Question from RFP 2012-03

Additional Questions

In answer 11, your team defined that browse is necessary from an off-line application. Our preference is to build the software as a web application within an application shell, thereby reducing the cost of development on multiple platforms and also meeting the objective of having the software available from a desktop application. Our question is therefore in two parts:

a) Other than the ability to browse and view downloaded documents, can we safely assume that other functionality (such as search) is not necessary?

Browse and read downloaded documents is a mandatory feature. Search would be needed if a large volume of documents have been downloaded by the user. Other available functionalities such as in-document search would be granting extra points to the bidder.

b) Can we leverage other native applications to facilitate the EPUB/PDF reader and bookmarking? For example, rather than building a new reader into the application, could we allow users to read and bookmark documents within the iBook application, or respective readers within the different operating systems?

Similar results can be achieved in many different way. This can be one of many technical decision made as long as the requirements from the RFP are followed. This decision will not eliminate you as long as requirements are met. The reduction of costs associated can be mentioned as well as long as no financial details are in the technical offer (which would render it void).