

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Tender NIT No. :
IACS/SCS/AD/2018-19/95 dt 14/2/2019

1. **Acer** : *Request change of form factor to 2U.*
Reply : Not possible due to space constraints. (It turned out Acer wanted to quote effectively 0.5 U form factor servers. Their concern was due to a misinterpretation which was clarified in the meeting.)
2. **Acer** : *Change compute node type 2 CPU to the same as type 1 or similar.*
Reply : Not permitted. CPU type was decided keeping in mind the type to program that compute node type 2 is designed to run.
3. **Acer** : *Whether compute node type 2 & 3 should have NVME or SSD storage.*
Reply : Confirmed that compute node type 2 & 3 should have 2 TB capacity NVME storage.
4. **Acer** : *NVLINK is not possible with P100 GPUs.*
Reply : That is not true. NVLINK is possible with P100 GPUs. Please see <https://images.nvidia.com/content/tesla/pdf/nvidia-tesla-p100-datasheet.pdf>
5. **Acer** : *Broadwell CPU is incompatible with Tesla V100 GPU. So please change CPU of compute node type 5 to Skylake.*
Reply : It is not true that Broadwell CPU is incompatible with Tesla V100 GPU. If any OEM is unable to supply Tesla V100 with Broadwell they are free to quote with a higher version of CPU. In this context the criterion for higher will be interpreted as follows:
(1) the theoretical peak¹ performance (in GFLOPs) of the quoted CPU will have to be higher than the CPU asked for in the tender; and
(2) the L3 cache of the quoted CPU has to be larger than or equal to the L3 cache of the CPU asked for in the tender.
6. **Micropoint** : Can we quote using AMD EPYC CPUs?
Reply : Yes. However in that case the CPU will have to be a “higher” version (see answer to question 5 above) than the one asked for. Also in that case the interconnect will have to be EDR Infiniband (100 Gbps).
7. **Micropoint** : P100 GPUs may not be available at the time of delivery.
Reply : In that case the vendor will have to supply V100 GPUs to replace the P100 GPUs without any additional cost to IACS. However they can supply the 16GB SXM2 (with NVLINK) V100 GPUs and not the 32 GB version.
8. **Multiple vendors** : Is NVLINK necessary on the GPU nodes?
Reply : Yes. It is essential.
9. **Micropoint** : Suggested modification of warranty clause.
Reply : Warranty clause in the tender is sufficient. No modification is necessary.
10. **Netweb** : Number and type of license required for the Intel compiler.
Reply : 2 seat network license – academic.

1 Formula to be used for “theoretical peak” calculation : Flops = Frequency x cores x Instructions per cycle, Instructions per cycle for Intel = 16, Instructions per cycle for AMD EPYC = 8

Acting Registrar