

## FAQ: IBTTA RFP for consulting and technical services that support the testing, certification and selection of the National Interoperability (NIOP) protocol

- 1) In general the scope appears to be confined to just the "...services ... to support compliance and performance testing of the nominated protocols." But the statements on page 5 and chart on page 6 seem to indicate that IBTTA is expecting a certification and accreditation program as the result, e.g.: "Certification and accreditation of NIOP protocol providers is expected to take place during the second quarter 2016 with potential implementation and deployment of NIOP protocol technology to toll operators subsequent to certification and accreditation."

And the entry in the table states:

|               |     |  |
|---------------|-----|--|
| March 1, 2016 | 60% | NIOP Protocol(s) Selection Accepted by IBTTA Board |
| June 1, 2016  | 70% | Certification and Accreditation Complete           |

While most of the work being performed as part of the RFP proposal would be used for a certification program, is the development of the certification program is being requested?

**RESPONSE:** The development of the certification program is NOT part of this RFP process.

- 2) Is this RFP saying all three protocols can be tested to 80% confidence with 16,542 samples? Those statistics assume every sample is exactly the same test case. The RFP also requires bidders to vary speed and other parameters during the testing, so the statistics don't really apply. Please clarify expectations for the sample size and variations on testing.

**RESPONSE:** Sample sizes should conform to test scenario guidelines and minimum standards as specified in the RFP (see sections 6. Scope of Services and 9. Pricing). The proposer should provide recommended minimum runs for each test case scenario. The test cases should be combined for aggregate conformance ratings. Individual test case results/analysis should also be provided. The pricing model is designed to provide a "cost per test run" unit valuation. This will allow the Committee to compare bids fairly and to allow for subsequent decisions regarding any perceived or potential need for additional test runs.

- 3) Does the RFP require the bidders to test conformance in both single and dual protocol modes?

**RESPONSE:** Conformance is expected to be tested in single protocol mode for all NIOP proposed protocols. Performance degradation – based on handshake counts – is to be tested/assessed in a dual protocol environment with requested "local" (home) protocols. Presumably the baseline performance of the local protocols will be established in single mode or via data provided by roadway operators.

- 4) How many samples to be used for determining degradation of home protocols?

**RESPONSE:** Minimum of 100 field test runs at highway speeds per each local/home protocol in combination with each NIOP protocol.

- 5) Which of the following combinations should be tested and how many repetitions will be expected?  
Single protocol conformance (with written specs)

Single protocol environmental  
Single protocol performance  
Dual protocol conformance  
Dual protocol environmental (if device is different than the single protocol device)  
Dual protocol performance of NTP candidate  
Dual protocol degradation of home protocol

RESPONSE: The Committee looks to proposers for recommended distribution of and minimum sample sizes for each of the test cases. The minimum number of test runs should not exceed the guidelines in the RFP. However, the Committee will consider recommendations for larger sample sizes at the notice-to-proceed stage. The pricing model is designed to provide a "cost per test run" unit valuation. This will allow the Committee to compare bids fairly and to allow for subsequent decisions regarding any perceived or potential need for additional test runs.

6) Will bidders be expected to test not only do 100 mph, but do it under "freezing" conditions?

RESPONSE: The environmental parameters should be simulated in a test lab for the various speed conditions. Field testing should be assumed to take place in normal/temperate conditions for slow/average/high speed test runs.

7) Would IBTTA consider the following changes:  
(section 6.b):

**a. Conformance Evaluation of Nominated/Sponsored Protocols (Pre-Testing Phase)**

**i. Assess conformance of sponsored candidate protocols with NIOP Technical Requirements**

Response should include details and methodology for assessing the compliance of sponsored protocols with published NIOP requirements and specifications.

To something like this:

**b. Conformance Evaluation of Nominated/Sponsored Protocols (Pre-Testing Phase)**

**ii. Assess conformance of sponsored candidate protocols with NIOP Technical Requirements**

Response should include details and methodology for assessing the compliance of sponsored protocols with published NIOP requirements and *independently supplied (either via the protocol's vendor or appropriate standards body) protocol specifications. ~~IBTTA will supply (or make available)~~ All required specification documents will be supplied through NIOP nomination submission process.*

RESPONSE: Clarification accepted with edit above.