

1. Introduction

The Office of Public Works is seeking tender applications from qualified and experienced suppliers for the supply of integrated discussion microphone and simultaneous interpretation systems, including infrared transmitters & receivers and soundproof booths for interpreters.

2. System description

All equipment must be compatible with a modular, IP-based conferencing system known for its scalability and security.

Systems should connect using cat 6 or similar type cabling.

Two systems are required; one system will be a fixed install in the Dublin Castle Hibernia Conference Centre; the second system will be mobile and deployed in various locations.

The mobile system must be fully flight cased.

Systems must be compatible in some respects with the existing Bosch DCN Next Generation equipment and associated systems currently owned and operated by the OPW. The necessary compatibilities are noted below where relevant.

2.1 Installed System

2.1.1 Delegate Devices

A total of 80 delegate units and microphones are required; each unit should allow two delegates to connect to the interpreted audio feed with independent language selection available to both users. The delegate units should be programmable as a chairman unit if required.

Each delegate unit should have a touchscreen display for language selection.

10 x 25m extension system cables and 74 x 2m system cables.

Microphones should be approximately 300mm in length and should incorporate a speaker live indicator.

It is not envisaged at this point that the units will be used for voting; however, each unit should be supplied with the necessary licensing to allow language distribution, microphone identification, and voting. The licence should be permanent.

2.1.2 Interpreter Devices

Please supply the following:

36 x Interpreter desks compatible with digital audio distribution systems, supporting relay interpretation, floor and booth audio routing and featuring ergonomic design. The units will typically be deployed three per booth.

40 x professional grade on ear headphones suitable for interpreters, with wide frequency response suitable for speech intelligibility, hygienic design with high gloss plastic ear cups, 40mm drivers, and weight of 98 grams or less.

All necessary processing and cabling to allow distribution of up to 32 languages to a compatible IR distribution system.

4 x 25m system extension cables from the central processing units to the microphone positions should be supplied, along with 32 x 2m system cables.

2.1.3 IR Distribution

Please supply the following:

1 x IP enabled IR transmitter to drive the IR radiators.

16 language licences.

Transmission system must be compatible with the existing stock of Bosch LBB4540/32 receivers and Integrus High Powered IR radiators.

2.1.4 System Components

Please supply:

All necessary system servers, network switches, audio processors and power supplies to allow the system to function. Please supply a control laptop with the system. Please supply a redundant system server.

Digital to Analog audio interfaces, with 16 x XLR inputs and 16 x XLR outputs to allow the output of interpreted languages, floor language and any other audio signals within the systems to audio press boxes and other destinations. Please supply any network switches and interfaces to allow this distribution.

The control devices for delegate and interpreter microphones, audio distribution, network switchers, IR transmission, and any other necessary devices should be built into an existing rack.

The system should accommodate at least 12 physical port outputs to the microphone units.

A portable UPS should be supplied with the systems which allows 10 minutes of run time in case of loss of mains power.

Please supply all necessary cabling to bring the system to functionality, including the cat 6 type cabling noted above, and internal rack cabling.

The system must be fully compliant with ISO 20109.

2.1.5 Commissioning and training

Please allow for building the system into the conference centre, integrating and commissioning the system, and providing training to the centre's technicians.

Please see Appendix 1 for breakdown of system components. Please include any ancillary devices you believe are necessary to bring the system to the necessary functionality.

2.2 Mobile System

2.2.1 Delegate Devices

A total of 80 delegate units and microphones are required; each unit should allow two delegates to connect to the interpreted audio feed with independent language selection available to both users. The delegate units should be programmable as a chairman unit if required.

Each delegate unit should have a touchscreen display for language selection.

10 x 25m system extension cables and 72 x 2m system cables.

Microphones should be approximately 300mm in length and should incorporate a speaker live indicator.

It is not envisaged at this point that the units will be used for voting; however, each unit should be supplied with the necessary licensing to allow language distribution, microphone identification, and voting. The licence should be permanent.

The system should be fully flight cased.

2.2.2 Interpreter Devices

Please supply the following:

36 x Interpreter desks compatible with digital audio distribution systems, supporting relay interpretation, floor and booth audio routing and ergonomic design. The units will typically be deployed three per booth.

40 x professional grade on ear headphones suitable for interpreters, with wide frequency response suitable for speech intelligibility, hygienic design with high gloss plastic ear cups, 40mm drivers, weight of 98 grams or less.

All necessary processing and cabling to allow distribution of up to 32 languages to a compatible IR distribution system.

4 x 25m system extension cables from the central processing units to the microphone positions should be supplied, along with 32 x 2m system cables.

The systems must be fully flight cased and capable of mobile deployment. A custom-built case for the interpreter units should be which fits 5 units per case.

2.2.3 IR Distribution

Please supply the following:

4 x high powered IR radiators, with tripod stands and mounting brackets.

1 x IP enabled IR transmitter to drive the IR radiators

168 x rechargeable IR receivers with multi-channel selection and volume control.

3 x charging packs to accommodate all supplied receivers.

16 x language licences.

Transmission system must be compatible with the existing stock of Bosch LBB4540/32 IR receivers.

Transport cases for all units.

2.2.4 System Components

All necessary system servers, network switches, audio processors and power supplies to allow the system to function as a single whole should be supplied. Please supply a control laptop with the system. Please supply a redundant system server.

Digital to Analog audio interfaces, with 16 XLR inputs and 16 XLR outputs should be supplied to allow the output of interpreted languages, floor language and any other audio signals within the systems to audio press boxes and other destinations. Please supply any network switches and interfaces to allow this distribution.

The control devices for delegate and interpreter microphones, audio distribution, network switchers, IR transmission, and any other necessary devices should be built into a mobile rack.

The system should accommodate at least 12 physical port outputs.

A portable UPS should be supplied with the systems which allows 10 minutes of run time in case of loss of mains power.

Please supply all necessary cabling to bring the system to functionality, including the cat 6 type cabling noted above and internal rack cabling.

The system must be fully compliant with ISO 20109.

2.2.6 Commissioning and training

Please allow for building system racks, commissioning the system, and providing training to the centre's technicians.

Please see Appendix 2 for breakdown of system components. Please include any ancillary devices you believe are necessary to bring the system to the necessary functionality.

2.3 Interpreter Booths

2.3.1 Booths

Please supply the following:

13 new mobile soundproof interpreter booths, each of dimensions 2.4m x 1.6m, with ventilation system and lighting. The booths must meet the standard ISO4043.

4 extension sets suitable for the above to increase the booth size to 3.2m x 1.6m.

Panels to allow two booths to be modified for universal access. These are an additional item which will be deployed as required and will not form part of the standard kits.

There is an existing stock of 11 Silent 9300 Audipack 2.4m x 1.6m booths which must be upgraded. Packs must be supplied to bring these booths to the same ISO4043 standard as the new units.

72 x coat hangers designed to integrate with the booths.

24 x CO2 monitors and clamp which will mount neatly to the window frame of the booths.

2 x Transport trolleys to allow transport of panels without their flight case.

2 x transport cases for the new 2.4m x 1.6m new booths are required. There is an existing stock of 11 suitable transport cases which will be repurposed for the remainder of the new booths

Booths should be complete with table, ventilation fans, and internal lighting.

Booths must be constructed using high-quality, sustainable materials and designed for easy assembly/disassembly.

No commissioning is required on the booths. Please quote for delivery only.

Please see Appendix 3 for breakdown of system components. Please include any ancillary devices you believe are necessary to bring the system to the necessary functionality.

2.4 Ancillary items: Delegate headphones and replacement batteries

Please supply the following:

1000 lightweight headphones suitable as delegate units, with replaceable ear pads and right angled minijack plug

1000 washable replacement solid ear pads compatible with the headphones supplied.

1000 NIMH battery packs suitable for use with Bosch LBB4540 pocket receivers.

80 x professional grade on ear headphones suitable for interpreters, with wide frequency response suitable for speech intelligibility, hygienic design with high gloss plastic ear cups, 40mm drivers, and weight of 98 grams or less.

Please see Appendix 1 for breakdown of items required.

Support

The systems will be in use continuously for high level meetings in the period July to December 2026.

During that period, it is imperative that all systems are in optimal working order.

Faults must be responded to within six hours, and faults cleared within 12 hours.

A suitable stock of replacement items must be maintained by the supplier to allow for replacement within this time frame

3. Tender Submission Requirements

Please submit your tender including the following:

1. Company Information:

- Company profile, including experience in the supply of Simultaneous interpretation and conferencing equipment
- Contact details for references.

2. Technical Proposal:

- Detailed description of the proposed solution, including all equipment to be supplied and installed.

3. Project Plan and Timeline:

- A proposed timeline for the supply of the system

4. Cost Proposal:

- A detailed breakdown of costs for delivery, equipment, installation, commissioning and training.
- Maintenance and support costs.
- Any optional items or upgrades.

5. Warranty and Support:

- Details of warranty coverage for all equipment and installation services.
- Description of ongoing support and maintenance services.

4. Tender Evaluation Criteria

Tenders will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Technical compliance with the requirements outlined in the scope of work.
- Experience and expertise of the supplier in delivering similar projects.
- Total cost, including equipment, installation, and ongoing support.
- Proposed timeline for delivery and installation.
- Sustainability will be a key evaluation criterion.
- After-sales support and warranty.