

Request for Quotation Supply, Deployment, and Professional Services for AI Server Infrastructure

Response Deadline: 8 business days from issue date

1. Introduction & Background

The HSRC is seeking Information from qualified and accredited suppliers for the supply, delivery, installation, and professional services for a new Lenovo AI server solution. This RFQ aims to identify suppliers who can meet our stringent requirements for hardware quality, warranty support, and technical expertise. The primary objective is to appoint a supplier who is **officially accredited by Lenovo**, ensuring access to genuine products, certified expertise, and high-quality service delivery.

2. Mandatory Accreditation Verification:

Respondents must provide conclusive evidence of their Lenovo **accreditation** status. Acceptable proof as an approved Lenovo accredited reseller includes a confirmation letter from Lenovo's partner program management.

Failure to provide this evidence will result in immediate disqualification from the process.

3. Required Solution Specification

We require a quotation and detailed pricing for the following base configuration:

- **Lenovo Server – SR665V: Think System SR665 V3 + (NVIDIA L40S 48GB (GPU) x2)**

4. Scope of Work & Professional Services

The supplier must demonstrate the capability to provide the following professional services.

4.1 Pre-Sales Technical Consulting:

- Solution architecture validation and optimization for our AI workloads.
- Bill of Materials (BOM) finalization.

4.2 Deployment & Implementation Services:

- Physical racking and stacking of the server.
- Initial hardware power-on and diagnostics.
- Firmware and BIOS updates to the latest stable versions.
- Integration with existing Data centre Infrastructure (power, cooling, networking).

4.3 Post-Deployment Support:

- Management of the 3-year Lenovo warranty, including proactive support and parts replacement.
- Provide a dedicated point of contact for support escalation.

Server Specification:

Model-Type SKU / Item	Description	Qty
7D9ACTOAWW	Server -SR665V3 : ThinkSystem SR665 V3 3yr Warranty with Controlled GPU	1
BLKK	ThinkSystem V3 2U 24x2.5" Chassis	1
BFYA	Operating mode selection for: "Maximum Efficiency Mode"	1
BVGL	Data Center Environment 30 Degree Celsius / 86 Degree Fahrenheit	1
C2AF	ThinkSystem AMD EPYC 9015 8C 125W 3.6GHz Processor	2
BQ29	ThinkSystem SR665 V3 2U High Performance Heatsink	2
C0DF	Platform Secure Boot Enable	1
C0CJ	ThinkSystem 32GB TruDDR5 6400MHz (2Rx8) RDIMM-A	8
5977	Select Storage devices - no configured RAID required	1
BGM1	ThinkSystem RAID 940-8i 4GB Flash PCIe Gen4 12Gb Adapter for U.3	1
C2BR	ThinkSystem 2.5" U.3 7500 PRO 1.92TB Read Intensive NVMe PCIe 4.0 x4 HS SSD	4
BH8B	ThinkSystem 2U/4U 8x2.5" AnyBay Backplane	1
BPPW	ThinkSystem Broadcom 57504 10/25GbE SFP28 4-Port OCP Ethernet Adapter	1
5053	SFP+ SR Transceiver	4
BPQW	ThinkSystem V3 2U E/x16/x16 PCIe Gen5 Riser1 or 2	1
BLL9	ThinkSystem V3 2U x16/x16 PCIe Gen5 Riser3 Kit	1
BPK9	ThinkSystem 1800W 230V Titanium Hot-Swap Gen2 Power Supply	2
6400	2.8m, 13A/100-250V, C13 to C14 Jumper Cord	2
BLL6	ThinkSystem 2U V3 Performance Fan Module	6
B8LA	ThinkSystem Toolless Slide Rail Kit v2	1
7S0XCTO5WW	XClarity Controller Platin-FOD	1
5641PX3	XClarity Pro, Per Endpoint w/3 Yr SW S&S	1
5WS7C00819	3Yr Premier NBD Resp SR665 V3	1
5PS7C00834	3Yr KYD (Keep your drive) Add-On SR665 V3	1

GPU Specification:

Model-Type SKU / Item	Description	Qty
4X67A90669	ThinkSystem NVIDIA L40S 48GB PCIe Gen4 Passive GPU	2

Functionality (Minimum threshold of 80%) - As per the table below

<u>FUNCTIONALITY</u>	<u>Weight</u>	<u>Score</u>
<p><u>1. Experience of the Bidder:</u></p> <p>This score sheet is designed to evaluate bids based on a balanced assessment of <u>Technical Compliance, Implementation & Support Capability, Commercial Terms, and Price.</u></p> <p>The goal is to select a bidder who not only supplies the correct hardware but also possesses the proven expertise to install, optimize, and support the system for specific AI workloads.</p> <p>a) <u>Proof that the bidder has been in existence and has been supplying and deploying server systems of similar nature and providing post implementation support services in the past 5 years. Evidence should be in the form of a contract schedule showing such services and support.</u></p> <p><u>Technical Compliance & Solution:</u></p> <p><u>Points allocation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Less than 3 contracts (5 points)</u> • <u>3 – 5 contracts (10 points)</u> • <u>More than 5 contracts (20 points)</u> <p><u>2. Track record of the Bidder (20 points)</u></p> <p><u>Provide minimum three (3) relevant contactable references where the proposed supply, installation and support services for the Lenovo Server SR665V with NVIDIA L40S GPUs has been successfully implemented in the past five (5) years. Emphasis will be on the bidder's Implementation & Support Capabilities.</u></p> <p><u>Reference letters will only be considered valid if they meet the following criteria:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <u>if on an official client letterhead.</u> - <u>if it makes reference to the provision of similar services.</u> - <u>if not older than 5 years.</u> - <u>if signed and dated by relevant personnel</u> <p><u>3x letters = 30 2x letters = 20 1x letter = 10</u></p>	<p><u>20 points</u></p>	
<p><u>3. Bidder's Accreditation (40 points)</u></p> <p><u>Official accreditation by Lenovo as aa approved Partner, ensuring access to genuine products, certified expertise, and high-quality service delivery.</u></p>	<p><u>20 points</u></p>	

<p><u>4. Capacity of Service Provider</u></p> <p><u>a) Submit a structure composition of the proposed team in the form of an organogram, clearly outlining,</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Main disciplines/ specialties (10 points)</u> - <u>Good – 10 points</u> - <u>Fair – 5 points</u> - <u>Poor – 0 points</u> <p><u>b) A resume of personnel's skills that highlights the following.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Detailed resume of each personnel's skills that highlight areas of experience/competencies relevant to tasks and objectives of this bid.</u> <p><u>Experience of the Project Lead</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <u>Less than 3 years' experience (3 points)</u> ▪ <u>3- 7 years' experience (10 points)</u> ▪ <u>More than 10 years' experience (20 points)</u> <p><u>NB: The minimum threshold score is 80%.</u></p> <p><u>Bidders who fail to obtain the minimum threshold score will not be considered for the next phase of price competitiveness.</u></p>	<u>30 points</u>	

Technical queries may be directed to Mr. Stanley Moshidi, email: smoshidi@hsrc.ac.za

Closing Date for Quotes is the 16 January 2026 16h00 pm

Send your proposals to mmonareng@hsrc.ac.za

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