# Bunker Industry Digitalisation Plan

# Frequently Asked Questions

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| 1. Besides the 3 stated scope in the CFP, are there other considerations that should be considered in the proposal/project? |
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| • Proposals should consider contactless operations in the new digital process where possible |

| 2. For (B) scope, is it focused on secured streaming of data? What is meant by testing? |
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| • Section B scope refers to the testing of automated B2G data transmission to MPA's digitalBunker@SG for regulatory reporting purposes. The tests will cover the secured transmission from MFM system to MPA server in using different protocols and data for various stages of the bunker activities. The tests should also measure the service levels and transmission delays. |

| 3. Does (A) scope require such data schema? |
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| • Applicants for Section A would need to apply relevant data schema for targeted functionalities identified by the joint industry partners. |

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**4. I understand that MPA has been working on EBDN for a few years. Can you share with us what are the hurdles and experiences you encountered in your EBDN trials or study so that we are aware of the pitfalls?**

- Challenges relating to industry acceptance of digital documentations/processes, implementation costs as well as 3G/4G wireless connectivity in port have improved over the years.
- Having MPA spearheading the initiative ensures eventual acceptance by regulator when the digital methods are proven in field trials and pilots.

**5. How is the wireless coverage (3G/4G/5G) on board the bunker when off-shore? What is the information that is required to be transmitted wirelessly to MPA?**

- The wireless coverage in the port waters has improved over the years. However, users may encounter moments of blind spots, for instance blockages due to high freeboard of receiving ships, etc.
- The datasets in the SS648 Standards on MFM use for bunker is a good start on the data fields and documentation for bunker transactions.

**6. What is the timeline that you are looking at on all the respective scopes?**

- The B2G testing is expected to be from Q4 2021 to Q1 2022 for Scope B. Applicants may refer to the CFP document for more details

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**7. Bunker barge operators are required to store the BDN for 3 years. With E-BDN, will this still be a requirement?**

- The solutions should meet the SS648 requirements where relevant, as stated in the CFP document.

**8. Can you provide more about 'field trials'? e.g. could this be a visual prototype that is tested with stakeholders, or should it be a running platform (e.g. PoC or MVP)?**

- The project should eventually be piloted and trialed in the field in actual operations, not visual prototype or simulation.

**9. There have been a few tech platform promoting bunker digitalisation solutions. Does it mean under this project only one wil be chosen and this is the party that MPA wil support exclusively? As a bank , we would like a platform which has full backing of the regulators and able to derive data from MPA as well, so as to ensure data integrity.**

- The CFP aims to catalyse as many good solutions/options as possible. It is on competitive basis and we may also prioritise for those projects with stronger merits.

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### 10. For good connectivity, would MPA be open that there is a satellite back up link to the 4G ?

- The CFP aims to encourage various approaches, subject to operational/technical and commercial feasibility.

### 11. As data will be transmitted to MPA server, what is the security requirement for the edge device to communicate with MPA server?

- The requirements are provided within the CFP document. For specific security questions, you may email to MINT@mpa.gov.sg

### 12. What will be the preferred deployment model? Public Cloud or on premise?

- For B2G, proposal needs to address data integrity, security and minimum number of data hops as per CFP document

### 13. How should the tech provider provide the solution if the company do not need MINT funds?

- Applicant that does not need the co-funding but still want to be part of the programme, especially participate in the B2G solution testing with MPA server (scope B), should submit a proposal to MPA.

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**14. What would be the evaluation criteria and weightage based on different criteria?**

- There is no specific weightage applied to the evaluation criteria. One can take them as equally important.

**15. Are there any companies that will be excluded from this program?**

- There are no companies excluded from this programme. All tech providers and bunker companies are welcome to submit proposals as long as they meet the eligibility criteria listed in the CFP on MPA website.

**16. We found bunker operators to be very hesitant to adopt a technology 2 years ago. Can you speak about the interest level from oil majors, traders, and bunker operators in Singapore today? How have they reacted to the common data infrastructure (CDI) initiative?**

- With the pandemic and finance situation, the focus on visibility, paperless documentations and contactless operations is much higher and we have seen in Alliance for Action (AFA) CDI initiative that industry players today are more open to digital solutions.

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**17. Can one organisation participate as a collaborator of one consortium, and as a lead applicant in another consortium?**

- Possible but the scope of work and deliverables should be different. Also, the proposals should avoid unnecessary duplicative efforts and double funding for the same scope of work or manpower.

**18. Can you provide more about "All work should be conducted in Singapore to qualify for funding support"? e.g. should work be done physically in Singapore or by Singapore based companies, who could source work regionally/globally in a distributed manner?**

- If technology solution providers are seeking funding support to develop solutions, core work must be done by those employed by a Singapore-based company to qualify for funding support. Only activities and expenses incurred by the Singapore-based company will be supported. Purchases of services, licenses or equipment from overseas are approved on case-to-case basis and are subjected to a cap.

- If SGP-based companies seeking overseas providers to develop or customise solutions, the consortium must provide reasons why they are not able to partner a Singapore-based provider or procure such a service locally.

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| 19. Will MPA be the owner of the proposed solution and how would the commercialisation be managed? |
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| • MPA is not owning the proposed solutions but there are T&Cs to comply with as part of the grant. MPA will own digitalBunker@SG and processes which aims to facilitate automated and secured B2G regulatory reporting. |

| 20. What is the cap of funding for this project? |
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| • Funding is based on percentage of manpower and equipment budgeted into the project. A funding cap is applied on items like professional services. Funding is based on reimbursement of the incurred expenditure. |

| 21. Do you have Bunker Barge Operators who are open to install the onboard systems? Would our contract be with the individual Barge Operators or MPA? |
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| • We encourage technology developers and bunker players to indicate their interest to be posted on the discovery list, for purpose of finding project partners.<br>• MINT Fund funding agreement is between MPA and the lead applicant of the project. The lead applicant should have back-to-back arrangements with its project partners e.g. barge operator. |

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**22. Any shareholding criteria or preferences? ie foreign owned etc**

- Applicants of MINT Fund should be Singapore registered companies. Please refer to the MINT Fund application form for details.

**23. Does MPA view this modernisation and automation exercise as involving a reduction in the human element e.g. dispensing with the need for bunker surveyors?**

- The solutions should aim to meet operational needs with productivity related outcomes. It should also enhance transparency and stakeholder confidence of the process.

**24. Will projects providing a more comprehensive and ambitious solution be considered more favourably? Or is feasibility of implementation more important?**

- The evaluation criteria is given in the CFP document. It is up to the applicant to determine whether it prefers to go deep, broad or both.

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| 25. Backward Compatibility: what considerations have been given to those B2B stakeholders that won't / can't connect to the CDI? |
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| • Support will be rendered to participating companies that have system or resource limitations in connecting to CDI. |

| 26. With CDI, there should be possibility to become a B2G data streaming and security together which seems like scope (B). Is CDI fully standalone for B2B? |
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| • CDI is focused on B2B transactions. If there are B2B commercial data and methods that meet MPA's B2G requirements, it can be proposed as part of the trials for consideration. |

| 27. Where can we get information on the CDI infrastructure and API for testing? |
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| • Some information on CDI is available on the CFP website. More details about CDI will be shared by IMDA later. |

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**28. For B2B stakeholders who already use some IT platforms/solutions that cover parts of their value-chains, will it be required of them to expose (i.e. send) their internal and/or intermediate events and data to/through the CDI?  Will such B2B use of the CDI become a (regulatory) requirement to be in the bunkering business in Singapore?**

- The consortium should discuss amongst themselves the datasets exchange that would value add to their company needs. CDI is a public-private partnership that facilitates the trusted and secure sharing of data between companies in the supply chain, including the bunker value chain, from end to end.
- POC participating companies had earlier identified B2B data fields that could improve bunker operational productivity and trade finance. The adoption of CDI is not mandatory.
- Data sharing is modelled according to existing business environments and consent by data contributors. Companies will be offered to share data via the pitstop mechanism or integrate source systems to CDI leveraging APIs.