to Shoaib Nabizada, Senior Analyst

Procurement & Contracts, and Etisalat Afghanistan. Email snabizada@etisalat.af and Phone

No. +93781204113.

Ihsanullah Zirak

Director Procurement and Supply Chain

Ihsan Plaza, Shar-e-Naw, Kabul, Etisalat

Afghanistan

E-mail: ihsanullah@etisalat.af

RFP No. EA/02-44-2024 **Dated:** May-2025



(RFP)

For

Providing Data Loss Prevention Tool (DLP Solution) for Etisalat Afghanistan



1. DEFINITIONS

In this document, the following terms and meanings shall be interpreted as indicated:

1.1 Terms.

"Acceptance Test(s) "means the test(s) specified in the Technical Specifications to be carried out to ascertain whether the Goods, Equipment, System, Material, Items or a specified part thereof is able to attain the Performance Level specified in the Technical Specifications in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

"Acceptance Test Procedures" means test procedures specified in the technical specifications and/or by the supplier and approved by EA as it is or with modifications.

"Approved" or "approval" means approved in writing.

"BoQ" stands for Bill of Quantities of each job/work as mentioned in this contract and its annexes according to which the contractor shall supply equipment & services and subject to change by agreement of both parties.

"Bidding" means a formal procurement procedure under which sealed bids are invited, received, opened, examined and evaluated for the purpose of awarding a contract.

"Bid/Tender Document" means the Bid/Tender documents issued by EA for invitation of Bids/Offers along with subsequent amendments and clarifications.

"CIF" means "Cost Insurance Freight" as specified in INCOTERM 2010.

"Competent Authority" means the staff or functionary authorized by EA to deal finally with the matter in issue.

"Completion Date" means the date by which the Contractor is required to complete the Contract.

"Country of Origin" means the countries and territories eligible under the rules elaborated in the "Instruction to Bidders".

"Contract" means the Contract between Etisalat Afghanistan (EA) and the Contractor and comprising documents.

"Contractor" means the individual or firm(s) ultimately responsible for supplying all the Goods/Equipment/Systems/Material/Items on time and to cost under this contract to EA.

"Contractor's Representative" means the person nominated by the contractor and named as such in the contract and approved by EA in the manner provided in the contract.

"Contract Documents" means the documents listed in Article (Contract Documents) of the Form of Contract (including any amendments thereto) or in any other article in this contract.

"Contract Price" means the price payable to the Contractor under the Contract for the full and proper performance of its contractual obligations.

"Day" means calendar day of the Gregorian calendar.

"Delivery charges" means local transportation, handling, insurance and other charges incidental to the delivery of Goods to their final destination.

"D.D.P" means Delivered Duty Paid as defined in the Incoterms 2010 including the unloading responsibility of bidder/seller.

"Effective Date" means the date the Contract shall take effect as mentioned in the Contract.

"Etisalat Afghanistan (EA)" means the company registered under the Laws of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and having office at Ihsan Plaza Charahi Shaheed Kabul in person or any person dully authorised by it for the specific purpose for the specific task within the Contract and notified to contractor in writing.

"Final Acceptance Certificate" means the certificate issued by EA after successful completion of warranty and removal of defects as intimated by EA.

"Force Majeure" means Acts of God, Government restrictions, financial hardships, war and hostilities, invasion, act of foreign enemies, rebellion, revolution, riot, industrial disputes, commotion, natural disasters and other similar risks that are outside of Contractor's and EA's control.

"Goods Receipt Certificate" means certificate issued by the consignee certifying receipt of Goods in good order and condition.

"Liquidated Damages" mean the monetary damages imposed upon the contractor and the money payable to EA by the contractor on account of late delivery of the whole or part of the Goods.

"L.o.A" means Letter of Award issued by EA to successful bidder with regard to the award of tender.

"Month" means calendar month of the Gregorian calendar.

"Offer" means the quotation/bid and all subsequent clarifications submitted by the Bidder and accepted by EA in response to and in relation with the Bid Documents.

"Origin" means the place where the Goods are mined, grown or produced from which the ancillary services are supplied. Goods are produced when, through manufacturing, processing or substantial and major assembling of components, a commercially recognized product results that is substantially different in basic characteristics or in purpose or utility from its components.

"EA's Representative" shall mean the representative to be appointed by EA to act for and on behalf of EA with respect to this Contract.

"Specifications" means the specifications, provided in the Contract and its annexure and in EA Tender Specifications and where the Contract is silent and in cases of conflicting specifications appearing in the documents, based on the latest version of ITU-T recommendations.

"Supplier/Vendor" (used interchangeably) means the individual or firm ultimately responsible for supplying all the Goods on time and to cost under this Contract acting individually alone or as a "prime contractor" for a consortium.

"Supplier's Representative" means the person nominated by the Contractor and named as such in the Contract and approved by EA in the manner provided in the Contract.

"Warranty Period" shall mean the period of 12 months or any extended period starting from the acceptance of the delivered Goods in good order and conditions at consignee's certified by EA authorized representative (s).

2. INTRODUCTION TO WORK.

2.1 Bids are invited for Providing Data Loss Prevention Tool in accordance with Etisalat specifications and Annexures.



3. Bill of Quantity (BoQ)

As per Annexure -A

4. Validity of Offers

The Tenders must be valid for a minimum of 90 days from the Tender closing date, or as may be specified by Purchaser in the Tender documents.

5. Price and Payment Term

- **5.1** Payment shall be made by bank transfer after receipt of original Hardcopy of invoice.
- **5.2** Advance payment shall be not made to the contractor.
- **5.3** EA shall make prompt payment, within thirty days of submission of an invoice/claim by the contractor subject to availability of prerequisite documents specified under the contract and adjustment of penalty (if any) on account of late delivery and/or defective Goods replacement after confirmation from the Project Director.
- **5.4** Payments are subject to deduction of income tax at the prevalent rate from the relevant invoices of the contractor and paid to the Tax Authorities, except those especially exempted by the authorities. EA will issue a certificate of deductions to the contractor to enable him to settle tax returns with the concerned authorities.
- **5.5** Payments against the entire contract will be made by EA based on the contractor's ability to meet payment milestones as defined in the Bid Documents in the following manner.

5.5.1 For Supply of Equipment (Hardware & Software);

- **5.5.1.1** EA will make payment equal to 50% of the amount of equipment on the arrival of Equipment at site of installation and certification by EA Project Director/Manager of their receipt in good condition.
- **5.5.1.2** Balance 50% of the amount of equipment will be paid on issuance of RFS for the complete system area in individual city.

Dated: May-2025



5.5.2 For Installation, Testing, Commissioning and Professional Services (if available).

5.5.2.1 EA will make payment equal to 75% of amount of Services cost when

equipment is offered for Acceptance Testing in individual city.

5.5.2.2 Balance 25% of the amount of Services cost will be made at the time

of issuance of final PAC for complete system in individual city.

5.5.3 For System Support and Maintenance Services (if available).

5.5.3.1 EA will make payment on quarterly basis at end of each quarter, after

support/service is delivered.

7. Penalty:

7.1 If the contractor fails to complete the said job on or before the Completion Date, the

Contractor shall pay to the Purchaser as and by way of Penalty resulting from the delay,

the aggregate sum of one percent (1%) of Total Contract price of the delayed services for

each week and pro-rata for parts of week, for delay beyond the specified date, subject to a

maximum of ten percent (10%) of the Total Contract Price of the service(s). In the event

that delay is only in respect of small items which do not affect the effective utilization of

the system, penalty shall be chargeable only on the value of such delayed items.

7.2 Any penalty chargeable to the Contractor shall be deducted from the invoice amounts

submitted by the Contractor for payment, without prejudice to the Purchaser's rights.

8. Construction of Contract:

The Contract shall he deemed to have been concluded in the Islamic Emirate of

Afghanistan and shall be governed by and construed in accordance with Islamic Emirate of

Afghanistan Law.

.....



9. Termination of the Contract

- **9.1** If during the course of the Contract, the Contractor shall be in breach of the Contract and the Purchaser shall so inform the Contractor by notice in writing, and should the breach continue for more than seven days (or such longer period as may be specified by the Purchaser) after such notice then the Purchaser may immediately terminate the Contract by notice in writing to the Contractor.
- **9.2** Upon termination of the Contract the Purchaser may at his option continue work either by himself or by sub-contracting to a third party. The Contractor shall if so required by the Purchaser within 14 days of the date of termination assign to the Purchaser without payment the benefit to any agreement for services and/or the execution of any work for the purposes of this Contract. In the event of the services/jobs being completed and ready for utilization by the Purchaser or a third party and the total cost incurred by the Purchaser in so completing the required services/jobs being greater than which would have been incurred had the Contract not been terminated then the Contractor shall pay such excess to the Purchaser.
- **9.3** The Contractor shall not have the right to terminate or abandon the Contract except for reasons of force majeure.
- 9.4 Etisalat has the right to terminate this Contract without cause at any time by serving a 30-day prior written notice to the Contractor.

10. Local Taxes, Dues and Levies:

10.1 The Contractor shall be responsible for all government related taxes, dues and levies, including personal income tax, which may be payable in the Afghanistan or elsewhere.

Dated: May-2025



10.2 Withholding tax (if applicable) shall be deducted on local portion only as per prevailing rates as notified Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan. The amount of withholding Tax(s) is 2% of all project cost for local/registered companies who have Afghanistan Government Official Work License and 7% for International/ nonregistered companies.

RFP No. EA/02-44-2024 **Dated:** May-2025

اتصالات etisalat

Annexure-A

Technical Scope of Work (SoW) for Data Loss Prevention (DLP) Solution

1. Objective

The primary objective of this project is to procure and implement a **Data Loss Prevention (DLP)** solution that will safeguard sensitive data within Etisalat Afghanistan EA from intentional or unintentional Loss or theft. This DLP solution will help detect, monitor, and prevent the unauthorized sharing or transfer of sensitive information across multiple channels, including endpoints, networks, cloud environments, and email.

The DLP solution will ensure compliance with regulatory frameworks such as **PCI DSS**, and **telecom-specific regulations**, while aligning with the overall cybersecurity strategy of the organization.

2. Scope of Work

This document outlines the comprehensive technical requirements and deliverables for the procurement, deployment, and operationalization of a DLP solution within Etisalat Afghanistan.

2.1 Requirements Gathering and Assessment

- **Data Inventory and Classification**: Understand and assess the organization's data, particularly sensitive customer information, financial records, intellectual property, call records, billing data, and telecom-specific sensitive information.
- **Integration with Existing Infrastructure**: Evaluate the existing IT infrastructure, including endpoints, networks, cloud systems, and data storage solutions, for seamless integration with the DLP solution.

Dated: May-2025



2.2 DLP Solution Requirements

The DLP solution must meet the following technical specifications:

2.2.1 Data Identification and Classification

- **Sensitive Data Detection**: Ability to identify and classify various types of sensitive data within the organization, such as:
 - Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Names, addresses, Social Security numbers,
 phone numbers.
 - Payment Card Information (PCI): Credit card numbers, CVV, etc.
 - o Call Detail Records (CDRs): Call logs, timestamps, telecom metadata.
 - o Intellectual Property (IP): Source code, proprietary algorithms, and telecom specific software.
- Data-at-Rest, Data-in-Motion, and Data-in-Use: The tool must cover data at all stages, detecting Loss from files stored on servers (data-at-rest), data transferred over the network (data-in-motion), and data used by applications (data-in-use).

2.2.2 Policy Enforcement and Customization

- Predefined and Custom Policies: The DLP solution should come with predefined security
 policies for industry standards such as PCI DSS while allowing for the creation of custom
 policies tailored to specific needs of the telecom company.
 - o Examples of policies include blocking the unauthorized transfer of CDRs, restricting access to billing data, and preventing the sharing of PII.
- Role-based Policy Application: Ability to apply different DLP policies based on user roles, departments, or groups, e.g., stricter policies for customer service departments handling customer data.

Dated: May-2025



2.2.3 Network DLP Capabilities

- Network Traffic Monitoring: Ability to monitor and inspect network traffic in real-time to detect and prevent data exfiltration via protocols such as HTTP/S, FTP, email (SMTP), and cloud file sharing services.
- Network-based Blocking and Alerts: The DLP solution must be able to block or quarantine sensitive data transfers, send real-time alerts to security teams, and provide visibility into potential data breaches.
- Integration with Existing Network Infrastructure: Seamless integration with existing firewalls, Intrusion Detection Systems (IDS), and Intrusion Prevention Systems (IPS) to enhance the overall security posture.

2.2.4 Endpoint DLP Capabilities

- **Endpoint Data Protection**: Monitor and control data flow on endpoints (e.g., laptops, desktops, mobile devices) to detect unauthorized use, transfers, or copying of sensitive data.
- USB and Peripheral Device Control: The solution should provide the ability to monitor, block, or restrict the use of external storage devices, such as USB drives and external hard drives, for copying or transferring sensitive data.
- Remote and Mobile Worker Support: DLP controls must extend to mobile employees
 working remotely and support various device types, including Windows, macOS, iOS, and
 Android.

2.2.5 Cloud DLP Capabilities

- Cloud Storage Monitoring: Ability to monitor and prevent data Loss from cloud-based applications and storage solutions such as Microsoft OneDrive and SharePoint.
- **Encryption of Cloud Data**: Enforce encryption policies for sensitive data stored or transferred via cloud platforms.

Dated: May-2025



2.2.6 Email DLP Capabilities

• **Email Content Filtering**: Ability to scan email content and attachments for sensitive information such as PII, PCI data, and confidential corporate documents.

• **Prevent Email Data Loss**: Policies to block, quarantine, or warn users about unauthorized sharing of sensitive data via email, based on preset or customized DLP rules.

• Integration with Existing Email Systems: Seamless integration with the company's email systems (e.g., Microsoft Exchange, etc.) for real-time monitoring and policy enforcement.

2.2.7 Incident Response and Management

Alerting and Notification: Ability to generate real-time alerts and notifications for suspicious
activities related to data Loss attempts. Customizable thresholds should be available to
reduce false positives.

 Incident Workflow Management: Incident response management features such as automated ticketing, escalation, and tracking of DLP incidents to streamline security team actions.

• **Detailed Forensics**: Ability to provide forensic-level details, including **who accessed what data**, **where it was transferred**, and **how policies were violated**. This will help in investigating potential breaches and responding to incidents effectively.

Detailed Activity Dashboard: The tool must include a feature that provides detailed information about file access, including who attempted access, when it occurred, and where the attempt originated from.

2.2.8 Encryption and Data Masking

• **Encryption Enforcement**: The DLP solution should enforce encryption policies to protect sensitive data during transit and storage, ensuring that even if data is exfiltrated, it remains unusable without proper decryption keys.

Dated: May-2025



• **Data Masking**: Ability to mask or obfuscate sensitive data in reports or analytics to ensure that security personnel who don't need access to full data don't see sensitive details.

2.2.9 Data Discovery and Classification

- **Content Inspection**: Ability to scan and analyze files, emails, databases, and network traffic to locate sensitive data such as PII, financial information, and intellectual property.
- Data Classification: Automated classification of data based on sensitivity and compliance requirements, helping to prioritize protection efforts.
- **Structured and Unstructured Data**: Capability to identify sensitive information within structured data (databases) and unstructured data (documents, spreadsheets, etc.).
- **DLP Sensitive Image Recognition:** Sensitive Image Recognition to find OCR data in form
- User and Entity Behaviour Analytics

2.3 Reporting, Automation, and Integration

2.3.1 Comprehensive Reporting

- Real-time Reporting: The DLP tool must provide real-time reporting on all data access, usage, and transfer activities involving sensitive data, generating detailed reports of data Loss attempts.
- Compliance Reporting: Predefined and customizable reports that align with regulatory requirements such as GDPR, PCI DSS, and telecom-specific regulations. Ability to generate audit-ready reports that show adherence to data protection policies.
- **Executive Dashboards**: High-level dashboards for senior management to visualize data Loss risks, compliance status, and areas of vulnerability.

2.3.2 Automation and Orchestration

• **Automated Remediation**: Automated response actions such as blocking data transfers, quarantining sensitive files, and notifying users or administrators of policy violations.

Dated: May-2025



• SOAR Integration: Integration with Security Orchestration, Automation, and Response (SOAR) platforms to automate incident responses and streamline DLP incident management.

2.3.3 Integration with SIEM and Security Tools

- **SIEM Integration**: The DLP solution must integrate with existing **SIEM** systems (e.g., Splunk, IBM QRadar, Forti SIEM, or ArcSight) to feed DLP logs and alerts into a unified security platform for analysis and correlation with other security events.
- Integration with Endpoint Security: Ability to integrate with endpoint protection platforms (EPP), endpoint detection and response (EDR) tools, and identity and access management (IAM) systems for more comprehensive data security and threat response.

2.4 Usability, Training, and Support

2.4.1 Ease of Use and Customization

- User-friendly Interface: The DLP solution should provide an intuitive and easy-to-navigate
 interface that enables both security experts and operational staff to configure policies,
 monitor activity, and respond to incidents.
- **Customization**: Flexibility to customize DLP rules, workflows, and policies to adapt to the specific needs and operational requirements of the telecom company.

2.4.2 Training and Onboarding

- Training for Security Teams: Provide initial and ongoing training sessions for the security team to understand the solution's functionality, configure custom policies, and interpret reports.
- **End-user Awareness**: Training materials or programs to raise awareness among employees about the DLP solution and ensure compliance with internal data handling policies.

Dated: May-2025



2.4.3 License Model, Support and Maintenance

- Vendors must submit proposals structured as a one-time CapEx purchase with perpetual licensing. Cloud/SaaS-based subscriptions, pay-as-you-go, or recurring OpEx pricing models will not be evaluated.
- **24/7 Support**: Vendor must provide 24/7 technical support to address any issues or incidents that arise with the DLP solution.
- **Regular Updates**: Ensure the DLP solution receives frequent updates, including new detection rules, threat intelligence, and support for emerging data protection regulations.

3. Deliverables

The vendor must deliver the following:

• **DLP Solution**: A fully functional DLP solution.

Dated: May-2025



Annexure-B

Cybersecurity Requirements

General Security Requirements:

- 1. Vendor must ensure their operating systems are up to date and is not End of Life/End of Support.
- 2. Vendor must ensure proper patch management of their servers in alignment with EA IT and Cybersecurity policies.
- 3. Vendor must ensure a licensed and standard AV solution is installed in all of their operating systems.
- 4. Vendor must ensure full cooperation and coordination with EA Cybersecurity team whenever required.
- 5. Vendor must not install any application without proper coordination and agreement of EA SOC Team.
- The use of insecure cryptographic algorithms and protocols are strictly prohibited and all integrations and system communication must be based on secure and strong cryptographic algorithms.
- 7. Vendor must ensure strong protection of EA data stored on vendor's cloud.
- 8. Vendor must align all of their services and configurations in accordance to EA Information Security policies and standards.
- 9. Vendor must use and install only licensed applications.



- 10. The installation and Integration of servers must be aligned with IT and Cybersecurity requirements.
- 11. Vendor must not use/install any application/service that is not required.
- 12. Vendor must communicate any software installation with EA Cybersecurity team in advance.
- 13. Vendor must align their changes according to EA Change Management Policy.
- 14. Vendor must ensure all their operating systems are fully patched with the latest OS/Software updates.
- 15. Vendor must not use any OS that is/will be End of Life / End of Support in less than 3 year.
- 16. Only secure and strong cryptographic algorithms are allowed to be used in the vendor platforms.
- 17. System must support Role Based Access Control, and Rule Based Access Control
- 18. System must provide Strong authentication and authorization mechanisms
- 19. System must be capable of advanced logging mechanisms to ensure user activities are logged for audit and security purposes and the log must include all of the following at minimum.
 - Failed and successful logins
 - Modification of security settings
 - Privileged use or escalation of privileges
 - System events
 - Modification of system-level objects
 - Session activity
 - Account management activities including password changes, account creation, modification...
 - Event logs must contain the following details:
 - Date and time of activity
 - Source and Destination IP for the related activity
 - Identification of user performing activity
 - Description of an attempted or completed activity.
- 20. The system must support live log retention of 1 Year and backup up to 3 years.
- 21. System must be capable of encrypting the log files to ensure user does not modify or change the logs.



- 22. System must provide cryptographic algorithms such as AES 128/256 Bit, SHA 256/384/512 bits.
- 23. System must be secure against well-known attacks including but not limited to SQL Injection, XSS, CSRF, SSRF, Code Execution and other attacks.
- 24. Vendor system's password configuration must be aligned with EA Information security policies.
- 25. System must support integration with LDAP, IAM "Identity and Access Management" and PAM "Privileged Access Management" Solutions.
- 26. System must support external log synchronization mechanisms to push logs to another system for analysis such as SIEM and centralized log server.
- 27. The database must support the encryption of admin user's information with algorithms such as PBKDF2 and SHA256/384/512 bits.
- 28. The database platforms "if any" must support the encryption of data in-transit and at rest.

Important Note:

Bidders, vendors, and any concerned party shall fill all the fields in the below table, any missing or non-compliant item may cause disqualifying the proposed system from the Etisalat Security side.

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
1	Etisalat Security Requirements		
1.1	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor to sign Non-		
	Disclosure Agreement (NDA) with Etisalat before		
	finalizing RFx/contract/POC agreement as per		
	Etisalat NDA process.		
1.2	Contractor/Supplier/vendor equipment's (e.g.		
	Servers, PCs, etc.) that are connected to Etisalat		
	network must be securely wiped before taking out		
	of Etisalat premises.		
1.3	The proposed/contracted system shall pass Etisalat		
	Security Audit (Vulnerability Assessment/Penetration		
	Testing) before go-live/service acceptance by		
	Etisalat. Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide		

No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
	SLA for fixing Security gaps based on severity.		
1.4	Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall fix all security issues identified and reported by ETISALAT and/or Third Party Contracted to do the testing, with no additional cost		
1.5	Contractor/Supplier/vendor confirms that its products/solution are tested for weaknesses via methods such as Vulnerability Assessment, penetration testing, red teaming exercises and scans that check for compliance against the baseline security standards or security best practices, before the new product or any of its releases is delivered to ETISALAT. The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide evidence/report of the security assessment/audit of the proposed solution.		
2	Security Architecture		
2.1	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall ensure that proposed solution shall comply with the applicable IT and Telecom Security standards (such as Afg. NESA (SIA) IA V2, Afg. DESC (ISR), Afg. TRA, 3GPP, ETSI, ENISA, CSA, NIST, PCI, ISO, GDPR etc.) The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall confirm the applicable standard.		
2.2	The proposed solution shall support the latest operating systems and application versions. Contractor/Supplier/vendor to ensure proposed solutions will run the latest stable software, operating system, and firmware.		

No.	Description	Compliance	Comments
	Э сэсприси	(YES/NO/NA)	
2.3	The solution shall be designed with multi-tier		
	architecture, (Demilitarized Zone (DMZ),		
	middleware, and private network). Any system		
	accessible from the Internet shall be on the DMZ		
	and access to internal sensitive data shall be		
	secured through the middle tier application proxy.		
2.4	The proposed solution shall not impact or relax		
	existing Etisalat security control or posture.		
2.5	The performance of the proposed system shall		
	meet the business requirements without disabling		
	or removing any existing security control		
2.6	The Contractor/Supplier/vendor shall provide only		
	secure methods of communication such as HTTPS,		
	SFTP, SCP, TLS1.3, IPSEC, SRTP, SSH v2, SNMPv3		
	between the proposed nodes. Non-secure protocols		
	such as Telnet, HTTP and FTP shall not be used.		
3	Password Security		
	All Operating Systems (e.g. Linux and Windows)		
3.1	shall be hardened according to well-known		
3.1	standards such as, but not limited to NIST, CIS		
	security benchmark, and NSA.		
3.2	The proposed system includes password		
	management module that supports the following		
	features:		
3.3	Setting the minimum password length		
3.4	Password complexity, and not accepting blank		
	passwords		
3.5	Maximum password age and password history		
3.6	Account lockout		
3.7	Enforce changing password after first login		

No.	Description	Compliance	Comments
INO.	Description	(YES/NO/NA)	Comments
3.8	Prompt / notify for the old password on password		
	changes		
3.9	The password shall be saved in hashed format (i.e.		
	irreversible encryption)		
3.1	Forgetting or resetting password function shall		
0	support using OTP or email for verification		
4	Authentication		
4.1	The proposed system shall not provide access		
	without valid username and password.		
4.2	All user access to the proposed system shall		
	support Privilege account Management (PAM)		
	integration.		
4.3	For public web applications, the proposed system		
	supports and uses CAPTCHA or OTP to prevent		
	password dictionary attacks		
4.4	For mobile applications, the proposed system shall		
	support and uses fingerprint authentication method		
4.5	The proposed system supports and uses secure		
	authentication protocols, like Kerberos, LDAP-S,		
	NTLM V2 and above, HTTPs (for web applications)		
4.6	The proposed system will not use insecure		
	authentication protocols, like NTLM v1, HTTP (for		
	web applications)		
4.7	The proposed system shall support session timeout		
	settings		
4.8	The proposed solution shall support secure API		
	architecture to integrate systems to exchange data		
	where deemed necessary.		
5	Authorization		

Dated: May-2025



No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/NA)	Comments
5.1	The proposed solution shall support role-based		
	access controls that includes access profiles or		
	security matrix (i.e. Role Name VS. Access		
	Permissions)		
5.2	The proposed system supports role-based access		
	permissions, i.e. Administrator, Operator, Viewer,		
	User		
6	Software Security		
6.1	The software development and testing will not run		
	on the production systems, and will be running in		
	an isolated environment		
6.2	The software source code will not include clear-text		
	passwords		
6.3	The software code will not include insecure		
	protocols, like FTP, telnetetc.		
6.4	The software testing will not use live/production		
	sensitive or PII data unless it's masked as Etisalat		
	security policy		
6.5	The proposed system enforces input and output		
	validation to prevent security attacks, like SQL		
	Injection, Buffer Overflowetc.		
6.6	For web portals, the proposed system includes all		
	security controls to prevent/protect from OWASP		
	Top 10 security attacks and risks		
6.7	For mobile application, the proposed system shall		
	include security checks / controls to protect from		
	mobile attacks, like SSL Pinning, Jailbreak, Anti-		
	debug, Anti-hooking, and Advanced Obfuscation		

Dated: May-2025



No.	Description	Compliance (YES/NO/N A)	Comments
7	Security Event Logging		
7.1	Proposed systems shall support standard logging protocols such as CIFS/Syslog/CSV logs files		
7.2	The system shall generate and support audit logs that contain the following fields (as a minimum): a) Username b) Timestamp (Date & Time). c) Client IP Address d) Transaction ID & session information		
7.3	The proposed solution shall support the integration with Etisalat NTP for time synchronization and accurate logging.		
8	Public Cloud Security		
8.1	Etisalat customers' and staff personal data (PII: name, contacts, address, Emirates ID, Passport number, Nationality) is encrypted at rest and in transit using a strong industry-standard encryption protocol		
8.2	The Public Cloud setup that stores PII information shall be hosted in the Afghanistan		
8.3	The Public Cloud setup is hosted in a dedicated tenant for Etisalat (i.e. not shared)		
8.4	The Public Cloud data Center shall not be moved to another country or location without prior coordination and approval from Etisalat		
8.5	All Etisalat data will be permanently erased from the Public Cloud on termination of the service or support agreement		

8.6	The proposed Cloud system supports Etisalat	
	Cloud Access Security Broker (such as Microsoft	
	MCAS, Netskope CASB)	
9	Virtualization and Container Security	
9.1	If applicable, Bidder shall ensure the proposed	
	virtualized infrastructure, service based and micro	
	services architecture to support multi tenancy,	
	zoning & micro-segmentation, security visibility,	
	secure virtualization (sVirt), trusted image	
	signing, virtual Firewalls, DoS protection, Trusted	
	platform module (TPM), Hypervisor & Host OS	
	security to secure data and resources.	
9.2	The proposed solution shall support integration	
	with Etisalat/Leading Container Security Solution,	
	where applicable, to scan the container images	
	and ensure malware protection of CI/CD pipeline.	
9.3	Suppliers must inform EA Cybersecurity of any	
	non-conformity with defined EA policies and	
	processes that are agreed upon in advance to	
	acquire a written approval from EA Cybersecurity	
	Department or senior management as required	
	otherwise Supplier will be responsible for all the	
	potential losses	

RFP No. EA/02-44-2024 **Dated:** May-2025



RFP General Terms Compliance to be filled by Bidder.

S/N	Clause No. and General Terms	Comply (Yes/No)	Remarks
1	4. VALIDITY OF OFFERS:		
2	6. ACCEPTANCE OF OFFERS:		
3	7. REGISTRATION/LEGAL		
3	DOCUMENTS OF THE BIDDER		
4	8. PAYMENTS		
5	9. PENALTY:		
6	10. CONSTRUCTION OF CONTRACT:		
7	11. TERMINATION OF THE		
	CONTRACT BY THE PURCHASER		
8	12. LOCAL TAXES, DUES AND		
	LEVIES:		

RFP No. EA/02-44-2024 **Dated:** May-2025



The following Information must be submitted with offer.

Bidder Contact Details		
Bidder Name		
Bidder Address		
Bidder Email Address		
Bidder Phone Number		
Bidder Contact Person Name		
Bidder Contact Person Phone No		
Bidder Contact Person Email Address		
Bidder Registration License Number		
License Validity		
TIN Number /Tax Number		

========= end of documents =========