

MDS 3.0 Upgrade Project Vendor Questions and Answers

1. Can you please provide the rationale behind having MDS 2.0 and MDS 3.0 co-exist for an indefinite period of time?

Answer: MDS 2.0 and MDS 3.0 will need to co-exist indefinitely because nursing facilities may discover a missed assessment sometimes several months up to a year after it was due and will need to submit the assessment and corrected billing. The potential is that after MDS 3.0 is implemented on October 1, 2010, MDS 2.0 assessments may be submitted and processed for several months to a year after implementation.

2. What is the planned technology for the front end application for the central office application? We understand it would be using Oracle 10g application. Will this be a web application (intranet/extranet) or will this be a client server application using Oracle Forms? Please clarify.

Answer: The front end application for the central office application will be in JAVA. This will be a web intranet application. (Oracle forms will not be used). The database is an oracle database.

3. Will the field office application be a client/server Java application (using Swing components) or will it be a web application?

Answer: The field application will be a java based application which will run on a stand-alone laptop (not connected to internet or any network). We do not want to use Swing.

4. Will the field computers be always in connected state (connected to internet) or should that application also work on unconnected state?

Answer: The field computers will mostly work in unconnected state (not connected to internet or any network). Once or twice a day the field computers would connect to the network in the central office to synchronize the databases.

5. Please confirm that the vendors will be paid on a Time & Expense basis using hourly billing rates?

Answer: The vendor can be paid on a Time & Expense basis using hourly billing rates. Specific billing and payment details will be discussed during contract negotiations, and the total amount of the contract (time for services and expenses) must fit within a pre-determined dollar amount.

6. Please confirm that MDH will provide workspace and computing facilities (hardware and software) needed for the Technical Architect?

Answer: MDH will provide workspace and computing facilities for the Technical Architect.

7. Please confirm that the activities/responsibilities listed in Section 6 of the SOW are team responsibilities and not the individual responsibility of the Technical Architect to be provided by the vendor.

Answer: The activities/responsibilities listed in Section 6 of the SOW are the project team responsibilities and not the individual responsibility of the Technical Architect to be

provided by the vendor. The Technical Architect will be expected to participate in those activities.

8. Can you provide a perspective on the number of members in the development team? Is the team listed in the Org chart the whole team or are you planning on adding more developers?

Answer: The team listed in the Org. chart is the whole team. MDH does not plan to add more developers.

9. Can you provide a high level project schedule for the various project phases (Requirements to Deployment) in the time period Oct 2009 to Nov 2010?

Answer: Following is the high-level project schedule:

Phase	Start	End
Review & define business requirements	10/5/09	1/6/10
Technical Design, Coding, Unit Testing	12/3/09	6/4/10
System Integration Testing	6/7/10	7/16/10
User Acceptance Testing (UAT)	7/19/10	8/27/10
Deployment	9/27/10	10/1/10

10. Are you expecting the vendor to merely provide a competent TA resource or are you also looking for a vendor to provide the necessary expertise in project delivery processes, deliverables templates etc.?

Answer: MDH expects the vendor to provide a competent TA resource who has the required skill level as specified in item 7 of the SOW.

11. Have you determined the development methodology that will be followed? Will it be a classic waterfall based development or are you planning to use an object oriented methodology such as RUP?

Answer: MDH will use the classic waterfall based development methodology.

12. Please provide a list of deliverables that would be the Technical Architect responsibilities?

Answer: The primary responsibilities of the Technical Architect are as follows:

1. Suggest technologies and framework to suit the business requirements and also conform to MDH standards.
2. Setup the selected framework.

13. Can we propose multiple individuals to select from towards the Technical Architect position?

Answer: Vendors can propose multiple individuals to select from towards the Technical Architect position. However, only one (1) individual will be selected and will remain for the duration of the project.

14. If we propose an out of town resource, will MDH pay to vendor travel expenses for the TA to visit MDH on a weekly basis for the duration of the contract?

Answer: MDH will not pay vendor travel expenses for the TA to visit MDH on a weekly basis for the duration of the contract.

15. Will MDH pay parking fees for the assigned TA resource?
- Answer:** MDH will not pay parking fees for the assigned TA resource.
16. Please confirm that MDH will pay vendor for services provided under an hourly based model.
- Answer:** See question 5.
17. Will MDH consider a candidate that works 3 days onsite and 2 days offsite?
- Answer:** MDH will consider a candidate that works 3 days onsite and 2 days offsite.
18. Are the Business Requirements defined and developed for this application? If yes, can you provide them for vendors to study?
- Answer:** The Business Requirements are defined and will be provided to vendors via e-mail. As indicated in the Business Requirements document, some of the final requirements from CMS will be available in October 2009.
19. If Business Requirements are defined and can be provided to the vendors, does MDH want vendors to propose fixed price by deliverables services?
- Answer:** MDH does not want vendors to propose fixed price by deliverables services.
20. What is the skill level/proficiency in Java for the 3 Application Developers assigned to this project?
- Answer:** Two (2) of the Application Developers each have approximately 5 years of Java experience, and the third has approximately 2 years. All developers have extensive experience in PL/SQL.
21. Will the Application Developers, included in the organizational structure, be allocated 100% to the MDS 3.0 Upgrade Project?
- Answer:** Yes
22. What are the current development methodologies/processes in use?
- Answer:** See question 11.
23. What are the current development tools and frameworks in use?
- Answer:** Current development tools include JDeveloper, SQL Navigator, TOAD, and the primary framework is Struts.
24. Has it been determined for 3.0 if the “central office application” is a web or a thick client?
- Answer:** See question 2.
25. Has it been determined for 3.0 if the “field-staff application” is a web or a thick client?
- Answer:** See question 3.
26. Are there any reusable pieces from MDS 2.0? For example, business processing logic, validation logic?

Answer: There are reusable pieces from MDS 2.0 for the business processing logic, but the validation logic will need to be re-written.

27. Are 3.0 requirements started/in progress (awaiting final information in Oct 2009)?

Answer: See question 18.

28. Do you expect the technical architect to work on requirements with you?

Answer: MDH expects the Technical Architect to work with the project team on the activities/responsibilities described in item 6 of the SOW.