



Nepal Rastra Bank
Assets and Service Management Department
The Supply, Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch
Invitation for Bids No.: NRB/ASMD/IT/GOODS/NCB/03/2082/83
Clarifications on the queries from all the prospective bidders

S.N.	Suggestion	Justification for Suggestion	NRB Responses
1	The proposed Brand/OEM should have been implemented on an enterprise level (core or distribution level) in government/Private Company or “A” class commercial banks of Nepal.	This is to make sure that the proven solution which has been deployed in enterprise grade is being proposed. This will ensure the traffic handling and network handling without any disruption in day-to-day operations within the organization.	Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 2–Supply Requirements, Section V. Schedule of Requirements, 4. Purchaser Requirement, 2. Detailed Technical Specifications and Standards.



2	<p>Bidder should have experience of deploying equivalent level of switches in core or distribution level in government/Private Company or “A” class commercial banks of Nepal.</p>	<p>This will ensure the technical strength of the bidder to provide 24x7 support and resolve the issue promptly without any loss in the business or disruption in network.</p>	<p>Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 1–Bidding Procedures, Section IV. Bidding Forms, Table of Forms, Form EXP-2 Specific Experience Form.</p>
3	<p>For access-layer switches with a switching capacity of 128 Gbps, the functional scope is limited to terminal access. All required activities—including local management, initial configuration, commissioning, and troubleshooting—are fully and effectively supported through a standard Console port.</p> <p>This is a well-established and widely adopted industry practice, and it fully satisfies the operational requirements of such equipment.</p> <p>USB ports are not technically essential for access switches of this category and do not contribute to core functionality, performance, reliability, or security of the solution.</p> <p>Making USB ports a mandatory specification introduces a requirement that is not driven by functional or operational necessity.</p> <p>Such non-essential mandatory requirements unnecessarily restrict the pool of eligible products, limit participation of otherwise fully compliant manufacturers, and may undermine the principles of fair competition and value-for-money as outlined in public procurement best practices.</p>		<p>Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 2–Supply Requirements, Section V. Schedule of Requirements, 4. Purchaser Requirement, 2. Detailed Technical Specifications and Standards.</p>



	Accordingly, we strongly recommend that the mandatory requirement for USB ports be removed from the technical specifications and treated, if at all, as an optional feature, in order to ensure technical neutrality, fair competition, and optimal outcomes for the procuring entity.			
S.N.	Category	Amendment/Clarification Details	Why this is required?	NRB Responses
4	Experience> Deployment Experience	The proposed Layer 2 Manageable Switch solution must have been deployed in at least three (3) or more enterprise institutions/organizations within Nepal Proof of deployment (e.g., purchase orders, completion certificates, or client confirmation) shall be submitted.	Ensures the proposed OEM and solution have proven reliability, compatibility, and successful performance in real enterprise network environments in Nepal (or comparable contexts), reducing implementation and operational risks.	Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 1–Bidding Procedures, Section IV. Bidding Forms, Table of Forms, Form EXP-2 Specific Experience Form.



5	Experience> Reference Letters from Enterprises/end customer	The bidder must submit reference letters on the end customer's official letterhead, confirming that the proposed Layer 2 manageable switch model/series is currently in use in their enterprise network environment. References must be provided from at least three (3) different organizations. Letters should include contact details for verification.	Verifies real-world enterprise deployment and user satisfaction with the OEM/solution, ensuring it is tested and approved in similar high-stakes network settings, thereby minimizing performance or support-related risks.	Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 1–Bidding Procedures, Section IV. Bidding Forms, Table of Forms, Form EXP-2 Specific Experience Form.
6	Detailed Technical Specifications and Standards> Memory	The proposed Switch should have at least 2 GB or higher memory for better performance and switching capacity.	Higher memory ensures stable operation under heavy load, supports complex enterprise features without degradation, improves overall switching throughput/latency, and provides headroom for firmware updates and growing traffic demands.	Refer to the Bidding Document for "The Procurement of The Supply Delivery and Installation of Layer 2 Manageable Switch" Part 2–Supply Requirements, Section V. Schedule of Requirements, 4. Purchaser Requirement, 2. Detailed Technical Specifications and Standards.
7	Manufacturer's Authorization Letter (MAF) : Clarification	Kindly clarify whether an OEM can give MAF to single bidder only or to more bidders.	As per PPMO guidelines, an OEM can give MAF to only one bidder but this is subjective as per organization's need.	Yes, an OEM can give MAF to any number of bidders.