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Two companies are shortlisted for Census 2011 contract

The three UK Census Authorities – the Office for National Statistics (England and Wales), the General Register Office for Scotland and the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency – have shortlisted two companies for the final phase of negotiations to find the supplier to help deliver the 2011 Census data capture and associated services.

The two companies are Lockheed Martin UK and T-Systems Limited and both will also support the carrying out of the Census Test in England and Wales and in Northern Ireland taking place in May 2007. This will not form part of the assessment in the bidding process for the appointment of the prime contractor for the Census in 2011.

The procurement is a joint process for the UK Census Authorities which are looking for one contractor to provide the service for both the Census Rehearsal in 2009 and the full Census in 2011.

The eventual contractor's role will be to provide systems and services to assist with the collection and capture of data from the questionnaire. This will include managing the interfaces between the various services which will be carried out by other contractors.

Lockheed Martin and T-Systems will be involved in further discussions and negotiations to refine requirements and costs which will lead to a best and final offer. This is hoped to be by December 2007.

The main purpose of the Census Test in 2007 is to examine the implications of the possible questionnaire and the 'post-out, post-back' procedures. Services for the Test provided by the two suppliers will be different but there will be parts where they need to work together.

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Lockheed Martin will have responsibility for the printing of forms, delivery and data capture. The data capture processing will take place at Office for National Statistics (ONS) offices in Titchfield, Hampshire.

T-Systems will look after the public interface, such as the call centre, and operational intelligence which will provide management information about the returned questionnaires to HQ and staff in the field.

Both companies will use a consortium of mostly UK-based companies to support their work.

ONS Census Director Ian Cope said: "I am pleased that we will be able to make use of the skills of two strong companies during the important Census Test process. The Test is a key step in helping us to make sure that we formulate the most effective questionnaire and procedures to ensure the 2011 Census is a success."

Jan van der Merwe, CEO, T-Systems Limited said: "T-Systems is delighted to have the opportunity to work with the 2011 Census team. We are looking forward to demonstrating our systems, innovative technologies and robust solutions to meet the needs of everyone involved in the programme, from citizens to statisticians."

Ian Stopps, Chief Executive of Lockheed Martin UK said: "This is an essential national initiative, and we are committed to delivering an efficient, modern and cost-effective UK Census in 2011. Our team's talent and experience mean we will provide the highest levels of reliability, data privacy and security for this important project."

BACKGROUND NOTES

1. A Contract Notice for the Census 2011 procurement was published in the European Journal (OJEU) in September 2005. Following a pre-qualification process six companies were selected to go forward to the next phase of the tendering process, where they were issued a preliminary invitation to negotiate (PITN) document, including the Authorities statement of requirements (SOR) on the 9th March 2006. Two bidders withdrew and the remaining four provided their responses to the PITN on the 23rd May 2006. Following evaluation by all three UK Authorities, two were shortlisted and notified in August. These were T-Systems and Lockheed Martin. Debriefs were carried out with all 4 bidders early in September.
2. T-Systems is one of Europe's leading providers of information and communications technology services (ICT). Within the Deutsche Telekom Group, T-Systems is responsible for supporting the business customer segment, ranging from medium-sized companies to multinational corporations and public sector groups. T-Systems has 52,000 employees in more than 20 countries worldwide and posted revenues of nearly €12.9 billion in 2005.
3. Lockheed Martin UK, a unit of Lockheed Martin Corporation, is a leader in systems integration working on major programmes spanning the aerospace, defence and civil sectors. Lockheed Martin works with more than 100 business partners and employs over 1,500 people at 15 sites across the UK.