

**IFB FQ18125/ER**  
**Manufacture Mold and Delivery of 10,000 Escalator Step to WMATA**  
**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI)**  
**Status Date May 24, 2018**

<b>RFI #</b>	<b>RFI QUESTIONS</b>	<b>RFI RESPONSES</b>
<b>1</b>	Is this a new requirement or is there an incumbent vendor? If available, can you please send along the incumbent contract number? Any info you can provide would be greatly appreciated! Inquiry ID: 6548015703526211645	This is a new requirement.
<b>2</b>	Page 105, Section B, #3: "The step and riser cast aluminum shall not have more than 40% copper." It should read "The step and riser cast aluminum shall not have more than .40% copper". If this isn't correct, then contractors could be opened up to quote incorrect aluminum products.	See Amendment #1 which was posted on May 10, 2018.
<b>3</b>	Bid Bond – Section 14 note C (page 12) states that the bid guarantee shall be returned to the successful bidder as soon as practicable, after it furnishes all required documents and executes the Contract. Does this mean the entire 530 period after the last shipment of steps is received and approved by WMATA? As we have never been required to have a Bid Guarantee on any projects we have done, I'm uncertain as to the mechanics of this bid guarantee.	The bid guarantee will be returned to the successful bidder after the award.
<b>4</b>	Availability of Funds for the Next Fiscal Year – Chapter 1 Terms and Conditions, Section 9 (page 35) states that basically WMATA cannot guarantee that funds are available for this project beyond the current fiscal year. Since this contract appears to overlap fiscal years, how can we be guaranteed that we will be compensated? In order to execute this contract, there will be a tremendous amount of capital, both financial and intellectual, that will be expended on our end. We cannot make these expenditures unless we know for certain that we will be paid in a timely manner.	This is standard Boiler Plate language that we include in our solicitation to inform the contractor that funding is only available for the current year only. However, the language that you referenced should not be interpreted that funds will not be available for the subsequent fiscal year(s).
<b>5</b>	DBE Goal 3% - I have researched Iowa based registered DBE's and have not found any companies supplying products or services that would be helpful for this project. Does this mean we can request a DBE waiver before quoting?	You can use DBE for things such and delivery and transportation; however, they must be certified by WMATA, DC DOT or MWCUP before they can be awarded a contract. For information regarding waiver, see Appendix B, Section 6 (c), Pg. 120-121.

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<b>6</b>	One final point, in order to provide a reasonably accurate quote, our customers always supply a part print, model files and if necessary a Bill of Materials. Without these items, we are just providing “reasonable estimates”, not formal quotes. At what stage of the process will we have access to this information?	ELES does have the original drawings of the steps manufactured by the Westinghouse. We made further modification to add plastic demarcation. We can provide the original drawings and an actual step model. If that suffice?
<b>7</b>	At this time I have no concerns about our ability to execute the 1,000 per month levels, but certainly more information is needed to be certain this product and process is fully understood. If possible, I would welcome the opportunity to visit with Mr. Kozhipurath in Washington to review the actual product. Is this possible?	Yes, everyone is welcome to review the actual products by coordinating with Mr. Kozhipurath.
<b>8</b>	The step is required to meet ASME A17.1 – 2009 §6.1.3.5, §6.1.3.9.4, § 6.1.3.10.4, Appendix I Fig’s I-7, I-8, & I-12 along with EN115 §8.2.2.1.1 and APTA RT-RP-FS-001-02 §2.04B and be ≤51lbs. Is there an existing design that meets all these criteria? Do we know for a fact a step can be designed to meet all these criteria?	In order to meet the APTA requirement of 320 lbs. with 5 times factor of safety, the weight can be increased. There was a single die casting Uni step (Westinghouse) made by Schindler which met that criteria. With the project in similar lines with that of Fujitec, this will meet that load requirement
<b>9</b>	The existing Westinghouse design does not meet ASME A17.1 §6.1.3.5.3 and subsequently Appendix I Fig I-12, does the new step have to meet this section?	Yes, the Step had to be designed to meet the requirement.
<b>10</b>	§1.0 Description states a “black painted step” and §3.0.a.4 states a “silver painted step with anti-noise coating from underside”. Which is correct?	It has to be black painted everywhere.
<b>11</b>	The original Westinghouse design had plastic demarcations on the rear of the step that “floated” to allow for slight misalignments of the steps, please confirm the new step will have no plastic demarcations on the rear of the step.	No plastic demarcation is required in the rear.
<b>12</b>	Given that this is a completely new design and will require rigorous analysis and testing to see whether all the criteria can be met before the molds can be built, 200 days for the first article is almost impossible. Can the schedule be extended?	If the Authority gets similar request from all the contractors to increase the deadline for delivery of the First Article, ELES/WMATA might take it into consideration.
<b>13</b>	The schedule of deliveries of 1,000 steps per month is also unrealistic. This is a multi-component step and requires several casting and machining operations. Can the delivery schedule be extended also?	If the Authority gets similar request from all the contractors to extend the delivery schedule of the 10,000 steps, ELES/WMATA might take it into consideration.

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<b>14</b>	One final point, in order to provide a reasonably accurate quote, our customers always supply a part print, model files and if necessary a Bill of Materials. Without these items, we are just providing “reasonable estimates”, not formal quotes. At what stage of the process will we have access to this information?	ELES does have the original drawings of the steps manufactured by the Westinghouse. We made further modification to add plastic demarcation. We can provide the original drawings and an actual step model. If that suffice?
<b>15</b>	<p>The contract bid documentation/specs indicate that while a bid bond is required, the performance/payment bond is “N/A” Does this mean that if ECS is awarded this project, no financial assurance (surety) is required?</p> <p>If that is correct – that no financial assurance is required - is the intent of the bid bond simply to prequalify ECS?</p> <p>I have shown the bid documentation to ECS’ insurance broker’s surety/bond expert and she is also not clear on this point. We both share the viewpoint that it is correct that ECS must submit a bid bond or cashier’s check/letter of credit/similar equal to 5% of the contract bid value. Appreciate if you can confirm that this understanding is correct as well.</p>	<p>Yes, that is correct no surety is required. However, you will still have to show through the Pre-Award process that you are financially capable of performing the contract.</p> <p>The Bid Bond is to protect the Authority by assuring that the bidder will, upon acceptance of the bid, execute such contractual documents as may be required within the time specified.</p> <p>Yes, your understanding is correct.</p>
<b>16</b>	Please advise what the Amendment date is for Amendment 02 of IFB FQ18125/ER. Amendment 01 showed a date of 5/10/18 but I don’t see a date on the second amendment. We are required to indicate the date on the Solicitation, Offer and Award Continuation Sheet	To date only two (2) Amendments (01 and 02) has been issued as listed on the WMATA’s website. Amendment 01 was issued on May 10, 2018; Amendment 02 was issued on May 17, 2018. However, the Fed Biz Ops (FBO) website will show three (3) Amendments and that’s because FBO incorrectly labeled one of the posted RFI as Amendment 02. Please refer to the WMATA’s website for the correct number of amendments.
<b>17</b>	Financial statements are only required if one is determined to be the lowest bidder – is that correct?	Yes, you are correct.
<b>18</b>	Cashier’s check being sent in lieu of Bid Bond, should it be made out to Washington Metro Area Transit Authority – correct? If please advise what name.	Yes, it should be made out the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority.

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	WMATA requirement for Commercial General Liability insurance of \$2 mln for "Products – Completed Operations Limit" If the vendor/bidder's company insurance exceeds the WMATA requirement of \$2 mln for Products- Completed Operations, it is still mandatory to obtain the referenced Letter that ensures vendor/bidder will obtain the additional insurance required for other categories?	Yes, the potential bidder needs to submit a Certificate of Insurance (COI) which shows evidence of coverage for ALL the requirements, including a letter from their Broker/Insurer verifying their ability to secure any endorsements once they are awarded the contract.
<b>19</b>	Page 105 #3(a) Material Specification including SIDE SHIELDS Please clarify that "side shields" are the demarcations and if not, please identify.	It is demarcations.
<b>20</b>	I meant to ask if the SIDE SHIELDS are side "plates" or "pads" We need a clearer description of what constitutes SIDE SHIELDS please. We know that they are not demarcations.	There are no side plates for this project. Even though Side plates are used as reinforcement. The only protection on the side is demarcations. The other device used step tabs, which has been explained.
<b>21</b>	"Anti-Noise Coating" cited in Amendment 02 for FQ18125/ER Please clarify that this is not a material and instead is a type of Sound Reducing Coating or Sound Reducing Paint.	Yes, it is sound reducing coat or paint.