NATO Engine: second call (RFI 2) for innovators

Need capacity to get your product into series production? Respond to NSPA by 31 Dec 2026.

A NATO network linking companies with a ready product but little capacity to factories with spare capacity (factory-for-hire model). RFI 2 (Request for Information, non-binding) looks for companies that need production.

DEADLINE 31 DEC 2026 | ONLINE QUESTIONNAIRE ONLY | DEFENCE AND DUAL-USE | PLATFORM FROM Q1 2027

WHO RFI 2 IS FOR

Start-ups, SMEs and other **non-traditional suppliers** from NATO nations, Ukraine and Indo-Pacific partners with a defence or dual-use product and **no factory of their own or not enough capacity**. Three NSPA categories:

- Additive manufacturing
- Engineering services
- Manufacturing-as-a-service

WHAT YOU GET

After NSPA assessment, a listing on the NATO Engine platform and access to vetted manufacturers for **B2B matchmaking**. Over 1,100 answered the first call, about 80 % civilian.

HOW TO RESPOND

By **31 December 2026**, only via the NSPA online questionnaire; e-mail is not considered. Listing is not automatic: NSPA assesses every response and your nation may ask for anonymisation.

WHAT TO PREPARE FOR THE QUESTIONNAIRE (SIX PARTS)

1. **Company:** registration and VAT numbers, website, contact, size, description up to 150 words, sector, affiliation with DIANA, NIF or an accelerator.
2. **Product:** category up to 30 words, description up to 100 words **without sensitive details**, TRL, production start, volume, customer or grant.
3. **Production need:** type of arrangement (prototype, pilot, contract manufacturing), reason, three partner selection criteria, country, target cost.
4. **Processes and certifications:** CNC, casting, composites, PCB assembly, metal and polymer additive manufacturing; AQAP, ISO 9001, EN 9100.
5. **Security and IP:** whether you need an NDA before sharing details and whether the partner needs a security clearance.
6. **Consent:** display on the platform, profile visibility and whether manufacturers may contact you.

WHY IT MATTERS FOR CZECH COMPANIES

The step from prototype to series is where Czech dual-use start-ups most often lose momentum. NATO Engine opens factories across the Alliance, civilian ones included, and looks for **capacity windows** that fit your lead time and backlog.

WHAT TO WATCH OUT FOR

An RFI is not a Request for Proposal: NSPA buys nothing and promises no contract. NATO takes no part in matching and accepts no liability for B2B outcomes. Contracts, pricing and **export licences** are yours. Spare capacity instead? RFI 1 for manufacturers closed on 27 August 2026; registration should reopen once the platform is live.

Want to review your response before you submit?

Defence Hub CzechInvest will help you free of charge to sharpen the product and production-need descriptions so they make sense to manufacturers and NSPA.

defencehub@czechinvest.org

NSPA questionnaire: nspa.nato.int/newsroom/events/request-for-information-rfi-2

Notice 26PAM013: eportal.nspa.nato.int · via NATO Front Door for Industry

RFI 2 questionnaire

Status as of 19 November 2026, based on NSPA "2nd RFI NATO Engine Platform, Pilot Project" (16 November 2026, 26PAM013), the NATO Innovation Scale-Up Package (8 July 2026) and the Czech Delegation to NATO. RFI 1 figure: Nikos Loutas, NATO (October 2026).