



**State of Tennessee**  
**SWC #102 Building Materials**  
**Event #32110-9503-9539**  
**Questions and Answers**  
**Summary of Changes from RFI**

**Summary of Changes Since RFI Event #32110-9503**

**Changes to Specifications:**

- The State has removed the lighting category from this solicitation event, which was Specification Section I.
- The Section for Doors and Door Hardware was changed to be Section I.
- Definitions for "Collection" and "Normal State Operating Hours" were added to Section B.
- Section C.1. was revised to properly reflect the product categories under Catalog and Line Items.
- Section C.4. was revised for clarity regarding outside entities.
- Section D was revised to remove the language "carpet tile and broadloom carpet" and replaced with "carpet."
- Section D.1.a. was revised to address custom carpet requested by Other Governmental Bodies.
- Section D.1.d. was added to address a take-back program.
- Section D.2.c. was revised to add textured loop as a pile characteristic.
- Section D.2.f. was revised to adjust the carpet size requirements.
- Section D.2.h. was revised to add in alternative environmental standard requirements.
- Section D.3. and E.3. were revised to update the language used regarding Contractor or a Contractor's Installer.
- Section E.2.b.3. and E.2.c.3. were added to address wear layer thickness.
- Section G.1.b. was added to address tile recycling.
- Section H.2.e. was revised to add the paint formula for the TDOC Battleship Gray custom color.
- Section I.1.a.2 and I.1.b.2. were added to address preparation of doors and frames for hardware.

**Changes to Terms and Conditions:**

- Special Term "Pre Bid Conference Notification" removed.
- Special Term #2 was revised to reflect the new contract dates.
- Special Term #5 was revised to remove the lighting category.
- Special Term #8 was revised to add language allowing for a different delivery time if agreed to between Contractor and End User.
- Special Term #20 section c. Automobile Liability Insurance was added.
- Special Term #24 and #25 were revised to remove the lighting category and to move the paint category from a single award to a multiple award.
- Special Term #38 was added regarding the Iran Divestment Act.

**Changes to Pricing Proposal:**

- Tab 9 Lighting was removed, the tab for Doors & Door Hardware was re-named Tab 8, and the tab references in the instructions were updated.
- Tab 4 Installation was revised to add lines for after hours labor and the instructions were revised for clarity around the Authorized Service Providers Section.
- Tab 7 Paint was revised to add a column for Proposed Product Brand and Model for Evaluation and to revise the instructions for Section 2.
- Tab 8 Doors and Door Hardware was revised to add a column for Proposed Product Brand and Model for Evaluation and to revise the instructions for Section 2.

**Changes to Solicitation Bid Factors / Bid Questions:**

- Iran Divestment Act question was added.
- Catalog question was added as place to attach proposed product catalog.
- Supporting Documentation question was added as place to attach product documentation supporting product testing and/or environmental requirements as outlined in the specifications.
- Locations question was added as place to attach list of all locations that will provide service to the State if awarded Contract.

No.	Product Category	Applicable Contract Section	Question	Answer
New1	Carpet / Tile	Specifications Section D.1.b., D.3.b.5, E.1.a., and E.3.b.5.	Please clarify the warranty length on installation and labor under this contract?	The warranty length for carpet is specified in Specifications section D.1.b. and D.3.b.5. The warranty length for resilient tile is specified in Specifications section E.1.a. and E.3.b.5. The carpet must have a manufacturer's warranty of a minimum of 10 years. Resilient tile must have the standard manufacturer's warranty. For both carpet and resilient tile installed through the contract, a labor warranty guarantee of 5 years must be provided.
New2	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 4	The question and answer document states that the installation pricing tab was revised to add lines for after hour labor, please identify this change on the sheet.	The lines for after hour labor were added under the "Resilient Tile Installation Services" and "Carpet Product Installation Services" sections. The new lines are row 19 and row 26 and are titled "After Hours Labor (see Normal State Operating Hours)" with an hourly unit of measure.
New3	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 2 and 3	Please clarify if pricing for all products within a collection should be uniform in price?	Yes, Respondents should propose a price for the collection and all products proposed under that collection will have the same price.
New4	Carpet	Pricing Proposal Tab 4, Specifications Section D.1.d.	In regard to the take back program, please clarify if there may be a fee associated with this service?	There is a line item in the pricing proposal tab 4 Installation under "Carpet Product Installation Services" for "Carpet Recycling"; it is row 25. This line should be used for any fees associated with the carpet take back program.
New5	General	Terms and Conditions, Special Term #12, #13, and #14	Please clarify if there will be annual pricing negotiations to review industry-wide raw material cost increases?	For catalog contracts, Contractors may request price changes following the process outlined in the Terms and Conditions Special term #12 and #13 after the firm bid price period. For line item contracts, Contractors may request price changes following the process outlined in the Terms and Conditions Special Term #14.
New6	General	Edison Bid Question	Please clarify what documentation should be uploaded to the supplemental documents bid question?	For the bid question titled "Supporting Doc", if Respondent has published product data with documentation that the product meets the specified requirements, then you may link to the webpage(s) as opposed to uploading each product data sheet as an attachment. Please refer to the specifications section for the job category you are bidding to see what supplemental documentation may be needed, if any.

1	General	Diversity Form / Terms & Conditions Special Term #15	What are the reporting expectations for diversity business enterprises?	Contractors who are certified as Diversity Business Enterprises or Contractors utilizing Subcontractors certified as Diversity Business Enterprise are required to submit quarterly usage reports to the Governor's Office of Diversity Business Enterprise and/or the Contract Administrator. Contractors who are certified or are utilizing certified Subcontractors will be provided a template for the quarterly report. Please see the terms and conditions special term #15 Statewide Contract Reports section (2).
2	General	Edison	Is there a point of contact for us to reset our login/ password in Edison?	For Password and User ID Assistance, please contact the Edison Help Desk at 615-741-HELP.  If you know your Supplier ID and would like to create a new or additional Edison Access ID, click on "Create New User Accounts" on the main page of the Supplier Portal.
3	General	General	Are service locations taken into consideration on the contract?	The solicitation has a bid factor requesting information regarding locations that will provide service to the State of Tennessee under the contract. Please see bid factor "Locations."
4	General	General	Can each of the commercial brands within Shaw Industries submit separate responses as stand alone business units; Shaw Contract, Patcraft Commercial, and Philadelphia Commercial?	Respondents should submit a response for each entity that has a unique federal tax identification number that will receive payment under the contract. The State's Edison system only supports one remittance tax ID to be associated with a supplier and contract. For Shaw Industries, if each individual business unit operates under a unique tax ID then each business unit should submit a separate response.
5	General	Pricing Proposal	In the pricing proposal, when a catalog percent discount is requested and we are requested to provide a bid on sample historical items listed, are we required to bid on these specified products?	Respondents must propose items that meet the minimum specifications for the line as specified in the Specifications document. Respondent should propose a comparable item that meets the specifications if the exact product reflected in the historical data is not available. Respondents should specify the manufacturer and part for the item being proposed in the pricing proposal in the appropriate columns added to the spreadsheet.
6	General	Specifications	Do we need to submit catalogs, specifications, testing data, and warranty information with the initial response or following award?	The solicitation event has bid factors where this documentation should be uploaded with the initial response. Please see bid factor "Catalog" and "Supporting Documentation."
7	General	Specifications Section A	Are vendors required to offer installation?	Installation is a requirement of Contractors offering carpet and/or resilient tile. Contractors offering resilient base, ceiling tile and grid, paint, or doors and door hardware are not required to offer installation.
8	General	Specifications Section C.4	Are general contractors allowed to use the contract on State projects? Are the awarded Contractors required to honor the contract price for these general contractors?	Yes, outside entities, such as general contractors, acting on behalf of the State for a job may utilize the contract. Use of the contract by an outside entity is an agreement solely between the Contractor and the outside entity. Contractor and outside entity may negotiate variations from the contract (i.e. price) if agreed to by both parties. Please see Specifications Section C.4. Outside Entities.
9	General	Terms and Conditions, Special Term #11.	FOB destination is defined in the terms and conditions as delivery to the state facilities loading dock. Historically, materials have been delivered to the installer or service provider. Will there be an expectation that all materials will be delivered directly to the job-site?	The expectation is that delivery will be to the job site, unless otherwise specified by the End User.
10	General	Terms and Conditions, Special Term #8.	Can the delivery time requirement be extended to 45 days?	Please see the revised term 8. Delivery Time (Days) in the Terms and Conditions special terms: 8. Delivery Time (Days) All items must be delivered within approximately 30 days after receipt of a purchase order unless otherwise agreed to between Contractor and End User.
11	Carpet	Specification Section D	Will the State of Tennessee also require that all manufactured products offered be able to be reclaimed upon request?	The State has added language referencing a take-back program. Please see the Pricing Proposal Line for Carpet Recycling. Please see added Specification Section D.1.d.: d. <u>Take Back Program</u> : Contractor shall accept carpet products that are being replaced by carpet purchased through the Contract, upon request.
12	Carpet	Specifications Section D, Pricing Proposal Tab 2	Are carpet tiles and broadlooms to be categorized in the same product category consisting of 10 or less collections or are they to be separated?	Carpet tile and broadloom should be proposed within the 10 or fewer carpet collections proposed. One collection may contain both a carpet tile and broadloom option, if appropriate. Please see Specification Section B for the definition of a collection.
13	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.a.	Is TARR the primary evaluator of performance with no mention of ounce weight or density thresholds?	TARR is the primary evaluation factor for carpet performance in alignment with GSA's Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service (P-100).
14	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.b.	The specification states that "the fiber shall have a 5 year minimum successful testing period." Please define "successful testing period" that will assure the nylon is of a premium quality.	The proposed product must have been in use commercially for at least five years.
15	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.c.	Will the State accept Textured Loop as a pile characteristic?	Textured loop is an acceptable pile characteristic. Please see the revised Specification Section D.2.c.: c. <u>Pile Characteristic</u> : Level-loop, cut-and-loop pile, shear-and-loop pile, and textured loop.

16	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.f.	The specifications lists out carpet tile size restrictions, does the State intend to exclude metric sizes and skinny/plank tiles that are smaller than 24"x24" or around 18"x36"?	The specification has been revised. Metric sizes are accepted as long as they are within the size range specified when converted to inches. Please see the revised Specification Section D.2.f.: f. <u>Size</u> : Carpet tile must be no less than 18" or larger than 36". Broadloom must be 6 ft. or 12 ft.
17	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.h.	Please clarify the post consumer recycled content requirement: Does that requirement apply to carpet tiles and broadloom product categories? Is the 10% requirement based on percentage of total finished weight to reflect a percent of the backing and face fiber combined?	The 10% post-consumer recycled content requirement applies to both carpet tiles and broadloom products proposed, and the percentage should be based on the total product weight in alignment with GSA's Facilities Standards for the Public Buildings Service (P-100).
18	Carpet	Specifications Section D.2.h.	The U.S. Green Building Council has shifted emphasis from recycled content to requiring certificates regarding material health. Would the State accept an Environmental Product Declaration, a Health Product Declaration and Cradle to Cradle Certification in lieu of recycled content?	The specification has been revised. Contractor may propose products that meet either the 10% post-consumer recycled content or that provide all three product declarations/certifications listed. Please see the revised specification Section D.2.h.: h. <u>Environmental Standard</u> : Must achieve Gold or better on the NSF 140 sustainability assessment. Must be comprised of a minimum of 10% post-consumer recycled content or receive an Environmental Product Declaration, a Health Product Declaration, and a Cradle-to-Cradle Certification.
19	Carpet / Tile	General	Are there budgetary windows for carpet and resilient tile selections? For example is there a range for carpet cost per square yard?	The budget available for carpet and resilient tile will vary across State Agencies. Provided below is information regarding the per unit cost range as a reference for the pricing range of products per square foot or square yard historically offered to the State through the prior SWC 102 Building Materials contract. <u>Carpet</u> : range of \$15.22/SY to \$31.36/SY. <u>Vinyl</u> : range of \$0.81/SF to \$32.40/SF.
20	Carpet / Tile	General	Will the design team have input into what carpet and resilient items will be included on contract?	The State's design team in STREAM will not be reviewing the proposed items for inclusion on contract. All products proposed meeting the minimum specifications and within the 10 collections limit may be included on a contract.
21	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 2 and 3	Is there a reason we are limited to 10 collections on carpet and resilient tile?	The State feels that 10 collections offer sufficient selection to address the majority of End Users' needs since collections may include multiple styles and patterns. Please see Specification Section B for the definition of a collection.
22	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 2 and 3	What is the state's definition of a carpet or resilient collection?	The following definition of "collection" has been added to the Specifications Section B: A collection of carpet or resilient tile products is a coordinated pairing of patterns that are cataloged together. Respondents may propose only select items from within a cataloged collection or they may propose the entire collection as long as all products within the collection meet the minimum specification requirements. If a Respondent does not have cataloged collections, then the Respondent may propose a pattern as the collection.
23	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 2 and 3	Are the pricing tiers to be reflective of each transaction?	The pricing tiers will be determined per project. A project may include multiple phases and multiple Purchase Orders, but a single project will be from the same funding source and the End User will indicate in its initial purchase what is included in the project with all phases, if applicable.
24	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 4	Are vendors required to provide a cost for installation items in the pricing proposal for carpet and tile?	All Respondents proposing products for carpet or resilient tile must also propose installation for the product. Please see Specifications Section D and E.
25	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 4	Is there a minimum number of installers required in the approved service provider section? There are 20 spaces provided in the spreadsheet.	There is not a minimum or maximum number of installers; however, the Respondent should propose a sufficient number of installers in order to provide coverage for the State.
26	Carpet / Tile	Pricing Proposal Tab 4	In the installation portion of the matrix, it has no mention of "Off hours" for installation (nights, weekends, etc.). Would the State consider adding line items for "off hours" installation costs.	The State has revised the pricing proposal installation tab to include lines for the additional cost per worker per hour for installations done outside of normal state operating hours. A definition of normal state operating hours has been added to the Specifications Section B.
27	Carpet / Tile	Specifications Section A, Section D, and Section E	Is the State looking for an installer or contractor that can provide multiple turnkey type solutions, for manufacturers that can provide a turnkey solution, or to purchase direct from a manufacturer?	For carpet and resilient tile, the State is requiring the Contractor to be a carpet or resilient tile manufacturer with the ability to provide both the product and installation services (turnkey). The State is looking for the ability to both purchase the product only and to purchase a turnkey solution from the manufacturer. Please see Specifications Section A, Section D and D.3.b., and Section E and E.3.b.
28	Carpet / Tile	Specifications Section D and E	Would the State of Tennessee provide language for the preference of transparent reporting of global standards designated by the Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA Red List), European Union Commission on Environment and the California Department of Toxic Substances Control to address long-term health standards of flooring products?	The State has set minimum product requirements as established by the appropriate testing and certifying agencies (e.g. EPA). The State therefore requires that the Contractor follow any requirements regarding health and reporting standards as detailed by the testing or certifying agency.
29	Tile	Specification Section E.2.	Would the State consider adding a minimum wear layer thickness of 20 mil. which is the industry standard for commercial applications and an ASTM requirement?	The State has added language referencing the wear layer thickness. Please see the revised Specification Section E.2.b.3. and E.2.c.3.: 3. <u>Wear Layer Thickness</u> : 20 mil
30	Tile	Specifications Section E.2.	According to the ASTM specifications, resilient thickness can range between 1.6 mm and 3 mm. Will the state accept products with a total thickness within this range that meets commercial wear layer standards?	Respondents may propose products that meet the minimum requirements outlined in the specifications, including the referenced ASTM.

31	Paint	General	Will the paint category be awarded by line item or total?	The paint category will be awarded by total. Paint will be awarded as a multiple award section with all responsive and responsible Respondents meeting the minimum requirements receiving an award. Please see Terms and Conditions Special Term #24.
32	Paint	General	Will there be a primary and secondary Contractor awarded for paint?	Paint will be awarded as a multiple award section with all responsive and responsible Respondents meeting the minimum requirements receiving an award. Please see Terms and Conditions Special Term #24. The awarded Contractor(s) will not receive a priority ranking, the End Users will determine which Contractor(s) to utilize on a job-by-job basis.
33	Paint	Pricing Proposal Tab 7	The pricing proposal for paint has instructions for a section 2 but does not have a section with a header labeled as section 2. Please clarify.	Section 2 was mislabeled as Section 3. This has been corrected. Section 2 as referenced in the instructions is the section labeled "Section 2: Evaluation with Historical Sample Items and Applied Discounts."
34	Paint	Pricing Proposal Tab 7	In the pricing proposal for paint, when a catalog percent discount is requested and we are requested to provide a bid on sample historical items listed, is a "no bid" allowed on certain items? If yes, how many "no bid" items will be allowed? How will this impact the final award evaluation for paint?	Respondents who do not offer a particular item listed in Section 2 may provide a "no bid" for that line. Respondents must offer at least one product in each paint category per Specification Section H.
35	Paint	Pricing Proposal Tab 7	Will the catalog discount be extended to all items in the category not specifically mentioned in the market basket. For example if we bid XY% discount on blockfiller, will the pricing for all blockfillers in the catalog be computed at XY% off?	Yes the percent discount will apply to all products offered through the catalog under the respective paint category even if the product was not specifically listed in Section 2 of the Cost Proposal.
36	Doors	Pricing Proposal Tab 8	If I elect to use a different specified manufacturer and part than the one given in the historical data, will I need to identify which part I'm replacing?	Respondents should specify the manufacturer and part for the item being proposed in the pricing proposal in the appropriate columns added to the spreadsheet. The proposed items must meet the minimum requirements in the specifications, which may include a specified manufacturer or part. If the historical item listed in the Pricing Proposal has a manufacturer or part listed but the specification does not have a manufacturer or part detailed as a requirement, then the Respondent may propose any manufacturer or part that meets the minimum specifications.
37	Doors	Specification Section I	Are we required to bid on both the hardware and the doors, or can we bid on just the hardware section?	Respondents must propose for both doors and door hardware.
38	Doors	Specification Section I	The specifications preamble calls out for electrified hardware, but no part numbers or manufacturers are specified. Can electrified hardware be included in the catalog? If so, can the power supplies required to drive that hardware be included as well?	The minimum specifications for electrified door hardware is in Specification Section I.1.c.1.iv. The catalog may include items that meet the minimum requirements. The power supplies are not to be included through the contract catalog.
39	Doors	Specification Section I	When providing a catalog page for a given item, does the manufacturer list price need to be included?	The catalog needs to include the price for the product. This may be the manufacturers suggested retail price or it may be your company's retail price, whichever is published in your catalog. The discount proposed will be based off of the catalog list price.
40	Doors	Specification Section I	Will the State consider adding Exit devices to the contract?	The State has decided not to include exit devices in this contract.
41	Doors	Specification Section I.1.b.	Wood doors are more commodity driven than the other items on this list. They don't really have list prices. Should I supply pricing anyway?	Respondent should provide the commercial retail price for the items or a fixed price if not available.
42	Doors	Specification Section I.1.c.7 and I.1.c.8	The Surface and Concealed closers sections only specify a given manufacturer, but no part numbers. The historical data doesn't reflect a manufacturer or grade. Should I propose items that meet the specification from my chosen manufacturer?	Respondents may propose items that meet the minimum specifications from the manufacturer(s) specified.
43	Doors	Specification Section I.1.a. and I.1.b.	Doors and frames are usually prepped for hardware. The specification does not call out preps. Should I consider these to be slab doors without preps in them for hinges and locking hardware?	The State is requesting that all proposed doors and frames be prepared for door hardware. Please see Specification I.1.a.10.iii. and the revised specification for Specification Section I.1.a.2. and Section I.1.b.2.: 2. Products must be prepped for hardware.
44	Doors	Specification Section I.1.c.3., Pricing Proposal Tab 8	The CL3561 in the historical data is not one of the part numbers provided in the basis of design (I.1.c.3.iii.a.i). The CL3300 is the specified design provided from Corbin. The two locks represent two separate levels of pricing and quality. Which should be used as the reference for my bid?	The specification is for the CL3300 Series, all parts within that series meeting the minimum requirements may be proposed through the catalog. For the Pricing Proposal, you may propose the same product as detailed in the historical line item or you may propose another comparable item that meets the minimum requirements in the specification.
45	Lighting	Specification Section I (formerly)	Regarding the lighting portion of the bid, the categories of Lamps and Lighting Fixtures need to be separated as they will require different vendors.	The State has removed the lighting category from this solicitation event. In the event that the State issues a new solicitation for the lighting category, it will address the question at that time.
46	Lighting	Specification Section I (formerly)	Lamps - Incandescent, Fluorescent & LED should be one category. Lighting Fixtures - Incandescent, Fluorescent & LED should be a separate category.	The State has removed the lighting category from this solicitation event. In the event that the State issues a new solicitation for the lighting category, it will address the question at that time.
47	Lighting	Specification Section I (formerly)	For lighting, is the contract to include installation of the product?	The State has removed the lighting category from this solicitation event. In the event that the State issues a new solicitation for the lighting category, it will address the question at that time.