SOUTH AFRICAN BROADCASTING CORPORATION SOC LIMITED

TENDERERS ARE REQUIRED TO TREAT THE DETAILS OF THIS RFI ENQUIRY AS CONFIDENTIAL.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)

RFI NUMBER: RFI/HEN/2019/5

RFI TITLE: MCR VIDEO ROUTER REPLACEMENT

Address: **SABC Auckland Park**

   Henley Road

   Johannesburg

Telephone: **011 714 2091**

Contact Person: **Israel Vele**

   velei@sabc.co.za

EXPECTED TIMEFRAME

TENDER PROCESS	EXPECTED DATES
RFI Issue Date	**04 March 2019**
Available on SABC Internet	**04 March 2019**
Briefing session	**None**
RFI Closing Date	**15 March 2019 @ 12h00**

The Corporation retains the right to change the timeframe whenever necessary and for whatever reason it deems fit.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS (OPTIONAL)

1) Valid Tax Clearance Certificate
2) Valid TV Licence (Company's and all Directors)
3) Valid BBBEE Certificate (from SANAS affiliated Agency)
4) Company Registration Document
5) Shareholders' certificates

CONTACT DETAILS OF THE BIDDER:

Company Name: _____

Physical Address: _____

Contact person:

Name   : _____

Telephone   : _____

Mobile   : _____

Fax   : _____

E-mail address: _____

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) FOR MCR VIDEO ROUTER REPLACEMENT

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of RFI is to request information and costing for the MCR video router replacement.

2. BACKGROUND

SABC is currently in possession of SD/HD/ASI 576x576 Routing switcher that has reliably served the organisation. It is in the centre of all television operations from contribution to distribution and everything in-between. It serves and stands in the centre of operation for the following areas:

- Master Control Room (MCR)
  - Satellite contributions
  - Metro Ethernet Contributions
  - Live external studios
- Television Studios (Henley and News Studios)
- Ingest Functions
  - EVS
  - Harmonic Ingest Server (Omneon)
  - Quantel Server
  - Avid
  - Media Integration Ingest Server
- Final Control Center (FCC)
- Distribution Functions
  - Distribution for Analogue transmitters
  - Digital Television Headend (DTT/DTH)
  - Multichoice Africa Headend (MCA)
  - Star TV Headend
  - Staff Address to the Provinces
- International distribution such as distributions to:
  - Reuters
  - International Studios via Globecast and or Telemedia

However, this router has reached its end of life and it is out of service from the manufacture. That translate to spare parts and support being unavailable, meaning SABC is running at a huge risk if any of the core peripherals may malfunction or completely fail. The recovery time from such a disaster will be unpredictable.

3. Scope

The scope of this RFI encompasses acquiring relevant information from industry to enable SABC to:

- Identify a suitable solution for SABC.
- Assist SABC to establish User Requirement Statements and Bid Specification(s).

This RFI is aimed at gathering relevant information with respect to the Video-Over-IP routing solutions and or products currently available in the global market, with specific reference to the following:
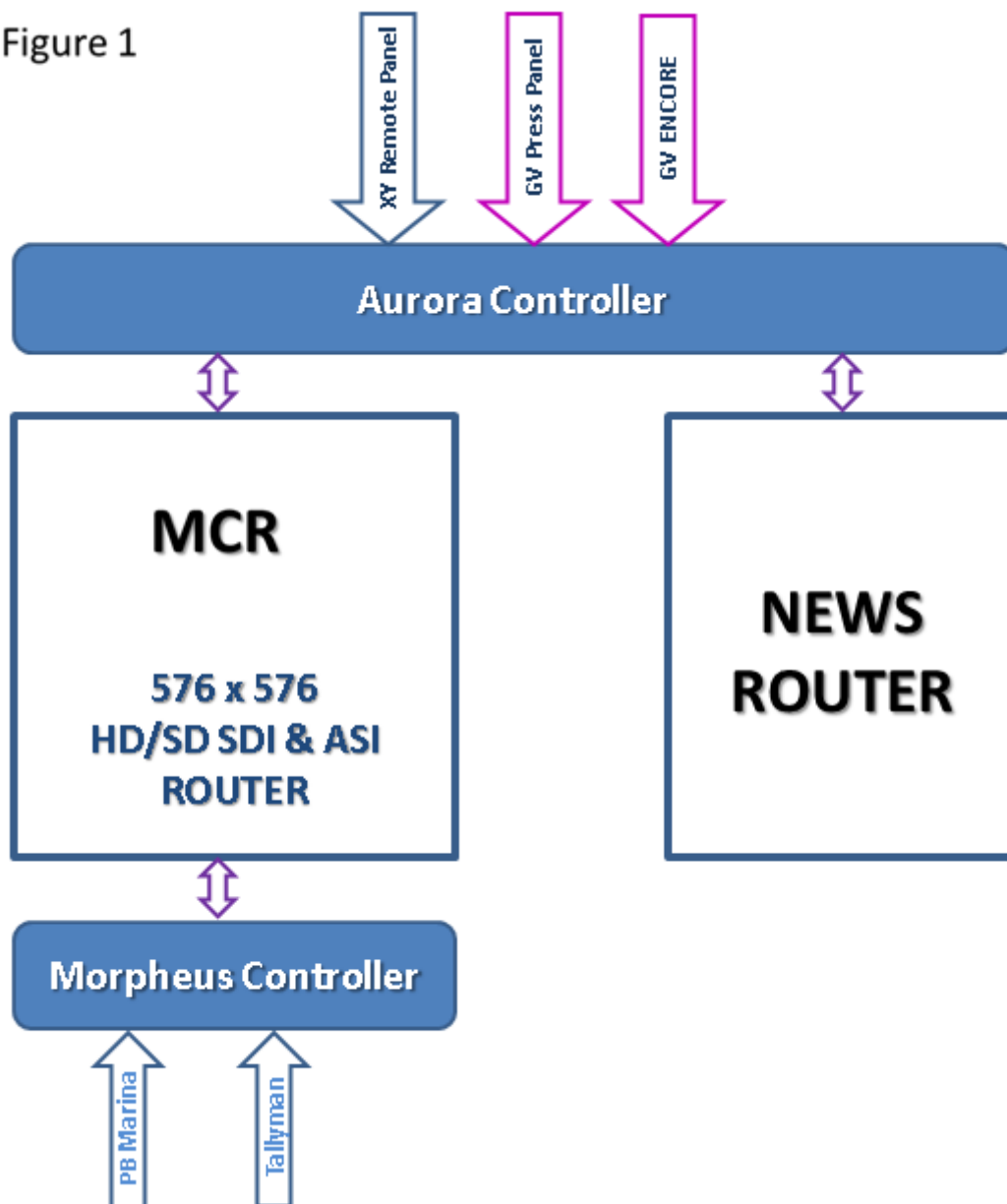
- Replacement of the current MCR Video Router and it's control peripheries in SABC Head Office in Auckland Park.
- Installation and configuration of a fully redundant de-centralised Video-Over-IP routing solution.
- Installation and configuration of the proposed solution to any remote sites deemed by the SABC within the Auckland park campus.
- Integration of the solution with legacy SDI equipment.
- A detailed proposition of how the solution may be up-scaled in future.
- Successful installation and commissioning, with a detailed plan of how to decant and integrate current facilities on legacy router.
- Configuration of the Video-Over-IP routing solution to accept control from:
    - Hardware Remote Panel
    - Control over IP networks
    - Pepple Beach Broadcast Automation (Marina)
    - Miranda Press Panel
    - Grass Valley Encore
    - EVS System
    - Avid
    - Dalet
- Staff adequately trained: Training for technical staff, operational staff, super user, and train the trainer training.
- A Master Supply Agreement and a Maintenance and Support contract concluded.
- Change management processes and implementation.
- Collaboration with SABC Engineering team(s) during installations.

4. SITUATIONAL ANALYSIS

4.1. Description of the current router setup

The current 576x576 Snell Cygnus HD/SD SDI and ASI Router have two configured router controllers. Both controllers offer control capabilities to peripherals connected to them.
The peripherals are devices located in MCR, FCC, Transfer Facilities and TV Studios (Henley Studios and News Studios). The figure below captures the overview of the current setup.

Figure 1

4.2 Envisaged SABC environment

The Video-Over-IP standard(s), brings a new approach to broadcast engineering where video and audio resources can be interconnected and routed via an IP network infrastructure. The SABC seek to exploit the advantages that come with the standard(s). The imagined environment includes the

unified method of routing, sharing or using video and audio anywhere within the Auckland Park campus and or even across regions networks as time goes on. The imagined scalable systems, future proofs further expansions aligning with business growth demands.

The envisaged future environment seeks technologies that will enable SABC to realise the above imagination, where audio, video and control is available for use anywhere on the interconnected IP networks.

5. SCOPE OF SERVICES AND TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR RFI REQUIREMENTS

5.1. Overview of System Requirement

5.1.1. Based on the above mentioned information about the SABC infrastructure, the SABC requires information on the following systems:

- Video-Over-IP Routing Solution
- Hybrid solution to cater for legacy equipment

5.1.2. The information must comprise of the following for each solution:

- Benefits of acquiring each solution
- The risks of acquiring each solution
- The training required: such as train the trainer, super user and operational user training
- Implementation costs, change management- Roll out including provinces
- Solution costing on each solution
- Project approach and proposed methodology
- Maintenance and support costs

5.2. Specific Requirements:

- De-centralised routing solution over IP preferable using SMPTE ST 2110.
- Full scale redundancy.
- Scalable Architecture – Upgradeable, scalable / highest Ethernet compatibly.
- IP conversion for SDI equipment and vice-versa.
- Flexible Control – control, setup & management.
- Up-Down and Cross conversion abilities.
- Frame accurate clean switching abilities (just like a legacy baseband router)
- Multiviewer outputs (scalable on their own)
- Software Defined Network – low latency IP based solution compared to baseband video.
- Training (Technical and Operational).
- Technical support from the manufacture.

5.2.1. Indicate if the solution will be able to integrate and be control with the following:

- Pebble Beach Broadcast Automation (Marina)
- Dalet
- Grass Valley Press Panel

5. BRIEFING SESSION

No briefing session will be held (Bidders are required to send their questions to the email address provided)

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

The evaluation criteria will be used in next phase of the tender process.

Evaluation of responses will be done in the following major categories, each consisting of several minor categories and is based on predetermined weightings as follows:

- **BBBEE Information** - (provide BBBEE certificate or a letter from the auditor confirming your annual turnover)
- **Price Information** - (Detailed Cost Breakdown to be submitted)
- **Technical Information** – (Detailed Technical Solution to be provided)
- **Project Plan (Indicative timelines to execute the project)**

9. NOTICE TO INTERESTED TENDERERS

9.1 REQUEST FOR INFORMATION DOCUMENTS

9.1.1 The Request for Information shall be used in preparation for the proposal; the SABC assumes no responsibility for errors or misinterpretation resulting from the use of an incomplete Request for Information.

9.1.2 The SABC will avail/send copies of the Request for Information on the above terms, does so only for the purpose of obtaining information for the project and does not confer permission for any other use.

9.2 INTERPRETATIONS

9.2.1 All questions about the meaning or intent of the Request for Information shall be submitted in writing to the SABC on the set closing date.

9.2.2 Interested tenderers should promptly notify the SABC of any ambiguity, inconsistency, or errors which they may discover upon examination of the Request for Information.

10. SUBMISSION PROCEDURES

RFI must be hand delivered at the SABC Auckland Park reception, Radio Park, Johannesburg. The closing date is at 15 March 2019 at 12h00.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION

Enquiries in respect of this RFI should be addressed to:
Israel Vele
Supply chain Management Division,
Radio Park Office Block
Henley Road
Auckland Park
Johannesburg
E-mail: velei@sabc.co.za
Contact no: 011 714 2091

<u>END OF RFI DOCUMENT</u>