



Request for Proposal: Upgrade and Replacement of High Availability Cluster Servers

1. Introduction

South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP) invites qualified and experienced ICT infrastructure vendors to submit quotations for the replacement, upgrade, rebuild, and integration of servers within the organisation's existing High Availability (HA) cluster environment.

The project includes:

- Replacement of existing legacy cluster servers:
 - Dell EMC Unity 300
 - Dell PowerEdge R740xd
- Rebuild and repurposing of one Dell PowerEdge R440 server as an additional cluster node
- Configuration and integration of all servers into the existing HA cluster environment
- Migration support and testing services

2. Background

South African Council for the Architectural Profession currently operates a High Availability cluster infrastructure supporting mission-critical systems and services. Some components within the cluster have reached end-of-life and require replacement or upgrading to ensure continued reliability, scalability, performance, and vendor support compliance.

The existing environment includes Dell infrastructure technologies and virtualization services integrated into the current production cluster.

3. Current Infrastructure Specifications

Existing Cluster Node – Dell PowerEdge R440

Item	Specification
Server Model	Dell PowerEdge R440



Item	Specification
Service Tag	D9B0VW2
Storage Configuration	278.88 GB RAID-1
Memory	96.0 GB RAM

Existing Cluster Server – Dell PowerEdge R740xd

Item	Specification
Server Model	Dell PowerEdge R740xd
Service Tag	7PSPYW2
Memory	32 GB RAM
OS Drive	RAID-1 – 278.88 GB HDD
Veeam Storage	20,487.5 GB Virtual Disk HDD

Existing Storage Array – Dell EMC Unity 300

Item	Specification
Storage Platform	Dell EMC Unity 300
Service Tag	CKM00191600569
Total Storage Capacity	30 TB

4. Scope of Work

The successful bidder shall provide all labour, equipment, licensing (where applicable), configuration, testing, and documentation required for the successful completion of the project.

4.1 Replacement of Existing Servers

The vendor shall replace the following infrastructure:

1. Dell EMC Unity 300
2. Dell PowerEdge R740xd



Proposed replacement infrastructure must:

- Be enterprise-grade and rack-mounted
- Support High Availability clustering
- Support virtualization workloads
- Include redundant power supplies
- Include enterprise SSD/SAS storage configuration
- Include RAID controller configuration
- Include dual or higher CPU architecture
- Include minimum 10GbE network capability
- Support Veeam backup workloads
- Be fully compatible with the existing cluster environment
- Include hardware warranty and support

4.2 Rebuild of Existing Server Node

The vendor shall:

- Rebuild one existing Dell PowerEdge R440 server
- Upgrade firmware and BIOS to latest stable versions
- Reconfigure storage and RAID
- Install and configure required operating system and/or hypervisor
- Validate hardware integrity and performance
- Prepare and configure the server as a functional cluster node

4.3 Cluster Integration and Configuration

The vendor shall:

- Configure all replacement servers into the existing High Availability cluster
- Ensure interoperability with current infrastructure
- Configure:
 - Cluster services
 - Shared storage access
 - Networking
 - Failover mechanisms



- Load balancing where applicable
- Perform migration support for workloads and services
- Conduct cluster validation and failover testing
- Minimise operational downtime during implementation

4.4 Testing and Commissioning

The vendor shall perform:

- Hardware diagnostics
- Cluster validation tests
- Failover and recovery testing
- Performance testing
- Final commissioning

A commissioning report must be provided upon completion.

4.5 Documentation and Knowledge Transfer

The successful bidder shall provide:

- As-built configuration documentation
- Network and cluster topology diagrams
- Hardware inventory documentation
- Backup and recovery procedures
- Administrator handover and knowledge transfer session

5. Technical Requirements

Bidders must clearly specify:

- Proposed server models
- CPU specifications
- RAM capacity
- Storage specifications
- RAID configuration
- Network interfaces
- Virtualization compatibility
- Veeam compatibility



- Warranty and support terms
- Lead times

6. Vendor Requirements

Bidders must demonstrate:

- Experience implementing enterprise HA cluster environments
- Experience with Dell enterprise infrastructure
- Availability of certified technical personnel
- Local support capability
- References for similar completed projects

7. Deliverables

Deliverable	Description
Replacement Servers	Supply and installation
Rebuilt R440 Node	Reconfigured and operational
Cluster Configuration	Fully integrated into existing cluster
Testing Reports	Validation and failover reports
Documentation	Full technical documentation
Knowledge Transfer	Administrator training and handover

8. Pricing Requirements

The quotation must include:

- Detailed pricing breakdown
- Hardware specifications
- Professional services costs
- Licensing costs (if applicable)
- Warranty details
- Delivery timelines
- Implementation schedule



South African Council
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Email: info@sacapsa.com

Web: www.sacapsa.com

- VAT details
- Company profile
- Relevant certifications

9. Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Weighting
Technical Compliance	40%
Relevant Experience	20%
Cost	30%
Delivery Timeline	10%

10. Submission Instructions

All proposals and queries must be submitted electronically to:

Email: Elelwani.ndou@sacapsa.com

Submission deadline: 15 June 2026

Late submissions will not be considered.

11. Terms and Conditions

- SACAP reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation.
- Quotations must remain valid for a minimum of 60 days.
- The successful bidder may be required to sign a Service Level Agreement (SLA).
- All work must comply with organisational ICT policies and standards.

12. Site Visit (Optional)

An optional site visit may be arranged for interested bidders to assess the existing infrastructure environment.

Date: 09 & 11 June 2026

Venue: 51 Wessels road, Rivonia.

Council President: Mr C Nduku. **Council Vice President:** Ms L Shongwe.

Council Members: Mr R Vuzane; Ms M Pepeta; Mr K Bingham; Dr J Mirembe; Mr V Phailane; Ms K Cupido; Ms S Bongela; Mr L Nematswerani; Mr D Basdew.

Registrar: Advocate T Fiduli



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13. Confidentiality

All information provided as part of this RFQ process shall be treated as confidential and used solely for the purpose of preparing the proposal.

14. Mandatory requirements

Please include the BEE Certificate/Affidavit if applicable and Tax Compliant Status Pin when you submit your Proposal.

