DATA ITEM DESCRIPTION

1. DID NUMBER: DID-ENG-SOL-ECARS-V5.3
2. TITLE: EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATION TO ACCESS RADIOFREQUENCY SPECTRUM
3. Description And Intended Use

The Equipment Certification to Access Radiofrequency Spectrum (ECARS) is required for the equipment, systems, sub-systems, Configuration Items (CIs), or end products that rely on the Radiofrequency Spectrum for their operation (‘spectrum-dependant equipment’), as identified in accordance with the clause titled 'Access to the Radiofrequency Spectrum' in the SOW.

Radiofrequency Spectrum is a limited resource that must be shared between numerous Defence and civilian systems. The ability of a materiel solution to meet Defence’s capability requirements may depend on sufficient Radiofrequency Spectrum access. Conversely, restricted and/or limited Radiofrequency Spectrum access may limit the capability of a solution.

The Australian regulatory framework for Radiofrequency Spectrum access is unique to that of other jurisdictions. In Australia, the Commonwealth may need to place restrictions on its utilisation of solutions that are compatible with other regulatory environments. Similarly, the Commonwealth may need to place restrictions on its utilisation of solutions that are designed to operate in Radiofrequency Spectrum designated for civilian.

The Contractor uses ECARS to advise the Commonwealth of the Radiofrequency Spectrum needs of proposed solutions and actual delivered.

The Commonwealth uses ECARS to:

assess proposed solutions for their compliance with Australian regulatory and Defence-specific requirements, and any restrictions on spectrum availability that may affect operational capability or system performance; and

obtain details of the technical characteristics of the delivered solution to support Radiofrequency Spectrum management for the operation of the delivered solution.

1. INTER-RELATIONSHIPS

The ECARS is subordinate to the following data items, where these data items are required under the Contract:

Systems Engineering Management Plan (SEMP); and

Contractor Engineering Management Plan (CEMP).

The ECARS inter-relates with the following data items, where these data items are required under the Contract:

Electromagnetic Environmental Effects Management Plan (E3MP);

System Specification (SS);

Support System Specification (SSSPEC);

Design Documentation; and

Design Certificate (DCERT).

1. Applicable Documents

The following documents form a part of this DID to the extent specified herein:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. AA 763 form | 1. Technical Characteristics for Spectrum-Dependent Equipment |
| 1. EMS Manual | 1. Electromagnetic Spectrum Manual |

1. Preparation Instructions
   1. Generic Format and Content

The data item shall comply with the general format, content and preparation instructions contained in the CDRL clause entitled ‘General Requirements for Data Items’.

* 1. Specific Content
     1. General Requirements

An AA 763 form is required for each separate equipment or system component that requires access to, use of, or relies on the Radiofrequency Spectrum for its operation.

* + 1. Specific Requirements

The AA 763 shall consist of information entered onto all pages for each piece of equipment, system, sub-system, CI or end product that requires access to, use of, or relies on the Radiofrequency Spectrum for its operation.

The AA 763 forms are to be amended, as required, to reflect any hardware or software design changes that affect radiofrequency performance.

Note: Refer to the ‘DSO Guidance Document – Completing Form AA 763’ for further guidance when completing the AA 763. The Defence Spectrum Office Spectrum Planning and Engineering section, contactable at [spectrum.planners@defence.gov.au](mailto:spectrum.planners@defence.gov.au), can provide further advice on the completion of the AA 763 form.

Annex:

1. Form AA 763

