

Commitment Approval Minute

TO: s47F, Director, Procurement and Software Commercials Section (PSC)
Enterprise Portfolio Management and Commercial Branch (EMPC)
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group

COMMITMENT APPROVAL TO PURCHASE 3 X FIVECAST ONYX PRO LICENCES THROUGH FIVECAST PTY LTD FOR A 12-MONTH PERIOD.

PURPOSE

This Minute recommends that you:

- R1. **APPROVE** the indemnity clause in the contract which is in favour of Fivecast Pty Ltd in accordance with section 60 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), as outlined in the Section 60 Assessment section of this minute. s47E(d)
- R2. **APPROVE** the expenditure of Departmental funds of **\$107,250.00 (GST inclusive)**, for the purchase of three Fivecast Onyx Pro licences from Fivecast Pty Ltd (**ABN: 48 621 030 199**), under Section 23(3) of the PGPA Act;
- R3. **NOTE** the quotation/proposal from Fivecast Pty Ltd at **Attachment B**;
- R4. **NOTE** the funds availability confirmation at **Attachment C**;
- R5. **NOTE** Fivecast Onyx Pro has been approved for use within the Department (Enterprise Architecture and Cyber Security) via Cherwell ticket 4035187;
- R6. **NOTE** the mechanism of purchase will be issuing a purchase order that operates under the terms and conditions of the End User Licensing Agreement (EULA) at **Attachment A**; and
- R7. **SIGN** the attached manual purchase order at **Attachment D**.

1. SECTION 60 PGPA ACT APPROVAL

Contracts which contain a contingent liability cannot be entered into without being approved in accordance with s60 of the PGPA Act.

Table 3 of Schedule 1 of the Departments Delegations states that the Section 23(3) delegate for any engagement also has the Section 60 delegation for that same engagement. Resultantly, you have the Delegation to approve the indemnity clause in this agreement. Accountable Authority Instructions 2.2 and Finance Business Rule R2.2 provide the Department's rules and guidance for assessing risk and providing section 60 Approval.

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It is recommended that Section 60 Approval is provided in accordance with the Finance Business Rule R2.2 and as per Department Financial Delegations to address the PGPA Section 60 requirement.

Please note that if you decide against providing section 60 approval then you are unable to provide section 23(3) approval to procure licenses from Fivecast Pty Ltd.

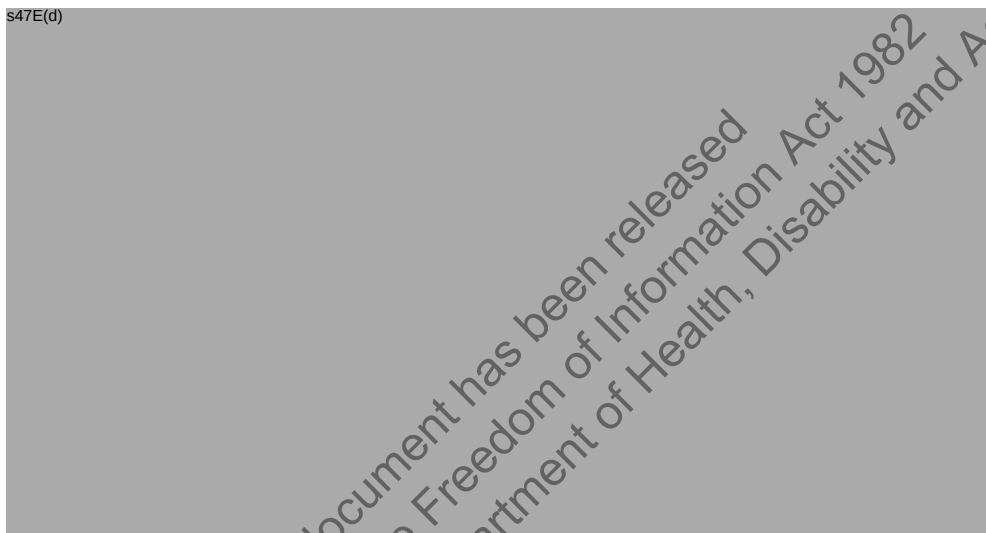
2. BACKGROUND/CONTEXT

To address the growing complexity and volume of intelligence referrals, the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) Intelligence Team requires advanced Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) tools to enhance its operational capabilities. Current manual methods of data collection are time-consuming, limited in scope, and increasingly inadequate for identifying non-compliant activities across digital platforms.

Fivecast Onyx offers transformative capabilities including deep web access, cross-platform social media analysis, and automated data aggregation, which significantly reduce turnaround times and improve the accuracy and depth of intelligence reporting. Investing in this tool will enable the team to deliver timely, comprehensive intelligence products, support strategic regulatory functions, and achieve greater efficiency than would be possible through additional staffing alone.

Fivecast Onyx is used by a number of federal government agencies including:

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A proposal has been prepared by the vendor (**Attachment B**). This requirement has been confirmed by the relevant business owner S47F, Regulatory Practice and Support Division.

3. TIMEFRAME

Support and maintenance for Fivecast Onyx Pro will be provided from 1 July 2025 – 30 June 2026.

4. VALUE FOR MONEY

The proposed OSINT tool, FIVECAST Onyx, was identified by the Department's Intelligence Forum as a preferred solution due to its proven use across other government agencies and its advanced capabilities, including dark web access, AI-driven analytics, and secure persona-based investigations. These features significantly surpass the limitations of manual intelligence methods. The decision to proceed with Fivecast Onyx was informed by qualitative feedback from analysts, its alignment with key intelligence priorities—such as timeliness, reach, and reliability—and a thorough review of licensing and implementation costs. It offers a scalable solution that enhances the TGA's intelligence capability while delivering a strong return on investment. Accordingly, the purchase of these licenses represents value for money to the Department.

5. CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT

The licenses will be purchased via the issuing of a purchase order and will be provided under the conditions of the EULA. The nominated Contract Manager for this arrangement will be the Director,

Procurement and Software Commercials Team, EPMC. Business Ownership and approval given through s47F, Director, Governance and Integrity Section, Regulatory Practice and Support Division.

6. COMPLIANCE WITH COMMONWEALTH PROCUREMENT RULES

This procurement is above the relevant threshold (\$80,000.00 GST inclusive) and therefore the additional rules for procurements at or above the relevant procurement threshold in Division 2 of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules will apply. The Value for Money considerations found in Division 1 have been applied.

The Commonwealth Procurement Rules state that Commonwealth entities must only conduct a procurement at or above the relevant procurement threshold through limited tender when a specific condition for limited tender is met. In this instance, the relevant conditions for limited tender are as follows:

- 10.3.d - when the goods and services can be supplied only by a particular business and there is no reasonable alternative or substitute for one of the following reasons:*
- ii. to protect patents, copyrights, or other exclusive rights, or proprietary information; AND*
 - iii. due to an absence of competition for technical reason*

Fivecast software provides an open-source intelligence platform for obfuscated monitoring and collection of publicly available information. This is proprietary software and no suitable alternative is available from any vendor.

7. INDIGENOUS PROCUREMENT POLICY

The expected value of the procurement is between \$80,000 and \$200,000, however, this procurement uses a 10.3 exemption, so the mandatory set-aside does not apply.

8. EXPENDITURE APPROVAL AND FUNDS AVAILABILITY

The cost to the Department for this purchase is **\$107,250.00** (GST inclusive). This is within your delegation limit under the Accountable Authority Financial Delegations Schedule 1, Table 1, Item 54, to approve proposals to commit relevant money up to \$1,000,000.00.

Cost Centre	Cost Centre Name	Funding Type	GL Code	Internal Order	Expenditure (GST Inclusive)
TG00000114	MRD PB TECHNICAL	Departmental	5200001644	N/A	\$107,250.00

The Finance Business Partner has confirmed that funds are available at **Attachment C**.

Forward Commitment

Beyond Forward Estimates Approval is the approval of funds beyond the forward estimates period (current financial year plus four financial years out). It is a requirement under instruction from the Secretary (S16 PGPA Act- Schedule Instruction 1), the Department's Financial Delegations and Finance Business Rules.

As the duration of the expenditure proposal does not extend beyond the forward estimates period, a Beyond Forward Estimates approval has not been completed. In addition, this commitment approval does not contain any contingent liabilities.

9. GENERAL

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There are no additional procurement risks associated with this process. There are no known conflict of interest issues that have been raised throughout the process. Any significant risks and mitigations identified will be advised to the delegate.

Internal Reporting Requirements

Under the Department's Procurement Processing and Management policy, contracts must be registered within 2 business days of execution.

External Reporting Requirements

The contract will be reported on the Department's website in accordance with the Senate Order requirements of July 2001 (Murray Motion). As the contract is valued over \$10,000 it will be reported on AusTender within 42 days of entering into the contract, in line with the Commonwealth Procurement Rules (Division 1, Item 7, Reporting arrangements).

Documentation

The documentation is held on TRIM File E25-342774. All relevant documentation has been filed in accordance with [Corporate Business Rule 2: Information Management and Record Keeping](#).

Prepared by:

s47F

Procurement and Software Commercial
Enterprise Portfolio Management and Commercial Branch
Date: 30 June 2025

s47F

s47F

Director, Governance and Integrity Section
Regulatory Practice and Support Division
Date: 30 June 2025

10. DELEGATE APPROVALS

It is recommended that you, as delegate:

- R1. **APPROVE** the indemnity clause in the contract which is in favour of Fivecast Pty Ltd in accordance with section 60 of the *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act 2013* (PGPA Act), as outlined in the Section 60 Assessment section of this minute. s47E(d)
- R2. **APPROVE** the expenditure of Departmental funds of \$107,250.00 (GST inclusive), for the purchase of three Fivecast Onyx Pro licences from Fivecast Pty Ltd (ABN: 48 621 030 199), under Section 23(3) of the PGPA Act;
- R3. **NOTE** the quotation/proposal from Fivecast Pty Ltd at Attachment B;
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- R6. **NOTE** the mechanism of purchase will be issuing a purchase order that operates under the terms and conditions of the End User Licensing Agreement (EULA) at Attachment A; and
- R7. **SIGN** the attached manual purchase order at Attachment D.

Delegate Approval

s47F

s47F

Director, Procurement and Software Commercials Section (PSC)
Enterprise Portfolio Management and Commercial Branch (EMPC)
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group

30.06.2025

Date:

Attachments:

ID	Description	Trim Ref
A	EULA Risk Review	D25-2811245
B	Quotation/Proposal	D25-2789391
C	Funds availability confirmation	D25-2791026
D	Manual Purchase Order	D25-2817505

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HPRG Intelligence – Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement

Branch	HPRG – Represented by Regulatory Compliance Branch	Program	1.8 Health Protection, Emergency Response and Regulation	Funding Status	Funding available	Lifecycle Stage	Procurement
Decision Requested	Approval to progress to procurement for Nexus Xplore and Onyx FIVECAST for HPRG Intelligence						
Committee Decision							

Altus ID	
SRO	Tracey Lutton
PM	s47F

Description		Key Activities/Outputs/Scope Items			Key Documents
• HPRG Intelligence conducts complex open-source intelligence collection to further attribute persons of interest to their non-compliance activities. • The Departmental network is not suitable for broader collection activities because many websites are flagged and blocked. • HPRG Intelligence seeks to acquire dedicated open-source search and collection software to increase capabilities and efficiency on a secure, non-attributable platform.		• HPRG Intelligence has undertaken testing for both platforms to test accuracy, efficacy and information return. Although the tools share some similarities, they have enough differences to warrant obtaining licenses for both. After the initial license period, the Intelligence team could further assess the continuing need for both tools. • Discussions with IT/Cybersecurity and network architecture teams around implementation and access to the solution via the Departmental network. • Allocation of licenses to analysts and implementation department specific training for Intelligence analysts. • Regular audit to ensure compliance with policies.			
Benefits (non-financial)		Benefits (financial)		Implementation Risks (Low/Medium/High)	
• An off the shelf platform such as Fivecast and/or NexusXplore provide a single point of OSINT collections and assessment. This provides significant efficiency gains throughout the collection process. • By embracing OSINT tools, we can anticipate significant efficiency dividends and an opportunity to significantly enhance our influence on future TGA regulatory functions. • The potential benefits of OSINT tools are essential and transformative, promising a more effective and proactive regulatory approach.		• The amount of data that can be obtained using this tool in a matter of hours, rather than days, will allow for faster turnaround on high-priority cases. This not only saves time but also significantly increases the productivity of our analysts, allowing them to focus on more strategic tasks. • The cost of one tool is equivalent to a full-time EL1, but it will provide far more benefit than an additional ASL. • An industry backed and supported platform, with ongoing development, will minimise the likelihood of the system becoming outdated or ineffective for the TGA, minimising the likelihood of future procurement activities.		• Low - Running third-party software on Departmental networks comes with cybersecurity risks (cybersecurity consulted) • Note – Information used to search platforms, is identical to information used in current search methods by HPRG Intelligence.	
Dependencies	Architecture Alignment	Resourcing	Costs	Funding	Timeline
• The procurement of OSINT platform/s are a standalone process with no required project-based work outside of IT Security, Cybersecurity and architecture approval of the systems. • Procedures specific to HPRG Intelligence in relation to dissemination of platform collected information may be required. SOP's will be developed by HPRG Intelligence.	Proposed solution will ensure data security is established in line with the data and architecture governance frameworks.	Discovery: HPRG Intelligence has already undergone testing of the two potential platforms. Implementation: New Sustainment: New	Discovery: \$Nil Implementation: Final costs will be identified during procurement. Sustainment: \$ Total: [If moving to implementation]	Branch budget: funding available in RPSD 2024-15 budget	Start date: End date: Key dates: [Contract renewals, delivery milestones, Go live, etc]

1/1

From: [LUTTON, Tracey](#)
To: s47F
Cc: s47F
Subject: FW: TRIM: RE: RCB AND WIEB Product - for consideration and approval - OSINT Intelligence Tool [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 27 June 2025 3:58:03 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

Hi s47F

As below and discussed – Band 2 support and approval for the spend for both NexusXplore and FIVECAST Onyx.

Thanks

Tracey

Tracey Lutton

Assistant Secretary, Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F

s47F

PO Box 100, Woden ACT 2606, Australia

Executive Support: s47F

E: s47F [@health.gov.au](#)

I may send emails out of hours at a time that suits me. I look forward to receiving your response during your normal working hours.

The Department of Health, Disability and Ageing acknowledges the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continued connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to all Elders past and present.

From: BEDFORD, Chris <Chris.Bedford@health.gov.au>

Sent: Wednesday, 9 April 2025 12:35 PM

To: LUTTON, Tracey <Tracey.Lutton@health.gov.au>; MCLACHLAN-BENT, Ashley <Ashley.MCLACHLAN-BENT@health.gov.au>

Cc: s47F <s47F [@health.gov.au](#)>; s47F <s47F [@health.gov.au](#)>

Subject: TRIM: RE: RCB AND WIEB Product - for consideration and approval - OSINT Intelligence Tool [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Thanks Tracey.

I am supportive. We can all discuss, but the funding this financial year shouldn't be a problem, going forward we will have more pressures and if the year 1 use demonstrates significant efficiency etc, then we may need to look at how ongoing use is offset by an ASL etc.

Cheers, Chris

Chris Bedford (He/Him)

First Assistant Secretary

Regulatory Practice & Support Division

Health Products Regulation Group

Australian Government Department of Health & Aged Care

P: 02 5132 0659 | M: s47F | E: s47F [@health.gov.au](#)

Location: Gulgana Building, Fairbairn, Canberra

GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Executive Assistant | s47F

P: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F [@health.gov.au](#)

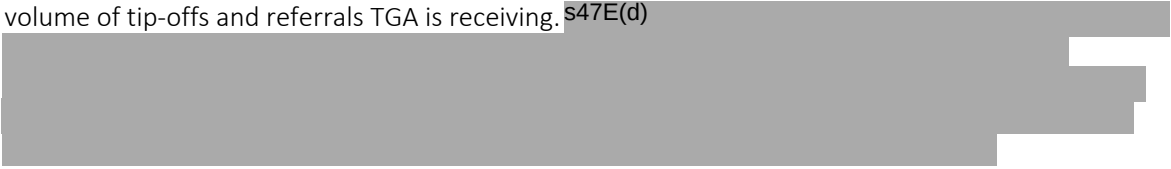
Executive Officer | s47F

P: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F [@health.gov.au](#)

The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

Note:

The intelligence team is currently facing significant challenges due to the increasing complexity and volume of tip-offs and referrals TGA is receiving. s47E(d)



Intelligence objectives

The HRRG Intelligence Team aims to produce value-added intelligence to answer key intelligence questions pertinent to the **TGA Advertising, Import and Supply Compliance Priorities** and RCB and VIEB investigations.

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s47E(d)



OSINT Tools

OSINT tools exponentially expand data volumes and provide deeper insights into this ever-increasing set of data. **These tools allow us to do things we cannot do manually.** The benefits of OSINT tools are plentiful:

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Time Savings

- The time savings with the OSINT tools are significant. s47E(d)

- s47E(d)

Options and Analysis

There is a community of practice with other intel areas in the Department, with monthly engagement.

- As a group, they are looking at future resourcing together:
 1. **RCB Intel** - have responsibility for the capability uplift s47E(d)
 2. **Fraud and Integrity** - s47E(d)
 3. **Benefits Integrity** - s47E(d)

Interagency discussion and online research identified two potential vendors offering services highly conducive to TGA regulatory work.

Testing

The intel team has undertaken testing of two OSINT tools from these vendors:

- FIVECAST Onyx and
- NexusXplore

The Intelligence team undertook a work-based assessment of these two OSINT software platforms to ascertain the best fit for purpose and value for money (see attachment – HPRG Intelligence – OSINT Test Review for the full comparative assessment). Both tools aim to give analysts a significant edge by delivering rich, relevant, and accurate information that the intelligence team can use for intelligence assessments.

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Although the trial period for both products offered valuable insights into their usefulness, the complete potential of these tools has yet to be fully realised. We believe that they could have a significant impact in the digital disruption arena, particularly in streamlining processes and enhancing operational efficiency. However, until the team conducts a thorough exploration of all the features and functionalities, we cannot determine the true scope of the benefits the tools may offer. Our

ongoing assessment will be crucial in uncovering their capabilities and understanding how they can best serve our objectives in this rapidly evolving digital landscape.

Proposal

Incorporating an OSINT product into our processes and procedures would allow us to **deliver more timely and comprehensive intelligence**, including relevant information on entities of interest and associations, identification of patterns and trends, and insights into emerging threats and vulnerabilities. The potential benefits of OSINT tools are significant and promising.

By embracing OSINT tools, we can anticipate significant efficiency dividends and an opportunity to significantly enhance our influence on future TGA regulatory functions. The potential benefits of OSINT tools are essential and transformative, promising a more effective and **proactive** regulatory approach.

- The intelligence team currently has a relatively small footprint (6 ASL + grad).
- Each OSINT tool will cost between \$130,000 and \$250,000 pa. **Note:** the final costs will not be available until we engage with the vendor
- The cost of one tool is equivalent to a full-time EL1, but it will provide far more benefit than an additional ASL.
- The original vapping NPP included funding for tools; however, it appears that RCB did not receive this funding. It is our understanding that VIEB has an underspend for 2024-25. The OSINT tools would be a beneficial use of these funds.

Option 1 - Purchase both tools

Although the tools share some similarities, they have enough differences to warrant **obtaining licenses for both**. After the initial license period, the Intelligence team could further assess the continuing need for both tools.

s47E(d)

Option 2 - Purchase one tool

Although both tools can address important capability gaps, **NexusXplore** aligns best with the team's current needs.

s47E(d)

Digital Services Prioritisation Board Assessment

If we are to progress to the procurement process, the newly established Digital Services Prioritisation Board (DSPB) must assess and endorse the 'plan on a page' document. The DSPB has been put in place to improve the Governance of departmental digital investment decisions, driving:

- Greater user adoption of sustainable digital solutions.
- Improved collaboration with customers and cross-functional teams.

Recommendation:

That you:

- Agree and provide **in-principle-approval** to proceed with **Option 1** purchase licences for both NexusXplore and FIVECAST Onyx.
- If you agree in principle, the next step is for the DSPB to consider it. A draft 'plan on a page' is will be drafted in accordance with approved option.

FYI – RCB can only afford half of one tool – if you are in agreement to purchase both tools – I'm hoping there's so NPP funding still available we can attribute some money towards?

Thanks
Tracey

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Australian Government
Department of Health and Aged Care

Summary of Business Requirements

Request Title: Request Name – (Cherwell:)

Date advice required / reason:

Business Contact: ^{s47F} Ph: 02 5132 ^{s47F} E: ^{s47F} [@health.gov.au](mailto: @health.gov.au)

SN - Several

BR – Regulatory Compliance Branch (RCB) and Vaping Implementation and Enforcement Branch (VIEB)

DIV – Regulatory Practice and Support Division

ITD Front Door Contact: [Insert] Ph: [Insert] E: [Insert]

Background:

High level description of the role/responsibility of the business area in relation to the request. What changes or decisions have taken place to that impact current business process? Note key dates associated with policy decisions and legislated deadlines for implementation.

TGA investigators undertake online investigations to assess non-compliance under the Act and collect evidence. ^{s47E(d)}

Issue:

Describe the issue including:

- Function requiring IT support
- Current support for this function
- Key issues / pain points
- Progress completed to date including identified solution options and contingencies

TGA investigators require an IT solution to allow them to access websites ^{s47E(d)}

- s47E(d)

Stakeholders:

Complete a table describing the Role and description of interaction with the solution

Title	No.	Role in process	Internal/ external
RCB branch		Investigations / Compliance	Internal
VIEB branch		Investigations / Compliance	Internal

Requirements:

Document high level business requirements which may include the following:

- Access: internal, external, role based.
- Access to secure document storage
- Data capture
- Web site/Online forms
- Document creation / templates
- Workflow / milestone tracking
- Payments / Invoicing
- Approvals
- Reporting
- Integration with other systems (Outlook, SAP etc.)

BR	Description	Priority
BR-01	Misattributed website access	1
BR-02	Ability to transfer evidence to Departmental systems	2
BR-03	Ability to access any website	3
BR-04	Online portal accessible through the Departmental network	4
BR-05	Ability to audit user's activities	5
BR-06		
BR-07		
BR-08		

Non-Functional Requirements:

- Security
- Availability
- Accessibility

- Volumetrics
- Support/ maintenance/ restoration timeframes
- Audit
- Performance
- Archive

TEMPORARY

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From: s47F
To: FRISBY, Jennifer; Digital Services Prioritisation Board; CHESHER, Amanda
Cc: HOBBLIN, Damien; s47F; LUTTON, Tracey; s47F; BEDFORD, Chris; s47F
Subject: RE: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Wednesday, 14 May 2025 3:05:50 PM
Attachments: image001.png
image002.png
HPRG Intelligence Nexus Xplore - Onyx Fivecast - Authority to Proceed.docx

Good afternoon All,

Please find attached the signed and approved Authority to Proceed (ATP) for the HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST.

Regards,

s47F
Cyber Security Advisor (Contractor)
Cyber Security Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: s47F | E: s47F@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Level 2 N 8105

From: FRISBY, Jennifer <Jennifer.FRISBY@Health.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 14 May 2025 9:09 AM
To: s47F@Health.gov.au; Digital Services Prioritisation Board s47E(d)@health.gov.au; CHESHER, Amanda <Amanda.CHESHER@Health.gov.au>
Cc: HOBBLIN, Damien <Damien.HOBBLIN@Health.gov.au>; s47F@health.gov.au; s47F@Health.gov.au; s47F@Health.gov.au; s47F@Health.gov.au
Subject: RE: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi David,

HPRG would need to advise these as part of the procurement process.

I've provided your contact details in the response to the Digital Prioritisation Board, so hopefully they will be in contact.

Regards

Jennifer Frisby (Her/She)

Assistant Secretary
Health Business Systems Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing
P: 02 5132 s47F | M: s47F | E: Jennifer.Frisby@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Building
GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Supported by Executive Assistant: Natalie Reid

This email comes to you from Nggunawal Country. The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: s47F@Health.gov.au
Sent: Wednesday, 14 May 2025 8:51 AM
To: FRISBY, Jennifer <Jennifer.FRISBY@Health.gov.au>; Digital Services Prioritisation Board s47E(d)@health.gov.au; CHESHER, Amanda <Amanda.CHESHER@Health.gov.au>
Cc: HOBBLIN, Damien <Damien.HOBBLIN@Health.gov.au>; s47F@health.gov.au; s47F@Health.gov.au; s47F@Health.gov.au
Subject: RE: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good morning all,

I am just finalising the Authority to Proceed. Would someone mind supplying the below detail
Platform for intended implementation: Azure/AWS/GCP
Platform Owner:
System Owner:

Many thanks

Regards,

s47F
Cyber Security Advisor (Contractor)
Cyber Security Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
T: s47F | E: s47F@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Level 2 N 8105

From: FRISBY, Jennifer <Jennifer.FRISBY@Health.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, 13 May 2025 5:52 PM
To: s47F@Health.gov.au; Digital Services Prioritisation Board s47E(d)@health.gov.au; CHESHER, Amanda

<Amanda.CHESHER@Health.gov.au>

Cc: HOBBLIN, Damien <Damien.HOBBLIN@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Apologies - Updated to include additional Cyber Security Architecture advice from Shayne.

Jennifer Frisby (Her/She)

Assistant Secretary
Health Business Systems Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

P: 02 5132 2363 | M: S47F | E: Jennifer.Frisby@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Building
GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Supported by Executive Assistant: S47F

This email comes to you from Nggunawal Country. The Department of Health and Aged Care acknowledges First Nations peoples as the Traditional Owners of Country throughout Australia, and their continuing connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures, and to all Elders both past and present.

From: FRISBY, Jennifer

Sent: Tuesday, 13 May 2025 5:48 PM

To: S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; Digital Services Prioritisation Board S47E(d) <S47E(d)@health.gov.au>; CHESHER, Amanda

<Amanda.CHESHER@Health.gov.au>

Cc: S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>

Subject: FW: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Digital Services Prioritisation Team,

Thank you for providing the additional information from HPRG on the request. I can see from that further detail, that Chris Bedford (FAS) has reviewed and approved the request as a priority for HPRG. I've still followed up with the HPRG Digital Branch Business Support team who look after HPRG Backlog and prioritisation and they confirmed that it's a known item that they are aware of and are supportive of progressing.

Digital Services contacts have reviewed the request and advised:

- Initial engagement was made in regard to POCs for this initiative back in August 2024. If this is now progressing to procurement and implementation, further additional Cyber assessments are required, on how the products fit into the environment. As an Online tool, this should be able to be assessed at pace and an Authority to Proceed provided. The Cyber contact is S47F for preliminary evaluation. We should request as part of the Digital Services response that HPRG reaches out to Cyber as part of the procurement process to allow this Cyber assessment.

Initial findings from Cyber Security Architecture:

- Reviewed and support the HPRG Intelligence procurement
- No OSINT platforms used by Cyber- so no cyber tech capability duplication concern.
- Security platform blueprint includes cyber forensic and threat intelligence capabilities but does NOT include Fraud and Intelligence target state capabilities.
 - Enterprise Architecture to review and advise platform blueprint coverage of Fraud and Intelligence capabilities (Open-Source Intelligence platforms)
- Fivecast Onyx and NexusXplore+ are dominant OSINT platforms
 - Fivecast Onyx has broad FedGov adoption S47E(d)
 - NexusXplore+ implemented in S47E(d)
- The procurement, commercials, and software management teams have looked at this and have not identified in our scope, that this already exists, so this would be a new procurement. The IT procurement team should remain engaged on this request. Would be good to know how the software is licenced and what opportunities for reuse outside of HPRG there would be.
- From a Data perspective it would need to be confirmed whether data from this software will be stored, and if so where? E.g. It could be combined into the EDAP instance. The contacts for this would be the DAPS branch through their Engage with DAPS process and S47F.
- No impact or support would be required from Health Business Systems on this request.

@CHESHER, Amanda - Do you have any architectural considerations that need to be added to the above.

Based on the above, unless Architecture has further concerns, and the contacts above engaged then I'd suggest they could proceed.

If you require further information to provide a response to HPRG, please let me know.

Regards

Jennifer Frisby (Her/She)

Assistant Secretary
Health Business Systems Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care

P: 02 5132 2363 | M: S47F | E: Jennifer.Frisby@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Building
GPO Box 9848, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia

Supported by Executive Assistant: S47F

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From: FRISBY, Jennifer <Jennifer.FRISBY@Health.gov.au>

Sent: Thursday, 8 May 2025 2:20 PM

To: HOBBLIN, Damien <Damien.HOBBLIN@Health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@health.gov.au>; S47F <S47F@Health.gov.au>

Cc: Digital Services Prioritisation Board **S47E(d)** [@health.gov.au](mailto:health.gov.au); **S47F** [@Health.gov.au](mailto:Health.gov.au); FRISBY, Jennifer
<Jennifer.FRISBY@Health.gov.au>

Subject: Response by 13th May: HPRG Intelligence - Nexus Xplore/Onyx FIVECAST Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]

Hi Damien,

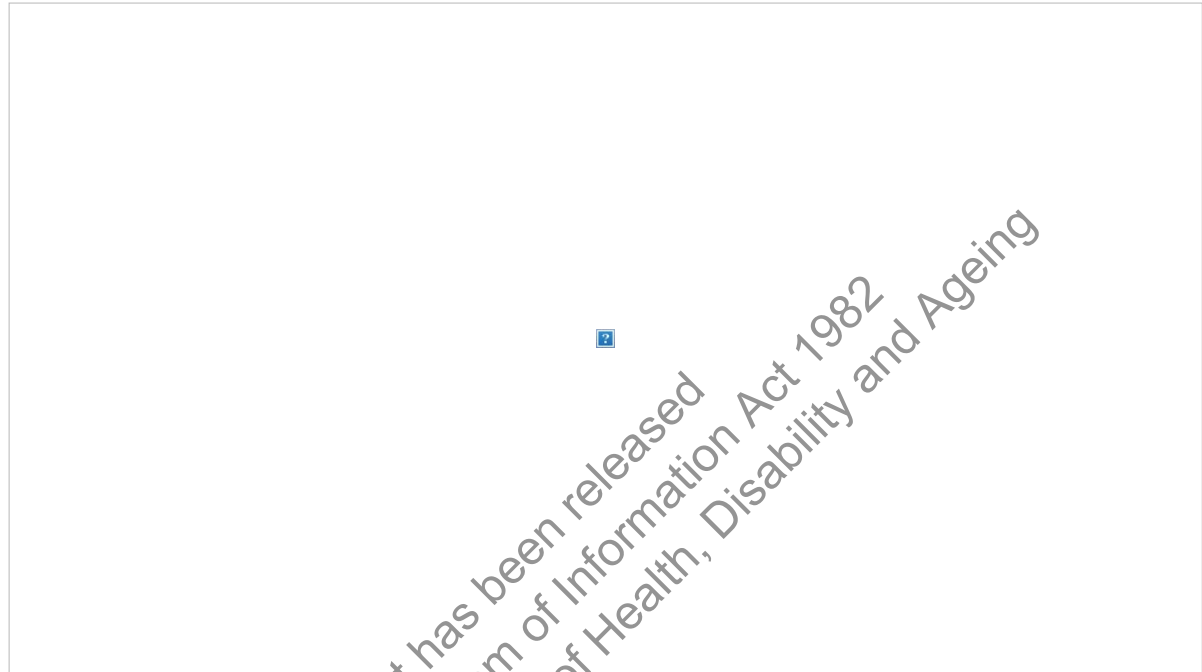
As per the Digital Services Prioritisation Board this morning, can you please provide advice on any concerns/considerations regarding the below request from a Data perspective.

You'd mentioned there was similar in HERD etc, is that the same software or another option?

S47F – This is noted as a procurement, do we already have this available in the Department?

S47F – **S47E(d)**

If you can please provide a response by **COB Tuesday 13th May**, it would be greatly appreciated.



Regards

Jennifer Frisby (Her/She)

Assistant Secretary
Health Business Systems Branch | Information Technology Division
Digital Services within Corporate Operations Group
Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care
P: 02 5132 2363 | M: **S47F** | E: Jennifer.Frisby@health.gov.au
Location: Yaradhang Building
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Supported by Executive Assistant: **S47F**

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From: s47F
To: [TEPPER, Lisa](#)
Cc: [FLEVARAS, Fay](#); [LUTTON, Tracey](#); s47F; s47F; s47F; [IT Business Engagement; Cyber Security; Commercial Software](#); s47F; [OSINT tech and tools support](#)
Subject: URGENT: Out-of-Session Approval Request for 8 May DSPB Item 7 - FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore Procurement [SEC=OFFICIAL]
Date: Friday, 20 June 2025 5:22:05 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
Importance: High

Dear Lisa

Issue

We are requesting an urgent out-of-session approval for procurement of Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) software before the end of Financial Year (FY).

Background

1. On 8 May the Digital Services Prioritisation Board met to approve the procurement of OSINT software, however determined that item number 7 required further actions.
 - a. A search was performed to ensure there were not already existing like for like products.
 - b. We have received Authority to Proceed from Cyber Security as well as approval from Enterprise Architecture.

Please be advised there are no outstanding actions remaining.

We have funding set aside specifically for procurement of these tools in this FY. If we do not secure these products this FY, we will lose the funding.

Urgency: s47E(d)

Recommendation

Recommend you approve an urgent out of session meeting.

Thank you.

Kindest regards,

s47F

Assistant Director – Governance, Integrity and Targeted Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F [@health.gov.au](mailto:s47F@health.gov.au)

This email comes to you from Ngunnawal Country

Location: Level 2, 27 Scherger Drive, Fairbairn ACT

PO Box 100, Woden ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA

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From: OSINT tech and tools support

Sent: Thursday, 19 June 2025 11:00 AM

To: Commercial Software s47E(d) @health.gov.au>; s47F

s47F @health.gov.au>; s47F s47F @Health.gov.au>

Cc: s47F @health.gov.au>; IT Business Engagement

s47E(d) @health.gov.au>; s47F s47F @health.gov.au>;

s47F @Health.gov.au>; s47F

s47F @Health.gov.au>; s47F @Health.gov.au>;

LUTTON, Tracey <Tracey.Lutton@health.gov.au>; OSINT tech and tools support

s47E(d) @health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: UPDATE: HPRG Intelligence - FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore Procurement

[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

Hi s47F

Thank you for your call yesterday. Please find below the information you requested.

The intelligence team requires Fivecast Onyx and OSINTCombine's Nexus Xplore by the end of Financial Year (FY) due to operational requirements. These tools greatly increase the capability of the intelligence team, with stakeholders expecting to be able to utilise these capabilities from the end of June. The team has already indicated they will be able to assist with ongoing investigations in multiple branches, s47E(d)

. This support relies on the use of Nexus Xplore and Onyx and, as it relates to current investigations, s47E(d)

Please note how our funding works, if we do not secure these products before end of FY, we will not have the money for our next budget. This may be different with how other branches operate across the department, but not for RCB/VIEB.

Details as requested:

- RCB Financial Business Partner (FBP) – s47F
s47F @Health.gov.au)
- Cost Code – s47E(d)
- We wish to purchase the following number of licences:
 - s47E(d)
 - s47E(d)
- Cost (quote in TRIM links below) estimates.
 - Nexus Xplore Quote - [D25-2164284](#) (Attached)

FIVECAST Onyx Quote – D25-2631485 (Attached)

- Other resources - [E24-458347](#)
-

Vendor Contacts

FIVESCASC

s47F [@fivecast.com](#)

s47F [@fivecast.com](#)

NEXUS

s47F [@osintcombine.com](#)

Thank you.

Kindest regards,

s47F

Assistant Director – Governance, Integrity and Targeted Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F [@health.gov.au](#)

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From: OSINT tech and tools support

Sent: Wednesday, 18 June 2025 1:38 PM

To: Commercial Software s47E(d) [@health.gov.au](#); s47F

s47F [@health.gov.au](#); s47F [@Health.gov.au](#)

Cc: s47F [@health.gov.au](#); IT Business Engagement

s47E(d) [@health.gov.au](#); s47F [@health.gov.au](#);

s47F [@Health.gov.au](#); s47F

[Health.gov.au](#); s47F [@Health.gov.au](#)

Subject: RE: UPDATE: HPRG Intelligence - FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore Procurement
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Importance: High

Hi s47F

Thank you for reaching out late last week to apprise me of the situation regarding the potential procurement delay of FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore.

s22

Thank you.

Kindest regards,

s47F

Assistant Director – Governance, Integrity and Targeted Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 s47F | E: s47F @health.gov.au

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From: OSINT tech and tools support

Sent: Friday, 6 June 2025 8:24 AM

To: Commercial Software s47E(d) @health.gov.au; s47F

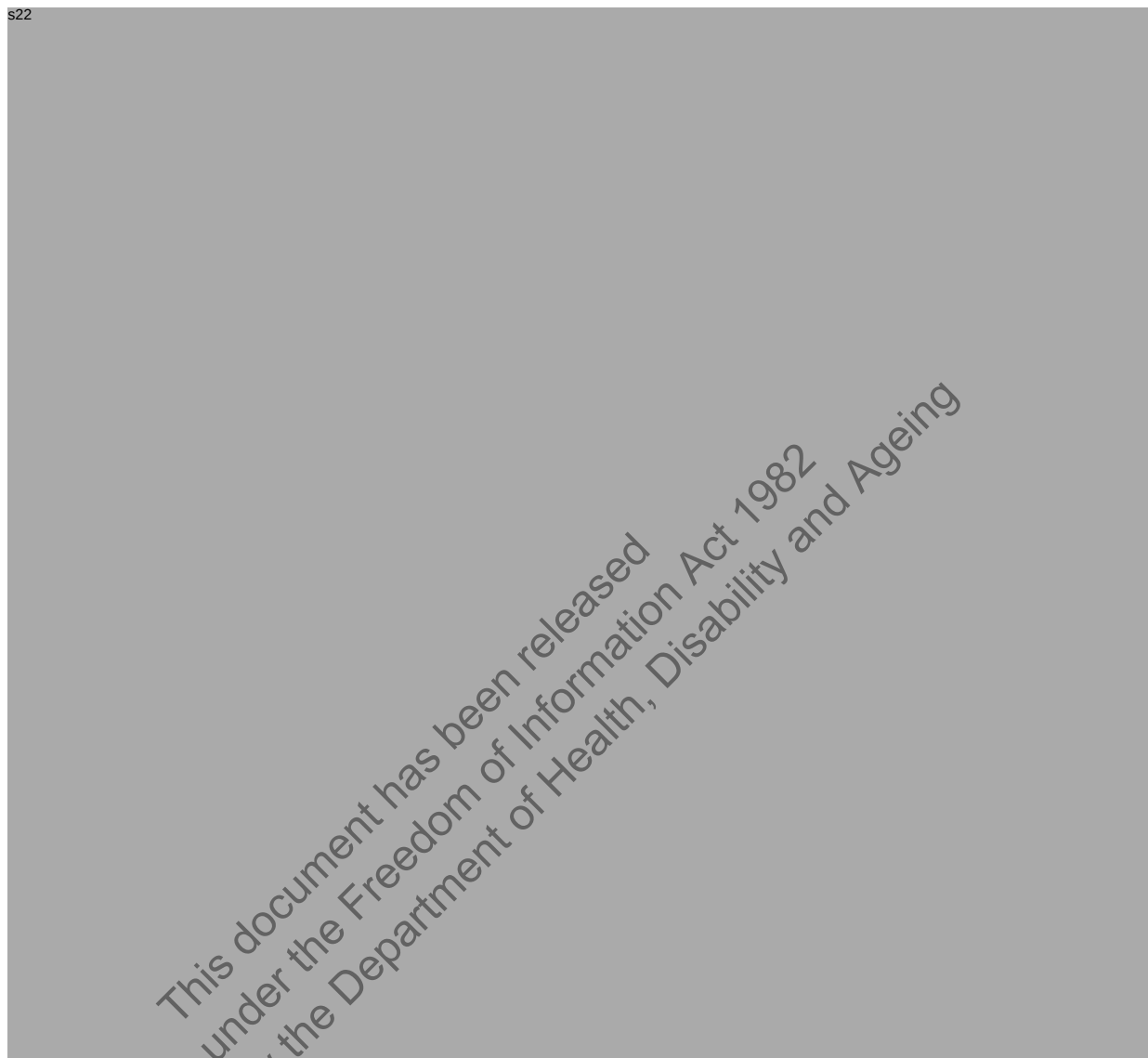
s47F @health.gov.au; s47F @Health.gov.au>

Cc: s47F @health.gov.au; IT Business Engagement

s47E(d) [redacted] @health.gov.au>; s47F [redacted] @health.gov.au>;
s47F [redacted] @Health.gov.au>; OSINT tech and tools support
s47E(d) [redacted] @health.gov.au>

Subject: RE: UPDATE: HPRG Intelligence - FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore Procurement
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

s22



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by the Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

s47F [redacted]

Assistant Director – Governance, Integrity and Targeted Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 s47F [redacted] | E: s47F [redacted] @health.gov.au

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s47F [redacted]

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both past and present.

From: OSINT tech and tools support

Sent: Thursday, 29 May 2025 2:39 PM

To: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@health.gov.au>

Cc: Commercial Software [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@health.gov.au>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@Health.gov.au>; OSINT tech and tools support [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@health.gov.au>

Subject: UPDATE: HPRG Intelligence - FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore Procurement
[SEC=OFFICIAL]

Good afternoon [REDACTED]

I hope this finds you well. By way of introduction, I am from the Regulatory Compliance Branch (RCB) and we have been in discussion with Cyber Security, IT Architecture and [REDACTED] (previously) from IT Business Engagement regarding the next steps and progression of the approved HPRG Intelligence – FIVECAST Onyx / Nexus Xplore products for procurement.

I have just submitted a new non-standard software request via My Self-Service Portal that has been approved and here is the ticket - **4019938**

Note: My director [REDACTED] has also confirmed we would like to ensure we can procure these products before the end of this Financial Year (FY) as a bulk payment, as we have specifically set aside funds for this to be allocated this FY.

Please find below the TRIM container that has some pricing estimates:

TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS - Evaluation - Regulatory Compliance Branch (RCB) - Opensource Intelligence (OSINT) Tools - [E25-198508](#)

Please let us know if you or the procurement team can't find any documentation or if you require any further assistance.

[REDACTED]

Kindest regards,

[REDACTED]

Assistant Director – Governance, Integrity and Targeted Compliance
Regulatory Compliance Branch

Regulatory Practice and Support Division | Health Products Regulation Group
Australian Government Department of Health, Disability and Ageing

T: 02 5132 [REDACTED] | E: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@health.gov.au>

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[REDACTED]

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