



**BUREAU OF FISCAL SERVICES
PROCUREMENT UNIT**

March 1, 2024

Invitation for Bid (IFB) 23-201

TMT – 6 Highway Use Tax Sticker & TMT – 40 Automotive Fuel Carrier Sticker

Responses to Bidder Questions and Amendment #1

To All Potential Bidders:

Attached are the Department's Responses to Bidder Questions received for the above referenced IFB.

Additionally, the Department is issuing Amendment #1 as clarification to:

- Amend Section 1.2 Schedule of Events.
- Amend Section 1.7 Independent Laboratory Testing to remove the 30-day completion of testing requirement.
- Amend Section 1.8 Delivery to include a delivery deadline date.
- Amend Exhibit B. Specifications to reflect the stickers will be stored in a heated/air-conditioned warehouse for up to forty (40) months.

Corrected pages are attached to this document. All additions are made in **blue text** and deletions are made in **red text**.

All other requirements and conditions remain as indicated in the IFB.

**IFB 23-201 HUT/AFC STICKERS
Bidder Questions**

#	IFB		QUESTION	DTF RESPONSE
	SECTION	PG		
1	1.7.	4	Is the lab testing to be performed to the label material specifications (MSDS) or to NYS specifications?	<p>The Department is not aware of material differences between label material specifications of the requested stock and the specifications required under this IFB 23-201.</p> <p>If this question is in regard to the performance/longevity period required by the IFB, testing is to be to NYS specifications.</p>
2	1.7.	4	Simulating 3 years of climatic conditions will take longer than 30 days. Will NYS extend the time period that is needed for a 3rd party lab to complete the requested test?	<p>Decals must be delivered to the Department no later than Friday, August 30, 2024. The bidder should manage the process as appropriate to meet the delivery deadline of August 30, 2024.</p> <p>See Amendment 1 to IFB 23-201.</p>
3	1.7.	4	Lab testing of “adhesion, fading, application at different temperatures, complete and easy removal of the liner from the sticker without sticking or tearing, and performance of any tamper evident feature.” The testing for those functions & elements will take longer than 30 days. Will NYS extend the time period needed for a 3rd party lab to complete the required tests?	<p>Decals must be delivered to the Department no later than Friday, August 30, 2024. The bidder should manage the process as appropriate to meet the delivery deadline of August 30, 2024.</p> <p>See Amendment 1 to IFB 23-201.</p>
4	Exhibit B - Specifications	33 and 36	How many labels are to be tested for each function? Typically, 1-2 labels is sufficient to test for each function or test element in our experience.	1 – 2 is acceptable.
5	Exhibit B, Specifications	32 and 35	The base label materials listed do not carry a 36-month warranty from the material suppliers. The performance can only be warrantied based on the	The Department requires that the Bidder cover the difference in warranty period between the material suppliers warranty period and the

**IFB 23-201 HUT/AFC STICKERS
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			material data sheet (MSDS) of the raw label material supplier.	<p>Latent Defect performance/longevity period of 36 months required in Exhibit B. Specifications.</p> <p>Note that the Department has historically had a Latent Defect requirement in all its past IFB's for these decals to cover the 36-month performance/longevity period.</p>														
6	1.7.		What material should the label be adhered to for Lab Testing? i.e., Chrome, Steel, Aluminum, Plastic, Fiberglass etc. Can NYS provide the material specification for the substrate to adhere the labels for lab testing?	Clean, smooth metal with automotive grade paint finish.														
7	1.7.		Will NYS provide the substrate to adhere the labels for lab testing?	No														
8	n/a		Would it be possible to get a bid recap (pricing tabulation) from the 2021 bid for Fuel Carrier Stickers (20-202)?	<p>The Department is providing the bid results that came in under IFB 20-202, but bidders should note that this IFB was ultimately cancelled by the Department as the lowest cost vendor's proposed decals did not pass testing.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="2">IFB 20-202 HUT/AFC Decals - Bid Tabulation</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Bidder Name</th> <th>Bid Price</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Elite Textile Trading, LLC</td> <td>\$68,655.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RR Donnelley and Sons, Co - Bid 1</td> <td>\$243,685.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RR Donnelley and Sons, Co - Bid 2</td> <td>\$218,192.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rydin Decal</td> <td>\$255,300.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Weldon, Williams, and Lick, Inc.</td> <td>\$577,995.75</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	IFB 20-202 HUT/AFC Decals - Bid Tabulation		Bidder Name	Bid Price	Elite Textile Trading, LLC	\$68,655.00	RR Donnelley and Sons, Co - Bid 1	\$243,685.00	RR Donnelley and Sons, Co - Bid 2	\$218,192.25	Rydin Decal	\$255,300.00	Weldon, Williams, and Lick, Inc.	\$577,995.75
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9	1.7	4	Can the independent lab testing requirement be waived if we bid using the Flexcon PM 200 material that's mentioned in the bid?	<p>No. Stock proposed by the winning bidder must meet all the requirements in the IFB, including passing the independent laboratory testing. The purpose of independent laboratory testing is to validate the decals integrity after final production.</p>														

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1.2. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February 9, 2024	Issuance of IFB
February 16, 2024	Deadline for Submission of Written Questions
February 26, 2024 March 1, 2024	Department Response to Bidder Questions Posted
March 4, 2024 March 8, 2024 by 2 PM EST	Deadline for Submission of Bids
March 5, 2024 March 11, 2024	Anticipated Bid Opening
March 6, 2024 March 13, 2024	Anticipated Notification of Intent to Award
May 15, 2024	Anticipated Date of Independent Testing Phase Commencement
June 14, 2024	Anticipated Date of Independent Testing Phase Completion
July 15, 2024 August 30, 2024	Anticipated Delivery of Completed Order Deadline for Delivery of Decals

1.3. QUESTIONS/INQUIRIES

Prospective bidders should note that all clarifications and exceptions including those relating to the terms and conditions of the IFB are to be resolved prior to the submission of a bid. Bidders entering into a Contract with the State are expected to comply with **all** the terms and conditions contained herein.

Prospective bidders have the opportunity to submit written questions and requests for clarifications regarding this IFB. All questions regarding this IFB must be submitted by e-mail and received **by the date specified on the Schedule of Events**. Bidders are cautioned to read this document thoroughly to become familiar with all aspects of the bid. Questions should cite the specific bid section and page number and the bidder should indicate the name, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the individual submitting questions.

All inquiries concerning this bid solicitation must be addressed to the following Designated Contacts and issuing office:

DESIGNATED CONTACTS: Katherine Cavanaugh, Contract Management Specialist 1
 Gabrielle Lansburg, Contract Management Specialist 2
 John Blanch, Purchasing Manager
 Amber Alexander, Director, Procurement Services
 Phone No: (518) 530-4484
bfs.contracts@tax.ny.gov

Contacting someone else may result in disqualification of the Bidder’s bid – please refer to **PROCUREMENT LOBBYING LAW (section 1.15)** for more information.

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the test results, with a plain-language synopsis of such results, must be provided to DTF directly from the independent testing laboratory.

In the event that the independent laboratory test indicates that stickers do not strictly comply with all specifications (viz., “defective”), the Contractor will be afforded one opportunity to resolve the issue and must, upon written notification from DTF, provide conforming replacement stickers as expeditiously as possible, but in no event later than thirty (30) days from receipt of written notice of defects. A copy of the subsequent round of testing results, with a plain-language synopsis of such results, must again be provided to DTF directly from the independent testing laboratory. Contractor must also submit a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) relative to the chemicals used in the production of the documents.

Contractor’s delay or failure to provide DTF with independent laboratory testing as required shall constitute a material breach of contract.

Testing results must be supplied to the Department ~~as soon as the testing has been completed within thirty (30) days of commencement of the testing phase, but no later than June 14, 2024.~~ If the Contractor is unable to provide decals that pass the independent laboratory testing after being afforded the one opportunity to produce replacement stickers, the Department reserves the right to terminate the contract in accordance with **Section 1.19., Termination** and move-on to the next lowest cost responsible Bidder. The Department will not have any liability to the Contractor in the event it terminates the contract for failure of the decals to pass the Independent Laboratory Testing a second time.

1.8. DELIVERY

Guaranteed Delivery shall be indicated on **Attachment 14, Bidders Financial Response Form** and shall be expressed in number of calendar days required to make delivery after completion of successful testing. Delivery is required ~~no later than August 30, 2024 within a maximum of 30 calendar days after the decals have passed all testing and Department has approved full production.~~

If shipment will not be made within the Guaranteed Delivery date stated on the Bidders Financial Response Form, the Contractor is required to notify DTF in writing at least two weeks prior to the latest date of the original delivery obligation. This notification must include the reasons for the delay and the latest date the items will be shipped. Should the delay be not acceptable to DTF, appropriate Contract default proceedings will be initiated. Failure to supply timely written notification of delay may be cause for default proceedings.

All correspondence for the aforementioned shall be directed to:

Attn: Amber Alexander, Director, Procurement Services
Procurement Services Unit
New York State Department of Taxation and Finance
W. A. Harriman State Office Building Campus
Albany, NY 12227

Deliveries will be accepted only at the DTF Printing Facility, 90 Cohoes Avenue, Green Island, NY 12183 between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Monday through Friday except on New York State and legal holidays.

Exhibit B - Specifications

ITEM: TMT-6 Highway Use Tax (HUT) Stickers – Pressure Sensitive Stickers.

QUANTITY: 2,000,000

SIZE: 4-1/2" X 3", with adhesive on back, plus split on back or bend and peel tab. This shall allow for the easy and complete removal of the backing liner without damaging the printed film.

STOCK: Avery Fasson 2M VOID PET WH TC/S8015A/50#SCK or FLEXcon TAMPERmark PM 200 white void II polyester or equal.

There shall be incorporated in each sticker a security feature that if an attempt is made to remove the sticker from the vehicle, the sticker will void.

ADHESIVE: Application will be made to the metal exterior of large trucks in accordance with the manufacturer's application instructions. The adhesive must cover the entire back of the sticker.

Each sticker must carry a specially formulated pressure sensitive adhesive which requires no water, solvent, wetting agent or other activation means except pressure.

Stickers must remain affixed to the metal exterior of a truck subjected to frequent chemical pressure washes for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the time of application and be able to withstand temperatures between –20° Fahrenheit and 200° Fahrenheit. The stickers will be stored in a heated/air-conditioned warehouse for up to ~~forty-eight~~ (408) months before application to a vehicle. The adhesive must withstand both the storage and the usage period and conditions without degrading or failing to properly adhere.

Stickers must be "tamper-evident" and must reveal evidence of tampering or removal on unaided visual inspection, in order to defeat any attempt to re-apply a sticker to another vehicle. Stickers must clearly indicate any attempt made to remove the sticker, whether by mechanical means, or with the aid of other substances such as solvents or chemicals, with the result of the sticker either tearing, distorting, defacing, or being visibly destroyed and unable to be reused to an extent that is satisfactory to DTF. This "tamper-evident" feature need not be limited to adhesive alone but may also be built into the ink and/or the base material.

NOTE: The stickers must sufficiently bond to the metal exterior of a truck but must be able to be manually removed from these metal parts without causing damage to the metal part or paint. When a sticker is removed from the metal exterior of the vehicle, the sticker MUST self-destruct or in some way distort substantially enough to prevent the sticker from being reused.

NOTE WELL: Bidders must provide manufacturer's product data sheet, including application instructions for proper adhesion and ten (10) uncolored samples with their bid.

PRESSWORK: Text and sequential numbering on front of stickers and on the back of the liner text will print in fade resistant black ink.

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ITEM: TMT-40 Automotive Fuel Carrier (AFC) - Pressure Sensitive Stickers.

QUANTITY: 25,000

SIZE: 4-1/2" X 3", with adhesive on back, plus split on back or bend and peel tab. This shall allow for the easy and complete removal of the backing liner without damaging the printed film.

STOCK: Avery Fasson 2M VOID PET WH TC/S8015A/50#SCK or FLEXcon TAMPERmark PM 200 white void II polyester or equal.

There shall be incorporated in each sticker a security feature that if an attempt is made to remove the sticker from the vehicle, the sticker will void.

ADHESIVE: Application will be made to the metal exterior of large trucks in accordance with the manufacturer's application instructions. The adhesive must cover the entire back of the sticker.

Each sticker must carry a specially formulated pressure sensitive adhesive which requires no water, solvent, wetting agent or other activation means except pressure.

Stickers must remain affixed to the metal exterior of a truck subjected to frequent chemical pressure washes for a period of thirty-six (36) months from the time of application and be able to withstand temperatures between -20° Fahrenheit and 200° Fahrenheit. The stickers will be stored in a heated/air-conditioned warehouse for up to ~~forty-eight~~ (408) months before application to a vehicle. The adhesive must withstand both the storage and the usage period and conditions without degrading or failing to properly adhere.

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NOTE WELL: Bidders must provide manufacturer's product data sheet, including application instructions for proper adhesion and ten (10) uncolored samples with their bid.

PRESSWORK: Text and sequential numbering on front of stickers and on the back of the liner text will print in fade resistant black ink.

The background of the sticker will print 4 ¼ in. x 2 ¾ in. (this will allow for a 1/8 "white border around the edge of the sticker) with Pantone 109c (yellow) sun inks or comparable. Screening or flood coating is not acceptable.