



Request for Proposal:

WAF-API Security Solution Demo

REFERENCE NO: CSCS/ERM/WAF-API/07/2024

The return date for responses against this request is **August 9th, 2024**, delivered in the requested manner and to the address advised. Late responses will not be considered. Note that proposals submitted that do not meet stipulated criteria shall be considered non-responsive.

24 July 2024

Dear Sir,

Request for Proof of Concept (PoC): WAF & API Security Solution Implementation

Introduction

Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS) PLC is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to conduct a Proof of Concept (PoC) for a WAF & API Security Solution. The goal of this PoC is to evaluate the effectiveness, scalability, and compatibility of the proposed WAF & API security solutions within our existing infrastructure. This initiative aims to enhance our application security posture by implementing robust security measures to protect our endpoints from potential threats and vulnerabilities.

Background

As a leading Financial Market infrastructure (FMI) in the Nigerian Capital Markets, CSCS relies heavily on APIs and web applications to enable seamless integration and communication between various internal and external systems. Ensuring the security of these assets is paramount to protect sensitive data, maintain operational integrity, and comply with industry regulations. We are looking for a comprehensive security solution that offers advanced threat protection, real-time monitoring, and effective access control mechanisms.

Objectives

1. Evaluate the proposed WAF-API security solution's ability to protect against common threats such as injection attacks, DDoS, and unauthorized access.
2. Assess the solution's compatibility and integration capabilities with our existing infrastructure.
3. Determine the scalability and performance impact of the security solution.
4. Analyze the solution's ease of use, management, and reporting features.
5. Ensure compliance with relevant industry standards and regulations.

Scope of Work and Success Criteria for the Proposed WAF & API Security Solution

To ensure the successful selection and onboarding of the security solution, the under-listed success criteria must be met thereby ensuring and effective utilization and strengthening the overall security posture and improving our operational efficiency.

Deliverables

1. Detailed implementation plan for the PoC.
2. Comprehensive test results and analysis reports.
3. Recommendations based on the PoC findings.
4. Demonstration of key features and functionalities.
5. Final presentation and Q&A session with our evaluation team.

Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Technical capabilities and comprehensiveness of the proposed solution.
2. Vendor's experience and track record in the solution deployment.
3. Feasibility and clarity of the PoC implementation plan.
4. Cost-effectiveness of the proposal.
5. Quality of references and previous work.

Proposal Submission Requirements

The return date for responses against this RFP is **August 9, 2024**, delivered electronically to rfpsubmission@cscs.ng , Any questions regarding this RFP can be directed to

rfpsubmission@cscs.ng . The proposed security solution should be communicated to the above email on or before the date.

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PART 1

1. Introduction

1.1 Procurement Policy on Bribery and Corruption

Central Securities Clearing System (CSCS) Plc strictly adheres to professional work ethics and emphasizes zero tolerance for bribery and any other forms of corruption. It is our policy that



service providers involved in offering bribes will be disqualified and excluded from any potential engagement opportunity.

1.2 Executive Summary of Project

This RFP is an invitation to prospective proponents to submit proposals to conduct POC for API security solution. The successful company should be able to manage and meet the requirements for this activity.

The purpose of this request is to seek information from potential bidders with the intention of establishing an agreement between CSCS and the successful bidder. The contract that follows this process shall bind CSCS and the successful bidder to perform in a specific way for an agreed duration as stated in the contract in the event of the formation of the same.

2. Terms Governing this RFP

2.1 Recipients of this request are required to read all the information supplied and have a clear understanding of Central Securities Clearing System Plc requirements. Further information can be made available by contacting nominated people listed in this document.

2.2 It is a condition of this request that all mandatory requirements (indicated in the body of text by the word “must” or expressed or implied accordingly) are met in full. Responses and proposals that do not conform to mandatory requirements will be deemed to be made on the basis that conformance is implied by the proposer. The contents of proposals must be submitted in the order specified in this document.

2.3 This RFP is a request for proposal for the implementation of a API Solution for CSCS. It is not a contract, and no contractual obligations shall arise on behalf of CSCS. CSCS will not be liable for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of a response to this RFP.

2.4 CSCS shall evaluate proposals based on their responsiveness to the requirements of this document as outlined above. Each responsive proposal will be given a score. A proposal shall be rejected at this stage if it fails to respond to the requirements. The shortlisted vendors shall be invited to conduct a Demo of the proposed solution to establish if CSCS requirements are met.

Solution that meets the CSCS requirements as stated above will further be reviewed internally and a formal communication will be sent to all participants following the outcome of CSCS internal deliberation on the best solution that meets the stated objectives.

2.10 Timeline to be observed for this RFP:

Milestones	Due Date
RFP issued by Central Securities Clearing System PLC	July 24, 2024
RFP questions received by Central Securities Clearing System PLC in writing	July 24 - Aug. 9, 2024
RFP questions responded to by Central Securities Clearing System PLC	July 24 - Aug. 9, 2024
RFP response due	August 9, 2024
Presentation date	To be communicated

2.11 All bids shall be submitted on or before close of business on August 9, 2024. to: rfpsubmission@cscs.ng

CSCS may issue additional information for reasons that the company deems necessary at any time for bid submission as nominated in the invitation to bid or subsequent addendum. Such information shall be included in the contract award.

The Company shall use its sole discretion to make any changes to the date of bid closing from that advised in the Bid schedule which may result from an addendum.

3.2 Any request for clarification must be emailed to: rfpsubmission@cscs.ng. CSCS reserves the right to distribute answers to questions to other suppliers who may not have asked that question but where CSCS feels that the answer corrects a mistake, adds clarity, or removes ambiguity from the original RFP.

3.3 Authorized representatives of the firm shall initial every page of the RFP and no further questions will be taken or meetings held regarding this RFP until after the receipt of proposal/s, unless otherwise advised by CSCS.

3.4 Please ensure the bid declaration is a computation of total cost of the project implementation.

3.5 The subject matter of the information provided or gained in relation to this Request for Bid may contain valuable property rights of the Company. This information is to be treated in strict confidence by the Bidder and its employees and shall not be used except for the specific purpose



of preparing and submitting a Bid. Upon receiving notice, unsuccessful bidders shall return such information to the company whose property it shall remain.

3.6 Submit response to CSCS in line with the milestone dates stated in 2.10.

PART 2 Service Providers Response to This Request

A. SERVICE PROVIDERS DECLARATION

To: **The Head, Internal Control,**
Central Securities Clearing System Plc.
13th Floor, Stock Exchange House,
2/4 Customs Street, Lagos, Nigeria.

Dear Sir/Ma,

PROJECT TITLE: IMPLEMENTATION OF APPLICATION PROGRAMMING INTERFACE SOLUTION

We have read and have examined this Request for POC document, Technical Requirements, Specifications, Guidance Notes and the terms and conditions issued with this Proposal. We offer completion of the works required against this RFP for the total price of:

.....
..... (in Naira). This price is further broken down into individual components as requested in this RFP.

This declaration confirms that this Proposal is tendered as a bona fide competitive offer to CSCS, and the information provided in the service provider Information questionnaire and service provider response to CSCS Statement of Requirements are fully correct and complete.

We, the undersigned further agree that if our offer in these documents is accepted by CSCS, the resulting contract, if any, shall be based on the CSCS Standard Terms and Conditions issued with this RFP (subject to any permitted variations attached to this RFP).

Signature

Date

Name

Job Title

For and on behalf of



Address

Email

Telephone

2.1 Implementation Requirements

The selected vendor must be able to:

- Provide adequate resources required to deploy the solution and provide training for CSCS staff.

2.2 Vendor Experience and Qualifications

- Demonstrate successful implementation of similar solution in size and nature. Provide reference sites of similar business nature where API solution have successfully been deployed.
- Provide CVs and copies of qualifications for staff that will be engaged on the project and proof of having deployed API solution.
- There must be an on-site technician to facilitate project requirements and implementation

2.3 Post Implementation Support

- Availability of support staff required for onsite during deployment.

2.4 Knowledge Transfer

- Provision of knowledge transfer session to internal staff.

2.5 Compliance to ISO 27001:2022 Standards

Solution should be demonstrably compliant with ISO 27001:2013 and other information security standards.

2.6 Timeframe for Completion

Please provide a timeframe for completion of the POC. This timeframe will be evaluated. Be advised that timeframes will be part of the contractual agreement; therefore, a realistic timeframe for completion should be provided.