NAF.T02.2025

Tender for the

Procurement and Installation of an AI Development System at the Notarial Registers Archive associated with the Notarypedia Project

Date Published	***27 October 2025***	***8am CEST***
Deadline for Submission	***17 November 2025***	***1pm CEST***
Tender Opening	***17 November 2025***	***1:30pm CEST***

SECTION 1 – INSTRUCTIONS FOR TENDERERS

1.1 General Instructions

1.1.1 In submitting a tender, the Tenderer accepts in full and in its entirety, the content of this Tender Document, including subsequent clarifications issued by the Notarial Archives Foundation, whatever his own corresponding conditions may be, which he hereby waives. Tenderers are expected to examine carefully and comply with all instructions, forms, contract provisions, and specifications contained in this Tender Document.

No account can be taken of any reservation in the tender as regards the Tender Document; any disagreement, contradiction, alteration, or deviation shall lead to the tender offer not being considered any further.

Prospective Tenderers must submit their response to this tender as indicated in Section 1.10.

1.1.2 The subject of this tender is the supply, delivery, and installation of an AI Development System at the Notarial Registers Archive. This project is implemented by the Notarial Archives Foundation as the operator of the Notarial Registers Archive, within the National Archives of Malta and the Ministry for the Culture, Lands, and Local Government.

1.1.3 The execution period shall be 24 weeks after the signing of the Letter of Acceptance, which is inclusive of the period required for the purchase of materials.

1.1.4 This is a lump-sum contract.

1.1.5 This call for tenders is being issued under an open procedure.

1.1.6 The Tenderer will bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the tender. The Notarial Archives Foundation will in no case be responsible or liable for such costs, whatever the conduct or outcome of the procedure.

1.2 Time-table

Deadline for request for additional information from the Notarial Archives Foundation	**6 November 2025**	**1300hrs**
On-site clarification meeting	**7 November 2025**	**1000hrs**
Deadline for submission of tenders	**17 November 2025**	**1300hrs**
Tender opening session	**17 November 2025**	**1330hrs**

1.3 Lots

1.3.1 This tender is not divided into lots, and tenders must be for the whole of quantities indicated.

1.4 Variant Solutions

1.4.1 The design must be approved by the client before proceeding with the rest of the system. Any design modifications required during execution are to be brought to the attention of the Client in writing - full documentation, inclusive of cost and time implications, is to be submitted to the Client for approval.

1.5 Financing

1.5.1 The beneficiary of the financing is the Notarial Archives Foundation, and all fiscal receipts shall be addressed to the same organisation.

1.5.2 The budget allocated for this procurement must not exceed a maximum cost of *sixty five thousand Euro* (€65,000), inclusive of all applicable taxes and VAT.

1.6 Clarification Meeting

1.6.1 An on-site clarification meeting will be held on 7th November 2025 at 10am CEST at the Notarial Registers Archive, 217, St Paul Street, Valletta, to answer any queries of the prospective Tenderers. It is strongly recommended that prospective bidders attend this meeting.

1.7 Selection Criteria

1.7.1 In order to be considered eligible for the award of the contract, Tenderers must provide evidence that they meet or exceed certain minimum criteria described hereunder.

1.7.2 No evidence of financial and economic standing is required.

1.7.3 The bidder must possess the requisite experience, strength, capabilities, and technical know-how as a certified system integrator capable of meeting all the requirements, as described in the tender document.

The following are the minimum bidder requirements for the bid to be successful:

- Material Authorisation Form/Letter (MAF) from the manufacturer, duly signed.
- The contractor must be a certified Service Delivery Partner for all the proposed system component manufacturers, covering the Malta region.
- The bidder must provide full design, delivery, installation, configuration, commissioning and testing of the system and all its related components.

1.8 Explanations/Clarification Notes Concerning the Tender

1.8.1 Tenderers may submit questions in writing to the Notarial Archives Foundation by sending an email to tenders@nafmalta.org until 6th November 2025 at 1pm CEST. The Notarial Archives Foundation shall reply to all Tenderers' questions and publish clarification notes accordingly on the website, up to at least 3 calendar days before the deadline for submission of tenders.

1.8.2 Prospective Tenderers are required to register their respective contact details at tenders@nafmalta.org so that any clarifications/communications pertaining to this tender procedure will be communicated to them in due time as per Tender Document. The Notarial Archives Foundation shall not be held responsible for any misdemeanour if this condition is not adhered to.

1.8.3 The Notarial Archives Foundation may, at its own discretion, as necessary, extend the deadline for submission of tenders to give Tenderers sufficient time to take clarification notes into account when preparing their tenders.

1.9 Currencies of Tender and Payments

1.9.1 The currency of the tender is the Euro (€). The bids must be expressed in Euro (€).

1.9.2 Payments will be made in instalments, subject to the following milestones:

- Procurement and delivery: Interim payments for each hardware consignment to the NRA, including a receipt (proof of payment).

- Installation and acceptance: Upon completion of installation, configuration, and successful testing of the system to the satisfaction of the NRA.

1.10 Presentation & Submission of Tenders

1.10.1 The tender must comprise the following duly completed documents, inserted in a single, sealed envelope, marked as NAF.T02.2025.

(i) Proof of technical capacity (refer to 1.7.3).

(ii) Tender Form (refer to Section 3).

(iii) Tenderer's technical offer in response to specifications outlined in Section 2. Include all relevant literature.

(iv) A financial bid calculated on a basis of Delivery Duty Paid (DPP) for the works/supplies tendered (refer to Section 4).

1.10.2 The Tenderers' submission must be typed in or handwritten in indelible ink. Any pages on which entries or corrections to this submission have been made must be initialled by the person or persons signing the tender. All pages must be numbered consecutively by hand, machine or in any other way acceptable to the Notarial Archives Foundation.

1.10.3 All tenders must be received by not later than 17th November 2025 at 1pm CEST and delivered at:

Notarial Registers Archive

217, St Paul Street

Valletta VLT 1217

Malta

The tenders should be delivered by hand or by courier service. Tenders submitted by any other means (e.g. email) will not be considered.

1.10.4 No liability can be accepted for late delivery of tenders. Late tenders will be rejected and will not be evaluated.

1.11 Alterations and Withdrawal of Tenders

1.11.1 Tenderers may alter or withdraw their tenders by written notification to the Notarial Archives Foundation prior to the closing of the deadline. No tender may be altered after the deadline for submission.

1.11.2 Any notification of alteration or withdrawal must be prepared, sealed, marked and submitted in accordance with Clause 1.10, and the envelope must also be marked with "alteration" or "withdrawal".

1.12 Opening of Tenders

1.12.1 Tenders will be opened by the Notarial Archives Foundation during a public session on 17th November 2025 at 1:30pm CEST at the Notarial Registers Archives, 217, St Paul Street, Valletta. A 'Summary of Tenders Received' will be published on the Notarial Archives Foundation website https://nafmalta.org/discover/opportunities/tenders/.

1.12.2 During the opening of the tenders, the Tenderers' names, the tender prices, and any other information the Notarial Archives Foundation may consider appropriate, will be made available.

1.12.3 Envelopes marked "withdrawal" will be read out first and returned to the Tenderer.

1.12.4 Reductions or alterations to tender prices made by Tenderers after submission will not be taken into consideration during the analysis and evaluation of tenders.

1.13 Secrecy of the Procedure

1.13.1 After the opening of the tenders, no information about the examination, clarification, evaluation, or comparison of tenders or decisions about the contract award may be disclosed before the notification of award.

1.13.2 Information concerning checking, explanation, opinions, and comparison of tenders and recommendations concerning the award of contract, may not be disclosed to Tenderers or any other person not officially involved in the process unless otherwise permitted or required by law.

1.13.3 Any attempt by a Tenderer to approach any member of the Evaluation Committee or the Notarial Archives Foundation directly during the evaluation period will be considered legitimate grounds for disqualifying his tender.

1.14 Tender Evaluation Process

1.14.1 The Evaluation Committee will check the administrative and technical compliance of each tender. Tenders which are administratively and technically compliant will be evaluated financially.

1.15 Criteria for Award

1.15.1 The sole award criterion will be the price. The contract will be awarded to the cheapest priced tender satisfying the administrative and technical criteria.

1.16 Right of the Notarial Archives Foundation to Accept or Reject any Tender

1.16.1 The Notarial Archives Foundation reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and/or to cancel the whole tender procedure and reject all tenders. The Notarial Archives Foundation reserves the right to initiate a new invitation to tender.

1.16.2 The Notarial Archives Foundation reserves the right to conclude the contract with the successful Tenderer within the limits of the funds available. It can decide to ask for a discount from the cheapest compliant Tenderer.

1.16.3 Cancellation may occur where:

a) the tender procedure has been unsuccessful, namely where no qualitatively or financially worthwhile tender has been received or there has been no response at all;

b) the economic or technical parameters of the project have been fundamentally altered;

c) exceptional circumstances or force majeure render normal performance of the project impossible;

d) all technically compliant tenders exceed the financial resources available;

e) there have been irregularities in the procedure, in particular where these have prevented fair competition.

In no circumstances will the Notarial Archives Foundation be liable for damages, whatever their nature (in particular damages for loss of profits) or relationship to the cancellation of a tender, even if the Notarial Archives Foundation has been advised of the possibility of damages. The publication of a contract notice does not commit the Notarial Archives Foundation to implement the programme or project announced.

1.17 Appeals

1.17.1 The Notarial Archives Foundation shall publish a notification on its website https://nafmalta.org/discover/opportunities/tenders/ indicating the awarded contract, the financial aspect of the award and the name of the successful Tenderer. The Notarial Archives Foundation shall, by electronic means, inform the Tenderers concerned of the publication of the award. The Notarial Archives Foundation will be precluded from concluding the contract during the period allowed for the submission of appeals.

The award process shall be completely suspended if an appeal is eventually submitted.

1.17.2 Any Tenderer who is aggrieved by the award indicated by the Notarial Archives Foundation may, within five working days from the publication of the notice, file a letter of objection, together with a deposit, with the Notarial Archives Foundation, clearly setting forth any reason for his complaint. A deposit of four hundred euro (€400) must be made.

1.17.3 After the expiry of the period allowed for the submission of a complaint, the Notarial Archives Foundation shall deliver the letter of complaint, the deposit receipt and all documents relating to the contract in question to a Review Board who shall examine the matter in a fair and equitable manner. In its deliberation the Review Board shall have the authority to obtain, in any manner it deems appropriate any other information not already provided by the Notarial Archives Foundation. The Review Board shall determine the complaint by upholding or rejecting it. The written decision of the Review Board shall be published on the Notarial Archives Foundation website https://nafmalta.org/discover/opportunities/tenders/.

1.18 The Letter of Acceptance

1.18.1 After the lapse of the appeals period and pending that no objections have been received and/or upheld, the successful Tenderer may be invited to clarify certain contractual questions raised therein. Such clarification will be confined to issues that had no direct bearing on the choice of the successful tender. The outcome of any such clarifications will be set out in a Memorandum of Understanding, to be signed by both parties and incorporated into the letter of acceptance.

1.18.2 The Notarial Archives Foundation will send the successful tenderer a Letter of Acceptance, which the tenderer is to acknowledge receipt of within 7 calendar days. The Letter of Acceptance is to inform the tenderer of the final decision and to advise the next steps forward, which will include the drafting and signing of a Contract Agreement.

1.18.3 Within a week from the successful tenderer's acknowledgement of the Letter of Acceptance, the Notarial Archives Foundation shall send the same tenderer a Contract Agreement with instructions on its completion. If the selected tenderer fails to sign and return the Contract Agreement and other required documentation within the prescribed 10 working days, the Notarial Archives Foundation may consider the acceptance of the tender to be cancelled.

The Tenderer whose tender has been evaluated as second cheapest/second most economically advantageous may be recommended for award, and so on and so forth.

1.18.4 Only the signed Contract Agreement will constitute an official commitment on the part of the Notarial Archives Foundation, and activities may not begin until the Contract has been signed both by the Notarial Archives Foundation and the successful Tenderer.

1.19 Period of Delivery

1.19.1 The period of delivery indicated in Clause 1.1.3 of the Instructions to Tenderers commences from the Contract Agreement date or as instructed in the Contract Agreement

1.20 Modifications

1.20.1 Not applicable

1.20.2 The percentage allowed for additional supplies and services other than those referred to in the Bill of Quantities (BOexQ) is capped at 30% of contract amount.

1.21 Performance Guarantee

A Performance Guarantee of 4% shall be held against payment to the Notarial Archives Foundation for any loss resulting from the Tenderer's failure to perform their contractual obligations fully and properly to the Foundation. The Foundation will not endorse the contract agreement until the performance guarantee is submitted by the successful Tenderer.

1.22 Penalties

For the late execution of works for which the Contractor shall be responsible, the Foundation shall charge a rate of Euro 50 per day of the delay, with the maximum aggregate amount of such compensation not exceeding 20% of the total contract value.

SECTION 2 – TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Note: Where in this tender document a standard, brand or label is quoted, it is to be understood that the Contracting Authority will accept equivalent standards, brands, or labels. However, it will be the responsibility of the respective bidders to prove at tendering stage that the standards, brands or labels they quoted are equivalent to the standards requested by the Contracting Authority.

2.1 Objective

The NotaryPedia Project is an ambitious and far-reaching project using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to make our past more accessible. It is intended to revolutionise the way we experience Maltese history and culture, by building a complete knowledge representation from the thousands of manuscripts found in the Notarial Registers Archive. This platform is designed to make centuries of handwritten notarial deeds digitally accessible and semantically searchable.

The foundation of NotaryPedia shall be the NotaryPedia Knowledge Graph (NKG), which is a structured, dynamic representation of extracted data from historic notarial registers. Through the use of AI, large language models, and ontologies, the platform aims to:

- Automate the transcription and interpretation of handwritten Latin texts;
- Extract entities and relationships (e.g., persons, deeds, locations, dates);
- Provide a searchable interface for researchers, archivists, and the general public;
- Contribute to projects in heritage, legal history, and digital humanities.

More information about the NotaryPedia project can be found at: http://notarypedia.mt/

The objective of this tender is to equip the NotaryPedia development team with a first core and state-of-art AI development system, consisting of an AI server for advanced AI computational tasks, plus a network switch and a network firewall for a reliable, efficient, and secured multi-user operativity. The whole system should be future-proof and expandable.

2.2 Summary of the required AI Development System components

The proposal for an AI development system must include three (3) main system components:

1. One (1) AI server;
2. One (1) Network Switch;
3. One (1) Network Firewall.

All the components have to be fully compatible with each other and expandable, therefore a full design is also required from the bidder, as per Selection Criteria 1.7 section above.

Detailed specifications of each system component are found within the specifications section 2.4, further below.

2.3 Technical requirements

AI DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM			
Spec.	**Category**	**Description**	**Contracting Authority Requirement**
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS			
1	Type of items	1.1 All the equipment must be brand new, inclusive of original packaging and documentation. Refurbished or used items are not accepted. 1.2 The items shall be delivered assembled, and must include all the necessary cables, raisers, supports, and other accessories needed to install them within a server rack cabinet, and to operate them in an efficient and tidy way.	Mandatory
2	System components' requirements	The AI Development System must include three (3) main system components: 2.1 One (1) AI server; 2.2 One (1) Network Switch; 2.3 One (1) Network Firewall. All the components have to be expandable and fully compatible with each other, therefore a full design is also required from the bidder, as per Selection Criteria 1.7 section above. The bidder must provide full design, delivery, installation, configuration, commissioning and testing of the system and all its related components. The design must be approved by the client before proceeding with the rest of the system. Any design modifications required during execution are to be brought to the attention of the Client in writing - full documentation, inclusive of cost and time implications, is to be submitted to the Client for approval. Detailed technical specifications of each system component are found further below.	Mandatory
3	Warranty	Hardware and software components forming part of the system should include at least **three (3) years** warranty, covering parts and labour, providing 24x7 on-site support coverage with advanced replacement and next business day hardware warranty, and including firmware and feature updates and upgrades. The tenderer shall provide a written declaration that the products supplied will be warrantied in conformity with the contract specifications and service requirements.	Mandatory

AI Server **Quantity: one (1)**			
Spec.	**Category**	**Description**	**Contracting Authority Requirement**
DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS			
4	Form factor	2U or 3U chassis, rack mountable, including rack rails and cable management accessories.	Mandatory
5	CPUs	The server must include at least **two (2) CPUs**, satisfying the following minimum specifications: 5.1 AMD Epyc 9115 or better; 5.2 Frequency: 2.6GHz or higher; 5.3 Cores: 16-core or more.	Mandatory
6	GPUs	The server shall have GPU support options for at least: 6.1 Four (4) double-wide GPUs (NVIDIA L40/L40S/H100 NVL/RTX PRO 6000 Blackwell), or more; 6.2 Eight (8) single-wide GPUs (NVIDIA L4), or more. The server must include at least **one (1) GPU** having the following specifications or better: 6.3 NVIDIA RTX PRO 6000 Blackwell Server Edition 96GB PCIe Accelerator, or better; 6.4 Memory capacity: 96GB GDDR7 or better; 6.5 Memory bandwidth: 1.6TB/s or higher; 6.6 Performance: 117 TF FP32 or better; 6.7 Interface: PCIe Gen5 or better. All necessary cables, riser cards, accelerators, and accessories required for the installation and operation, must be included.	Mandatory
7.1	RAM	The server must satisfy the following minimum memory specifications: 7.1 Support Twenti-four (24) DIMM slots or more; 7.2 Scalable up to 6.0 TB using DDR5 RDIMM operating at 6400 MT/s and 12 channels per CPU up to 4800MT/s, or better. The server must include at least **four (4) RAM memories**, satisfying the following minimum specifications: 7.3 Type: DDR5 Registered RDIMM or better; 7.4 Capacity single memory: 64GB or higher; 7.5 Total aggregated capacity: 256GB or higher; 7.6 DIMM rank & speed: Dual rank 6400 MT/s or better.	Mandatory

8	Bus slots	The server must support a minimum of eight (8) PCI express 5.0 x16 slots, or better.	Mandatory
9	Storage	The server shall have drive cages supporting at least: 9.1 Twelve (12) LFF SAS/SATA bays + four (4) LFF SAS/SATA bays + four (4) LFF SAS/SATA bays, or more; 9.2 Total aggregated bays: 20 or more. The server must include at least **two (2) drives** satisfying the following minimum specifications: 9.3 Capacity single drive: 1.6TB or higher; 9.4 Total aggregated capacity: 3.2TB or higher; 9.5 Type: NVMe; 9.6 Requirement: Mixed Use SFF Self-encrypting SSD.	Mandatory
10	Boot Storage	The server must also include at least **two (2) drives** as a boot optimised storage, satisfying the following minimum specifications: 10.1 Capacity single drive: 480GB or higher; 10.2 Total aggregated capacity 960GB or higher; 10.3 Type: M.2 NVMe; 10.4 Requirement: Hot Plug Boot Optimized Storage in RAID 1.	Mandatory
11	Storage controller	The server should have a controller which supports Mixed Mode combining RAID and HBA mode operation simultaneously. The Embedded / PCIe based x16 RAID controller must satisfy the following minimum requirements: 11.1 8GB Flash backed write cache, or better; 11.2 supporting RAID 0, 1, 5, 6, 10, 50, 60; 11.3 supporting mix-and-match SAS, SATA, and NVMe drives to the same controller; 11.4 supporting 6G SATA, 12G SAS, 16G NVMe. The above mentioned controller must support the following minimum requirements: 11.5 Expand Logical Drive; 11.6 Instant Secure Erase; 11.7 Migrate RAID/Stripe Size; 11.8 Modifying Cache Write Policy; 11.9 Move Logical Drive; 11.10 Re-enable Failed Logical Drive; 11.11 Load balancing; 11.12 Configurable stripe size up to 1 MB; 11.13 Check consistency for background data integrity; 11.14 Patrol read for media scanning and repairing; 11.15 Rebuild.	Mandatory

12.1	Network adaptors	The server must support as a minimum the following networking cards: 12.1.1 1Gb 4-port network adaptors; 12.1.2 10Gb 2-port Ethernet adaptor; 12.1.3 10GBaseT 2-port Ethernet adaptor; 12.1.4 10/25Gb 2-port SFP28 Ethernet adaptor; 12.1.5 10/25Gb 4-port SFP28 Ethernet adaptor; 12.1.6 100Gb 2-port SFP112 Adapter; 12.1.7 100Gb 2-port QSFP28 Ethernet; 12.1.8 100Gb 2-port QSFP56 Ethernet; 12.1.9 200Gb QSFP56 Ethernet; 12.1.10 Infiniband Options: 200Gb Single or Dual port Adapter or or 400Gb Single port Adapter; 12.1.11 DPU Options : 200Gb Dual port or 400Gb Single port. The server must include at least **one (1) network adaptor**, compatible with the other adapters required in Spec n. 10.1, and satisfying the following minimum specifications: 12.1.12 BCM57416 Ethernet 10Gb 2-port BASE-T OCP3 Adapter, or better. The server must also include at least **two (2) network adaptors**, compatible with the other adapters required in Spec n. 10.1, and satisfying the following minimum specifications: 12.1.13 10Gb SFP+SR Transceiver, or better.	Mandatory
13	Interfaces	The server must feature as a minimum the following interfaces: 13.1 Five (5) USB 3.2 Gen1 ports; 13.2 Front: 1 display port and management port; 13.3 Rear: VGA and optional serial port, 1GbE Dedicated management port.	Mandatory
14	Power supply and cooling	The server must support hot plug redundant (N+1) low halogen power supplies with minimum 96% efficiency. The server must include at least: 14.1 **Two (2) power supplies** 1000W Titanium Hot Plug or better; 14.2 **Two (2) jumper cords** C14 – C13 WW 250V 16Amp 2.5m; 14.3 Efficient Hot-plug **fans.**	Mandatory

15	Industry standard compliance	The server should satisfy the following minimum compliance standards: 15.1 ACPI 6.5 Compliant; 15.2 Advanced Encryption Standard (AES); 15.3 Triple Data Encryption Standard (3DES); 15.4 Active Directory v1.0; 15.5 ASHRAE A3/A4; 15.6 DMTF Systems Management Architecture for Server; 15.7 Hardware Command Line Protocol (SMASH CLP); 15.8 Energy Star; 15.9 IPMI 2.0; 15.10 Microsoft® Logo certifications; 15.11 PCIe 5.0 Compliant; 15.12 PXE Support; 15.13 Redfish API; 15.14 Secure Digital 4.0; 15.15 SMBIOS 3.7; 15.16 SNMP v3; 15.17 TLS 1.3; 15.18 TPM 2.0 Support; 15.19 UEFI Class 3; 15.20 USB 3.0 Compliant.	Mandatory
16.1	Operating Systems and Virtualization support	The server must support as a minimum the following operating systems and virtualization softwares: 16.11 Microsoft® Windows Server® 2019, 2022; 16.12 Red Hat® Enterprise Linux, 64-bit Includes KVM 8.6, 8.7 Beta, 9.0, and 9.1 Beta; 16.13 SUSE® Linux Enterprise Server, 64-bit, includes KVM and Xen 15 SP4; 16.14 VMware 8.0 and 7.0 U3. The supplied system shall be delivered with **Ubuntu Server 24.04 LTS (64-bit) installed**, or with another operating system of equivalent capability if agreed in writing with the Client. The installed system must be initially configured and remain fully compatible with the operating systems and virtualization softwares listed above.	Mandatory
17	System security	The server should satisfy the following minimum security requirements: 17.1 Enhanced Server Data Security: Encryption and key management, UEFI-managed encryption, and self-encrypting drives (SED) for enhanced data-at-rest protection; 17.2 Sanitize Data with One-Button Erase: Must be NIST SP 800-88 compliant; 17.3 Must be FIPS 140-3, NIST SP 800-53, NIST SP 800-171, and NIST SP 800-88 Compliant; 17.4 Must provide an intuitive cloud operating experience,	Mandatory

		ensuring streamlined and highly secure operations from the edge to the cloud; 17.5 Physical Security Options: System maintenance switch, USB security, bezel lock, and chassis intrusion detection switch; 17.6 Servers must be built using a trusted supply chain to undergo rigorous inspections and checkpoints, to detect and mitigate malicious microcode and counterfeit parts throughout the server build and lifecycle; 17.7 Server must be offered with Trusted Platform Module (TPM) 2.0, Embedded TPM 2; 17.8 UEFI Secure Boot and Secure Start support; 17.9 Tamper-free updates - components digitally signed and verified; 17.10 Immutable Silicon Root of Trust; 17.11 Ability to rollback firmware; 17.12 Secure Recovery - recover critical firmware to known good state on detection of compromised firmware; 17.13 IPMI 2.0 digitally signed firmware; 17.14 Secure Digital 2.0 or more recent version; 17.15 UEFI Secure Boot and UEFI Secure Start; 17.16 FIPS 140-2 validation; 17.17 Commercial National Security Algorithms (CNSA) support; 17.18 Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) and Triple Data Encryption Standard (3DES); 17.19 SNMP v3; 17.20 TLS 1.2 or more recent; 17.21 Secure erase of NAND/User data	
18	Embedded Remote Management	The server should satisfy the following minimum remote management requirements: 18.1 System remote management should support browser based graphical remote console along with Virtual Power button, remote boot using USB/CD/DVD Drive. It should be capable of offering upgrade of software and patches from a remote client using Media/image/folder; It should support server power capping and historical reporting and should have support for multifactor authentication; 18.2 Server should have dedicated 1Gbps remote management port; 18.3 Server should support agentless management using the out-of-band remote management port; 18.4 The server should support monitoring and recording changes in the server hardware and system configuration. It assists in diagnosing problems and delivering rapid resolution when system failures occur; 18.5 Two factor Authentication; 18.6 Local or Directory-based user accounts with Role based access control; 18.7 Remote console sharing up to 6 users simultaneously during pre-OS and OS runtime operation, Console replay - Console	Mandatory

		Replay captures and stores for replay the console video during a server's last major fault or boot sequence. Microsoft Terminal Services Integration, 128 bit SSL encryption and Secure Shell Version 2 support.Should provide support for AES on browser.Should provide remote firmware update functionality; 18.8 Should support RESTful API integration	
19	Server Management	The server management software should satisfy the following minimum requirements: 19.1 Software should support dashboard view to quickly scan the managed resources to assess the overall health of the data center. It should provide an at-a-glance visual health summary of the resources the user is authorized to view; 19.2 The Dashboard minimum should display a health summary of the following: Server Profiles, Server Hardware, Appliance alerts; 19.3 The Systems Management software should provide Role-based access control; 19.4 Management software should support integration with popular virtualization platform management software like Vmware vCenter & vRealize Operations, and Microsoft System Center & Admin Center; 19.5 Should help provide proactive notification of actual or impending component failure alerts on critical components like CPU, Memory and HDD; 19.6 Should have dashboard for firmware baselines while performing minimum required firmware checks and highlighting out-of-compliance devices for updates with the selected firmware baseline; 19.7 The Server Management Software should be of the same brand as the server supplier; 19.8 To include 3-year Server Management software subscription and support.	Mandatory
20	Cloud monitoring and management	The server should satisfy the following cloud operating requirements: 20.1 Delivers cloud operational agility by unifying compute operations as a service across the compute lifecycle from edge-to-cloud; 20.2 Manages and controls servers regardless of physical location; 20.3 Subscription-based entitlement. The server should include a Server Lifecycle Management solution, satisfying the following requirements: 20.4 Seamless firmware upgrades with Intelligent delta-only based updates; 20.5 Group-based firmware management that can be scheduled or on-demand;	Mandatory

		20.6 Serial and parallel firmware updates with "Stop on failure" option; 20.7 Group based policy for configurations, OS installs, BIOS settings; 20.8 OS Image deployment; 20.9 Rest API Support. The server should also satisfy the following requirements: 20.10 Supportability: a. Automatic creation of support cases for critical serviceable events; b. Notification of critical hardware alerts via in-app and email notifications; c. On-demand firmware compliance reporting; d. Remote console using a web browser with HTML5 support; 20.11 Identity & Access Management: a. Unified Identity & Access Management; b. Role-based Access Control (RBAC); c. Single Sign-on (SSO); d. Resource-level restriction policies (RRP). 20.12 Predictive AI insights to forecast future energy costs and carbon emissions. Threshold-based alerting; 20.13 AI-driven insights with workflow policy approvals; 20.14 Software must support multi-tenancy; 20.15 Software must offer map-based visibility with an intuitive view of server health via global map; 20.16 Multi-vendor server monitoring; 20.17 To include a 3-year subscription for SaaS Cloud enabled management.	

		Network Switch **Quantity: one (1)**	
Spec.	**Category**	**Description**	**Contracting Authority Requirement**
DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS			
21	Physical and generic requirements	The switch must satisfy the following minimum requirements: 21.1 1U chassis, rack mountable, including rack rails and cable management accessories; 21.2 Operating temperature range: 0°C to 45°C or larger; 21.3 Input voltage ranges: 100-127V 7.1A for 100-127 VAC, 200-240V 3.4A for 200-240 VAC; 21.4 Power consumption ranges: 100-130W (Idle), 350-400W (Max); 21.5 Heat dissipation: 1250 BTU/hr or higher.	Mandatory
22	Ports and connectivity	The switch must feature as a minimum: 22.1 Twenty-four **(24) ports** of 1 GbE/10 GbE (SFP/SFP+); 22.2 Four **(4) ports** of 40 GbE / 100 GbE (QSFP/QSFP28); 22.3 Eight **(8)** 10Gb SR Transceivers; 22.4 RJ-45 Ethernet port (incl RJ-45 serial); 22.5 USB-Type A (incl. USB-C console).	Mandatory
23	Switching capacity	The switch must satisfy the following minimum switching requirements: 23.1 Switching Capacity: 1.26 Tbps or higher; 23.2 Forwarding rate: 1,305 Mpps or higher.	Mandatory
24	Memory - switch processor	The switch must satisfy the following minimum switch processor specifications: 24.1 Quad Core ARM Cortex™ A72 @ 1.8 GHz, or better.	Mandatory
25	Layer 2 switching	The switch must satisfy at least the following Layer 2 specifications: 25.1 VLAN - Supports up to 1,024 port-based or IEEE 802.1Q-based VLANs; 25.2 VLAN Translation - Remaps VLANs during transit across a core network; 25.3 Bridge Protocol Data Unit (BPDU) tunneling - Transmits STP BPDUs transparently, allowing correct tree calculations across service providers, WANs, or MANs; 25.4 Port mirroring - Duplicates port traffic (ingress and egress) to a local or remote monitoring port; supports 4 mirroring groups, with an unlimited number of ports per group; 25.5 STP - Supports standard IEEE 802.1D STP, IEEE 802.1w Rapid Spanning Tree Protocol (RSTP) for faster convergence, and IEEE 802.1s Multiple Spanning Tree Protocol (MSTP); 25.6 Rapid Per-VLAN spanning tree plus (RPVST+) - Allows each VLAN to build a separate spanning tree to improve link bandwidth usage in network environments with multiple	Mandatory

		VLANs; 25.7 Internet Group Management Protocol (IGMP) - Controls and manages the flooding of multicast packets in a Layer 2 network; 25.8 Static VXLAN - Supports static VXLAN. Allows operators to manually connect two or more VXLAN tunnel endpoints (VTEP); 25.9 Dynamic VXLAN with BGP-EVPN - Deep segmentation for Spine/Leaf data center networks or Layer 3 campus designs with centralized gateway and symmetric Integrated Routing and Bridging (IRB) based distributed gateways VXLAN tunnels. a. Port PBR VXLAN support; b. VSX Active Forwarding support for VXLAN underlay; c. Route-map support BGP EVPN AF.	
26	Layer 3 switching	The switch must satisfy at least the following Layer 2 specifications: 26.1 Static IPv4 routing - Provides simple manually configured IPv4 routing; 26.2 Sub-Interface: a. Allows multiple IP addresses on a single routed interface; b. Supports unicast and multicast routing for both IPv4 and IPv6; c. Supports OSPF, BGP and PIM for both IPv4 and IPV6; d. Supported on RoP, L3 lags and Hydra interfaces; e. Network Load Balancing (NLB); f. PBR and Ingress Policy support. 26.3 Open shortest path first (OSPF) - Delivers faster convergence; uses link-state routing Interior Gateway Protocol (IGP), which supports ECMP, NSSA, and MD5 authentication for increased security and graceful restart for faster failure recovery. a. Configurable OSPF distance for type-5 LSA; b. Configurable default-metric for OSPF default-information; c. Loopback IP redistribution in OSPF -Allows redistribution of IPv4 and IPv6 addresses of loopback interface in OSFPv2/v3. 26.4 Border Gateway Protocol 4 (BGP-4); 26.5 Dynamic BGP Peering; 26.6 Routing Information Protocol version 2 (RIPv2); 26.7 Routing Information Protocol Next Generation (RIPng) networking; 26.8 Multiprotocol BGP (MP-BGP) with IPv6 Address Family; 26.9 Policy Based Routing (PBR); 26.10 6 in 4 Tunnels; 26.11 IP Performance Optimization; 26.12 Static IPv6 routing;	Mandatory

		26.13 Dual IP stack; 26.14 OSPFv3; 26.15 Equal-Cost Multipath (ECMP); 26.16 Generic Routing Encapsulation (GRE).	
27	Other features	The switch must satisfy at least the following feature specifications: 27.1 Support virtual Switching Technology for High availability and Resiliency; 27.2 Advanced Layer 2/3 feature set that includes BGP, OSPF, VRF, and IPv6; 27.3 Dynamic segmentation; 27.4 IP Multicast; 27.5 Jumbo Frames support up to frame size of 9K bytes; 27.6 Packet Storm Protection; 27.7 Quality of Service (QoS) - Strict priority (SP) queuing and Deficit Weighted Round Robin (DWRR); 27.8 Data Center Bridging (DCB); 27.9 Supports lossless Ethernet networking standards to eliminate packet loss due to queue overflow; 27.10 Priority Flow Control (PFC) 2 priorities per port; 27.11 Enhanced Transmission Service (ETS); 27.12 DCB Exchange Protocol (Pre-standard LLDP DCBX IEEE 1.01 version); 27.13 Flow-Control Guard - Prevents accumulation of excessive congestion with periodic flushing. Avoids packets buffering for an extended time period; 27.14 Global Buffering Statistics -Storage Solution Support : iSCSI, Lossless iSCSI, RDMA over Converged Ethernet version 2 (RoCE v1 and v2) and Non-Volatile Memory Express (NVMe over Fabrics); 27.15 REST API interface - Built-in programmable and easy to use; 27.16 Management interface control - Enables or disables each of the following interfaces depending on security preferences: console port, or reset button; 27.17 Industry-standard CLI - Reduces training time and expenses, and increases productivity in multivendor installations; 27.18 Management security - Restricts access to critical configuration commands; offers multiple privilege levels with password protection; ACLs provide SNMP access; local and remote Syslog capabilities allow logging of all access; 27.19 IP SLA - Monitor the network for degradation of various services, including monitoring voice; 27.20 SNMP v2c/v3 - Provides SNMP read and trap support of industry standard Management Information Base (MIB), and private extensions; 27.21 sFlow® (RFC 3176) - Provides scalable ASIC-based wire speed network monitoring and accounting with no impact on network performance.	Mandatory

Network Firewall Quantity: one (1)			
Spec.	**Category**	**Description**	**Contracting Authority Requirement**
DETAILED SPECIFICATIONS			
28	Physical and generic requirements	The firewall must satisfy the following minimum requirements: 28.1 1U chassis, rack mountable, including rack rails and cable management accessories; 28.2 Redundant power supplies.	Mandatory
29	Firewall performance	The firewall must satisfy the following minimum requirements: 29.1 Firewall Throughput: 30 Gbps or higher; 29.2 Firewall (IMIX) : 16 Gbps or higher; 29.3 IPS throughput: 6 Gbps or higher; 29.4 IPSec VPN : 17 Gbps or higher; 29.5 Threat Protection : 5 Gbps or higher; 29.6 SSL/TLS : 1.1 Gbps or higher; 29.7 Concurrent connections: 6,500,00 or higher; 29.8 Connections per second : 134,000 or higher.	Mandatory
30	Firewall Storage	The firewall must feature an integrated SSD with at least 120GB capacity.	Mandatory
31	Interfaces	The switch must feature as a minimum: 31.1 Ethernet connections: a. Eight (8) x 1Gbps Copper; b. One (1) SFP Fibre; c. Three (3) 10G Fibre. 31.2 Management ports: a. One (1) RJ45; b. One (1) COM RJ45 (OOB); c. One (1) COM Micro USB.	Mandatory
32	Security features	The firewall must include a minimum 3 years network security subscription covering at least the following features: 32.1 TLS Inspection (TLS 1.3 included); 32.2 Streaming deep packet inspection; 32.3 IPS: Next-gen intrusion prevention; 32.4 Active Threat Response – threat feeds; 32.5 SDWAN / Traffic Shaping; 32.6 IPSEC/SSL Site-to-site and remote access VPN; 32.7 Reporting: Extensive network and threat reporting; 32.8 Cloud Management.	Mandatory

SECTION 3 – TENDER FORM

NAF.T02.2025

Tender for the Supply and Installation of an AI Development System at the Notarial Registers Archive associated with the Notarypedia Project.

A. TENDER SUBMITTED BY:

Company Name (if applicable):	

Name:		**Surname:**	
Email:		**Phone:**	
Address:			

B. CONTACT PERSON FOR THIS TENDER:

Name:		**Surname:**	
Email:		**Phone:**	
Address:			

C. TENDERER'S DECLARATION(S)

This section is to be completed and signed by the Tenderer (including each partner in a consortium).

In response to your letter of invitation to tender for the above contract, we, the undersigned, hereby declare that:

1. We have examined, and accept in full and in its entirety, the content of this Tender Document (including subsequent Clarifications Notes issued by the Notarial Archives Foundation*)* for invitation to tender for the supply and installation of an AI Development System at the Notarial Registers Archive associated with the Notarypedia

project (NAF.T02.2025) published on 27th October 2025. We hereby accept the contents thereto in their entirety, without reservation or restriction. We also understand that any disagreement, contradiction, alteration, or deviation shall lead to our tender offer not being considered any further.

2. We confirm that the Grand Total Price of our tender (inclusive of duties, other taxes/charges, Eco-Contribution (if any) and any discounts) is according to the Grand Total on page 24 of this document.

3. This tender is valid for a period of 3 weeks from the final date for submission of tenders.

4. We are not bankrupt or under an administration appointed by the Court, or under proceedings leading to a declaration of bankruptcy. We also declare that we have not been convicted criminally or found guilty of professional misconduct. Furthermore, we are up to date in the payment of social security contributions and other taxes.

5. We accept that we shall be excluded from participation in the award of this tender if compliance certificates in respect of declarations made under Clause 4 of this declaration are not submitted by the indicated dates.

6. We will inform the Notarial Archives Foundation immediately if there is any change in the above circumstances at any stage during the implementation of the contract. We also fully recognise and accept that any false, inaccurate, or incomplete information deliberately provided in this application may result in our exclusion from this and other contracts funded by the Government of Malta and the European Communities.

7. Our tender submission has been made in conformity with the Instructions to Tenderers, and in this respect, we confirm that the following documentation has been included:

    - Proof of technical capacity
    - Tender Form (Section 3)
    - Technical Offer (in response to specifications outlined in Section 2).
    - Financial Bid (Section 4)

8. We note that the Notarial Archives Foundation is not bound to proceed with this invitation to tender and that it reserves the right to cancel the contract. It will incur no liability towards us should it do so.

Name and Surname: .....

I.D. / Passport Number: .....

Signature of Tenderer: .....

Duly authorised to sign this tender on behalf of: .....

Company/Lead Partner VAT No: (if applicable).....

Stamp of the firm/company: .....

Place and date: .....

SECTION 4 – Financial Bid

NAF.T02.2025

Tender for the Procurement and Installation of an AI Development System at the Notarial Registers Archive associated with the Notarypedia Project.

Item	Description	Amount including Taxes, other Duties & Discounts but Exclusive of VAT (€)
1	The full design, delivery, installation, configuration, commissioning and testing of the system and of all its related components including: 1. One (1) AI server; 2. One (1) Network Switch; 3. One (1) Network Firewall. Any design modifications required during execution shall be documented and submitted for approval.	
Sheet 1	*Bills of Quantities (page 25)*	
	VAT charges	
	Total including VAT	

The successful bidder shall be bound to conform in all respects with VAT legislation and regulations.
Name: .....
Signature: ..... ***(the person or persons authorised to sign on behalf of the Tenderer)***
Date: .....

Sheet 1 - Bill of Quantities

AI development system					
Component	**Description**	**Quantity**	**Unit**	**Rate (€)** *Excl. VAT, Eco Contribution (if any) and all other charges as may be applicable*	**Amount (€)** *Excl. VAT, Eco Contribution (if any) and all other charges as may be applicable*
1	AI Server as per specifications in Section 2	1			
2	Network Switch as per specifications in Section 2	1			
3	Network Firewall as per specifications in Section 2	1			
				Total Carried Forward to General Summary	

Notes to Tenderer
The full design, delivery, installation, configuration, commissioning and testing of the system and of all its related components must be included as part of the final sum. The design must be approved by the client before proceeding with the rest of the system. Any design modifications required during execution are to be brought to the attention of the Client in writing - full documentation, inclusive of cost and time implications, is to be submitted to the Client for approval.