

PR1292081 Tender Specification – Description of Tasks and Services:

Support services for the project „Customer Support with focus on Microelectronics and IC Layout“

I. Short description and time frame

The Department Integrated Circuits and Systems ICS of Fraunhofer IIS is currently looking for a contractor for professional customer support in the field of microelectronics and IC layout. This includes dealing with international customers and review customers' IC designs. The contractor will have to act as primary interface between EUROPRACTICE respectively EU Chips Design Platform (EuroCDP) and Semiconductor manufacturer GlobalFoundries, manage MPW shuttles, signoff (DRC) and tapeouts, provide support related to PDK and design tools, customer engagement from early information stage to small volume production. Additionally, the contractor will provide customer support and organize the backend (packaging, testing and delivery) for our predominantly academic customers. The contractor needs to have experience with GlobalFoundries technologies, with focus on 22FDX but also other Globalfoundries technologies such as 45RFE and 8XP.

The services shall be carried out from December 15, 2026, until December 14, 2028 (base term).

We calculate an effort of 133 hours per month on average.

However, this may be exceeded or fallen short of depending on the project situation. The total amount is a maximum of 3.200 person-hours during the contract period for the base term and likewise 1.600 person-hours for each optional extended term of 12 months.

30 days prior to the expiry of the term, Fraunhofer IIS may extend it twice, each time by 12 months. In order to be able to take flexibly into account inflation and/or market-related price developments, a moderate adjustment of the remuneration for the optional extension can be agreed, provided this is appropriate.

II. Project details and description of the tasks

Professional support services for customers who have requested support via EUROPRACTICE, EuroCDP or our business developer team according to the following description:

1. Customer support for our microelectronics and IC layout products
 - a) Checking our customers' IC designs for DRC errors
 - b) Clustering designs for manufacturing and feeding them to semiconductor manufacturers
 - c) Organizing the backend like packaging, testing, and delivery of the customers ICs
2. Communication with international customers
 - a) Responding to customer inquiries and assisting with technical issues
 - b) Supporting and advising customers in the design flow of IC designs
 - c) Educating and providing information about our production technology to customers

3. Processing of customer projects via direct contact with the customer
 - a) Contacting customers via E-Mail, MS Teams or telephone (solely for the purpose of fulfilling the tasks described in this Tender Specification)
 - b) Processing of customer data (e.g. address and contact details) on a case-by-case basis

III. Essential requirements

1. At least 3 years of experience in electronics or IC layouts
2. In-depth expertise and knowledge of physical verification of integrated circuits, especially in Globalfoundries 22FDX technology
3. In-depth expertise and knowledge of Globalfoundries semiconductor technologies
4. Experience with Cadence design software for IC development and Siemens Calibre design rule checks
5. Extensive experience in research and development of digital and analog electronic systems
6. Extensive experience in export regulations
7. Business language fluent in German and English
8. Basic knowledge of IC production
9. Basic knowledge of packaging flow

IV. Offer and attachments

- a. We expect offers with an hourly rate. In accordance with the provisions of the German Federal Travel Expense Act (Bundesreisekostengesetz), travel expenses approved by Fraunhofer IIS will be reimbursed separately in addition to the hourly rate.
- b. We request that the contractor sends us an informative letter of offer as well as the following attachment:
 - Project Description of 1 successfully executed project in the field of microelectronics and IC layout (length: max. 2 pages)
 - Contractor profile representing the professional knowledge and experience values (tabular listing is sufficient, length: max. 2 pages per profile)