

**RFP NO: 40/eGovt/2024 Backup Storage Procurement for**

**Government Operation Center**

**Q and A's**

Q1	Can you please accept to propose 288TB usable capacity (licensed & Activated) with 8 x 3.2 TB SSD cache tier disks upgradable to 576TB Usable Capacity?
A1	Accepted
Q2	Can you please accept to propose 20:1 data reduction ratio instead of 50:1 as this is the maximum ratio available on the storage from HPE?
A2	Not Accepted
Q3	Please clarify on the Backup software intended for use?
A3	Refer to RFP
Q4	Please clarify if the "upgradable to 600TB" is meant to be as raw or usable?
A4	Usable
Q5	NDMP is a file storage-specific backup protocol supported by specific vendors. Please provide further information on the source array and firmware for compatibility reasons.
A5	Accepted to remove NDMP from the required specs.
Q6	Please advise if erasure encoding allows for 4 simultaneous drive failures is considered as equivalent for RAID-6.
A6	Confirmed
Q7	Architecture: we will provide an Enterprise backup & data protection solution (Not Backup appliance) please confirm if this is acceptable!
A7	Accepted, but the solution must support data reduction ratio feature 50: 1
Q8	Capacity: As the RFP requests a minimum of 240 TB usable capacity, with a data reduction ratio up to 1:50 (based on the data type), can we offer a cluster of 600 TB from day 1, up to 15BP of capacity, and we will rely on the backup software data reduction?
A8	Not Accepted
Q9	Connectivity: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) Our solution is based on LAN connectivity where we can provide more than 10/25 Gbps speed. While the RFP requests 4 ports 16G, as based on our solution which mainly utilizes the LAN TCP/IP interfaces, can we offer 4 ports per node 10/25G (up to 100 GB interface per node)?</li><li>2) Please confirm the switch ports speed you have in your datacenter (10 GB, 25 GB)?</li></ol>
A9	1)Accepted

	2)10 GB
Q10	Protocols: Could you please provide clarification on the necessity of including the NDMP protocol in the RFP? Our solution provides SMB/CIFS, NFS, iSCSI and object storage. Is it acceptable to replace it by Object storage protocol, which is the most recommended type of storage for backup?
A10	Refer to Q5
Q11	For backup storage we recommend to have secure transport protocol such as OST to transport data from backup software's (VEEAM, VERITAS, etc. ) to backup storage , where such protocol/feature should be , encrypted , authenticated and not visible/explorable to operating system so it will reduce risk of ransomware/maleware attacks that infect Operating systems file systems .As well using such protocol should not limit other feature required in RFP specs such as deduplication, retention lock ,WORM , replication , etc. Please confirm if OST protocol is a required?
A11	OST or any equivalent secure transport protocol
Q12	Is the proposed backup appliance must be certified from both Backup SW vendors "Veeam, Veritas" and Backup storage/appliance vendor?
A12	No
A13	VTL "Virtual tape library can be helpful to connect clients , legacy operating systems and backups software to backup storage while still not exposing backups as a mount-point to operating system layer , is it required here ?
A13	No
Q14	Is the internal mechanism used to data integrity and end to end verification must run all the time without affecting all concurrent jobs like "Backup , replication and disk cleaning " ?
A14	No
Q15	Is it mandatory for proposed backup storage/appliance support multiple backups SWs at the same time having global deduplication enabled as well?
A15	No
Q16	Is Variable-length deduplication feature enabled by default or manually required to enhance deduplication globally?
A16	By default
Q17	As per RFP required max throughput 30TB/Hour per backup storage, is it possible to give 2 backup storage/appliance nodes each with 15TB/hour throughput?
A17	Not Accepted