

**LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM  
STATE OF NEBRASKA/CORNHUSKER STATE INDUSTRIES  
INVITATION TO BID  
6806 OF**

The State of Nebraska (State), Department of Administrative Services (DAS), Materiel Division, State Purchasing Bureau (SPB), is issuing this solicitation for a commodity contract, ITB Number 6806 OF for the purpose of selecting a qualified Bidder to provide **License Plate Aluminum**. A more detailed description can be found in Sections II through VI. The resulting contract may not be an exclusive contract as the State reserves the right to contract for the same or similar goods from other sources now or in the future.

**INFORMATION PERTINENT TO THIS SOLICITATION CAN BE FOUND ON THE INTERNET AT:**

<http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

**PUBLIC POSTING NOTICE:**

Pursuant to the Taxpayer Transparency Act (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 84-602.01 to 84-602.04) and in furtherance of public records statutes (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712 et seq.), State contracts, must be posted to a public website. The resulting Contract, the ITB, and the successful Bidder's entire bid and response will be posted to a public website managed by DAS, which can be found at:

<https://statecontracts.nebraska.gov>

**If the Bidder wishes to withhold proprietary or other commercial information from disclosure, the Bidder must do the following:**

- a. Identify the Proprietary Information;
- b. Mark the Proprietary Information; and
- c. Submit the Proprietary Information under separate cover marked clearly using an indelible method with the words **"PROPRIETARY INFORMATION"**.
- d. The mere assertion that information is Proprietary or that a speculative Business advantage might be gained is not sufficient. (See Attorney General Opinion No. 92068, April 27, 1992). **THE BIDDER MAY NOT ASSERT THAT THE ENTIRE BID IS PROPRIETARY. COST WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED PROPRIETARY AND IS A PUBLIC RECORD SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.**  
The State may require a Bidder to submit more information, including, but not limited to, a detailed explanation as to how and why the designated information is Proprietary.

**The State will determine, in its sole discretion, if the disclosure of the designated Proprietary Information would:**

- a. Give advantage to Business competitors; and,
- b. Serve no public purpose.

Absent a determination by the State that the information may be withheld pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05, the State will consider all information a public record subject to disclosure.

In the event that disclosure of Proprietary Information is ordered or requested, it will be the Bidder's responsibility to assert and defend the non-disclosure.

To facilitate public postings, with the exception of Proprietary Information, the State reserves a royalty-free, nonexclusive, and irrevocable right to copy, reproduce, publish, post to a website, or otherwise use any contract, bid, or response to this ITB for any purpose, and to authorize others to use the documents. Any individual or entity Awarded a contract, or who submits a bid in response to this ITB, specifically waives any Copyright or other protection the contract, bid, or response to the ITB may have; and acknowledges that they have the ability and authority to enter into such waiver. This reservation and waiver are a prerequisite for submitting a bid or response to this ITB, and Award of a contract. Failure to agree to the reservation and waiver will result in the bid being found non-responsive and rejected.

Any entity Awarded a contract or submitting a bid or response to the ITB agrees not to sue, file a claim, or make a demand of any kind, and will indemnify and hold harmless the State and its employees, volunteers, Agents, and its elected and appointed officials from and against any and all claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses, sustained or asserted against the State, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the posting of the contract or the bids and responses to the ITB, Awards, and other documents.

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**INVITATION TO BID  
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GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

**Acceptance Test Procedure:** Benchmarks and other performance criteria, developed by the State or other sources of testing standards, for measuring the effectiveness of products or goods and the means used for testing such performance

**Addendum:** Something to be added or deleted to an existing document; a supplement

**Agency:** Using agencies shall mean and include all officers of the state, departments, bureaus, boards, commissions, councils, and institutions receiving legislative appropriations

**Agent/Representative:** A person authorized to act on behalf of another

**Amend:** To alter or change by adding, subtracting, or substituting

**Amendment:** A written correction or alteration to a document

**Appropriation:** Legislative authorization to expend public funds for a specific purpose. Money set apart for a specific use

**Automated Clearing House:** Electronic network for financial transactions in the United States

**Award:** All purchases, leases, or contracts which are based on competitive bids will be awarded according to the provisions in the solicitation

**Best and Final Offer:** In a competitive bid, the final offer submitted which contains Bidder's most favorable terms for price

**Bidder:** A contractor who submits a bid in response to a written solicitation

**Breach:** Violation of a contractual obligation by failing to perform or repudiation of one's own promise.

**Business:** Any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint-stock company, joint venture, or any other private legal entity

**Business Day:** Any weekday, except State-recognized holidays

**Calendar Day:** Every day shown on the calendar including Saturdays, Sundays, and State/Federal holidays

**Cancellation:** To call off or revoke a bid, purchase order or contract without expectation of conducting or performing at a later time

**Catalog/Non-Core:** A printed or electronic list of products a contractor may provide at a discounted rate or discount off list price to the State. Initial contract award(s) is not based on Catalog/Non-Core items

**Collusion:** An agreement or cooperation between two (2) or more persons or entities to accomplish a fraudulent, deceitful, or unlawful purpose

**Commodities:** Any equipment, material, supply or goods; anything movable or tangible that is provided or sold

**Commodities Description:** Detailed descriptions of the items to be purchased; may include information necessary to obtain the desired quality, type, color, size, shape, or special characteristics necessary to perform the work intended to produce the desired results

**Competition:** The effort or action of two (2) or more commercial interests to obtain the same business from third parties

**Confidential Information:** Unless otherwise defined below, "Confidential Information" shall also mean proprietary trade secrets, academic and scientific research work which is in progress and unpublished, and other information which if released would give advantage to business competitors and serve no public purpose (see Neb. Rev. Stat. §84-712.05(3)). In accordance with Nebraska Attorney General Opinions 92068 and 97033, proof that information is proprietary requires identification of specific, named competitor(s) who would be advantaged by release of the information and the specific advantage the competitor(s) would receive

**Contract:** An agreement between two (2) or more parties creating obligations that are enforceable or otherwise recognizable at law; the writing that sets forth such an agreement

**Contract Administration:** The management of the contract which includes and is not limited to contract signing, contract amendments and any necessary legal actions

**Contract Management:** The management of day to day activities at the Agency which includes and is not limited to ensuring deliverables are received, specifications are met, handling meetings and making payments to the Bidder

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**Contract Period:** The duration of the contract

**Contractor:** An individual or entity lawfully conducting business in the State, who seeks or agrees to provide goods or services under the terms of a written contract.

**Cooperative Purchasing:** The combining of requirements of two (2) or more political entities to obtain advantages of volume purchases, reduction in administrative expenses or other public benefits

**Copyright:** A property right in an original work of authorship fixed in any tangible medium of expression, giving the holder the exclusive right to reproduce, adapt and distribute the work

**Customer Service:** The process of ensuring customer satisfaction by providing assistance and advice on those products or goods provided by a Bidder

**Default:** The omission or failure to perform a contractual duty

**Deviation:** Any proposed change(s) or alteration(s) to either the terms and conditions or deliverables within the scope of the written solicitation or contract

**Evaluation:** The process of examining an offer after opening to determine the Bidder's responsibility, responsiveness to requirements, and to ascertain other characteristics of the offer that relate to determination of the successful award

**Exception:** See "Deviation"

**Extension:** Continuance of a contract for a specified duration upon the agreement of the parties beyond the original Contract Period. Not to be confused with "Renewal Period"

**Free on Board Destination:** The delivery charges are included in the quoted price and prepaid by the Bidder. Bidder is responsible for all claims associated with damages during delivery of product

**Foreign Corporation:** A foreign corporation that was organized and chartered under the laws of another state, government, or country.

**Grievance:** A complaint about a governmental action or decision related to the solicitation or resultant contract, brought by a Bidder who has timely submitted a bid response in connection with the award in question, to AS Materiel Division or another designated Agency with the intention of achieving a remedial result

**Interested Party:** A person, acting in their personal capacity, or an entity entering into a contract or other agreement creating a legal interest therein

**Invalid Bid:** A bid that does not meet the requirements of the solicitation or cannot be evaluated against the other bids.

**Invitation to Bid:** A written solicitation utilized for obtaining competitive offers for Services or Goods

**Late Bid:** An offer received after the Opening Date and Time

**Licensed Software Documentation:** The user manuals and any other materials in any form or medium customarily provided by the Bidder to the users of the Licensed Software which will provide the State with sufficient information to operate, diagnose, and maintain the Licensed Software properly, safely, and efficiently

**Mandatory:** Required, compulsory, or obligatory

**May:** Discretionary, permitted; used to express possibility

**Must:** See "Mandatory"

**National Institute for Governmental Purchasing:** Source used for assignment of universal commodity codes to goods and services

**Non-core:** See Catalog.

**Open Market Purchase:** Authorization may be given to an Agency to purchase items above direct purchase authority due to the unique nature, price, quantity, location of the using Agency, or time limitations by the AS Materiel Division, State Purchasing Bureau

**Opening Date and Time:** Specified date and time for the public opening of received, labeled, and sealed formal bids

**Outsourcing:** The contracting out of a business process which an organization may have previously performed internally or has a new need for, to an independent organization from which the process is purchased back

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**Payroll & Financial Center:** Electronic procurement system of record

**Platform:** A specific hardware and Operating System combination that is different from other hardware and Operating System combinations to the extent that a different version of the Licensed Software product is required to execute properly in the environment established by such hardware and Operating System combination

**Point of Contact:** The person designated to receive communications and to communicate

**Product:** Something that is distributed commercially for use or consumption and that is usually (1) tangible personal property, (2) the result of fabrication or processing, and (3) an item that has passed through a chain of commercial distribution before ultimate use or consumption

**Project:** The total scheme, program, or method worked out for the accomplishment of an objective, including all documentation, commodities, and goods to be provided under the contract

**Proposal:** An offer, bid, or quote submitted by a contractor/bidder/vendor in a response to a written solicitation

**Proprietary Information:** Proprietary information is defined as trade secrets, academic and scientific research work which is in progress and unpublished, and other information which if released would give advantage to business competitors and service no public purpose (see Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-712.05(3)). In accordance with Attorney General Opinions 92068 and 97033, proof that information is proprietary requires identification of specific named competitor(s) advantaged by release of the information and the demonstrated advantage the named competitor(s) would gain by the release of information

**Protest:** See "Grievance"

**Public Bid Opening:** The process of opening correctly submitted offers at the time and place specified in the written solicitation and in the presence of anyone who wished to attend

**Quote:** See "Bid"

**Recommended Hardware Configuration:** The data processing hardware (including all terminals, auxiliary storage, communication, and other peripheral devices) to the extent utilized by the State as recommended by the Bidder.

**Release Date:** The date of public release of the written solicitation to seek offers

**Renewal Period:** Optional contract periods subsequent to the original Contract Period for a specified duration with previously agreed to terms and conditions. Not to be confused with Extension

**Request for Information:** A general invitation to Bidder is requesting information for a potential future solicitation. The Request for Information is typically used as a research and information gathering tool for preparation of a solicitation

**Responsible Bidder:** A Bidder who has the capability in all respects to perform fully and lawfully all requirements with integrity and reliability to assure good faith performance

**Responsive Bidder:** A Bidder who has submitted a bid which conforms to all requirements of the solicitation document

**Shall:** See "Mandatory"

**Should:** Expected; suggested, but not necessarily mandatory

**Software License:** Legal instrument with or without printed material that governs the use or redistribution of licensed software

**Specifications:** The detailed statement, especially of the measurements, quality, materials, and functional characteristics, or other items to be provided under a contract

**Statutory:** These clauses are controlled by state law and are not subject to negotiation

**Subcontractor:** Individual or entity with whom the Bidder enters a contract to perform a portion of the work awarded to the Bidder

**System (see Module):** Any collection or aggregation of two (2) or more Modules that is designed to function, or is represented by the Bidder as functioning or being capable of functioning, as an entity

**Termination:** Occurs when the contract expires or either party, pursuant to a power created by agreement or law puts an end to the contract prior to the stated expiration date. All obligations which are still executory on both sides are discharged but any right based on prior breach or performance survives

**Third-Party:** Any person or entity, including but not limited to fiduciaries, shareholders, owners, officers, managers, employees, legally

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disinterested persons, and sub-contractors or agents, and their employees. It shall not include any entity or person who is an interested Party to the contract or agreement

**Trade Secret:** Information, including, but not limited to, a drawing, formula, pattern, compilation, program, device, method, technique, code, or process that (a) derives independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being known to, and not being ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (b) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy (see Neb. Rev. Stat. § 87-502(4))

**Trademark:** A word, phrase, logo, or other graphic symbol used by a manufacturer or Bidder to distinguish its product from those of others, registered with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

**Upgrade:** Any change that improves or alters the basic function of a product of service

**Vendor Performance Report:** A report completed by the using Agency and submitted to State Purchasing Bureau documenting products or services delivered or performed which exceed or fail to meet the terms of the purchase order, contract, and/or solicitation specifications.

**Vendor:** Inclusive term for any Bidder or Bidder.

**Will:** See "Mandatory"

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**ACRONYM LIST**

**ACH:** Automated Clearing House

**AMM:** American Metal Market

**ARO:** After Receipt of Order

**BAFO:** Best and Final Offer

**CSI:** Cornhusker State Industries

**DAS:** Department of Administrative Services

**FOB:** Free on Board

**ID:** Inside Diameter

**ITB:** Invitation to Bid

**NDCS:** Nebraska Department of Correctional Services

**NIGP:** National Institute for Governmental Purchasing

**OD:** Outside Diameter

**PA:** Participating Addendum

**PCO:** Procurement Contracts Officer

**PFC:** Payroll and Financial System

**POC:** Point of Contact

**RFI:** Request for Information

**SPB:** State Purchasing Bureau



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**I. PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE**

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

The solicitation is designed to solicit bids from qualified Bidders who will be responsible for providing **License Plate Aluminum** at a competitive and reasonable cost. Terms and Conditions, Project Description and Scope of Work, Bid instructions, and Cost Bid Requirements may be found in Sections II through VI.

Bids shall conform to all instructions, conditions, and requirements included in the solicitation. Prospective Bidders are expected to carefully examine all documents, schedules, and requirements in this solicitation, and respond to each requirement in the format prescribed. Bids may be found non-responsive if they do not conform to the solicitation.

**B. PROCURING OFFICE AND COMMUNICATION WITH STATE STAFF AND EVALUATORS**

Procurement responsibilities related to this solicitation reside with SPB. The POC for the procurement is as follows:

**ITB: 6806 OF**  
 Name: Clinton Paul/ Brenda Sensibaugh PCO  
 Agency: State Purchasing Bureau  
 Address: 1526 K Street, Suite 130  
 Lincoln, NE 68508

Telephone: 402-471-6500

E-Mail: [as.materielpurchasing@nebraska.gov](mailto:as.materielpurchasing@nebraska.gov)

From the date the ITB is released until Intent to Award is posted, communication by a potential or actual bidder regarding this ITB is limited to the POC listed above. No employee of the State or evaluator is empowered to make binding statements regarding this ITB. The POC will issue, in writing, any answers or clarifications in the form of an Addendum regarding this ITB. Attempts to communicate with any Evaluator involved in this ITB in an attempt to influence this ITB is prohibited and may result in the Bidder being disqualified from this bid and future bid opportunities.

Notwithstanding the above paragraph, this ITB does not prohibit:

1. Communication regarding pre-existing contracts or obligations;
2. Communication required as outlined in the Schedule of Events or an event scheduled later by SPB; or,
3. Communication required for negotiation and execution of the final contract.

**C. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

The State expects to adhere to the procurement schedule shown below, but all dates are approximate and subject to change.

<b>ACTIVITY</b>		<b>DATE/TIME</b>
1.	Release ITB	August 7, 2023
2.	Last day to submit written questions. <b>Upload written questions for 6806 OF electronically via ShareFile to:</b> <a href="https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r8dec70aaf79f4dab9592ca9f80ae52ae">https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r8dec70aaf79f4dab9592ca9f80ae52ae</a>	August 16, 2023
3.	State responds to written questions through an Addendum to be posted to the Internet at: <a href="https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html#">https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html#</a>	August 21, 2023
4.	Electronic Bid Opening via Zoom  <b>Upload electronic Bid submissions for 6806 OF via ShareFile to:</b> <a href="https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r37b4af963e96459483597f3b98b62db6">https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r37b4af963e96459483597f3b98b62db6</a>  <b>Zoom Meeting Information:</b> <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2629176739?pwd=NkhobXNpOU94UmFmTG1wYmJqTXhpUT09">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/2629176739?pwd=NkhobXNpOU94UmFmTG1wYmJqTXhpUT09</a>  <b>Meeting ID: 262 917 6739</b> <b>Passcode: 5VwBuR</b>	September 5, 2023 2:00 PM Central Time

**D. WRITTEN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS**

Questions regarding the meaning or interpretation of any solicitation provision must be submitted in writing to SPB and clearly marked "ITB Number 6806 OF; **License Plate Aluminum** Questions". POC is not obligated to respond to questions that are received late per the Schedule of Events.

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Questions should be uploaded to ShareFile at <https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r8dec70aaf79f4dab9592ca9f80ae52ae> but may also be emailed.

The Bidder Should present, as questions, any assumptions upon which the Bidder's bid is or might be developed. Bids will be evaluated without consideration of any known or unknown assumptions. The Contract will not incorporate any known or unknown assumptions.

It is recommended that questions be submitted using the following format:

Solicitation Section Reference	Solicitation Page Number	Question

Written answers will be posted at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html> per the Schedule of Events.

**E. SECRETARY OF STATE/TAX COMMISSIONER REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS (Statutory)**

All Bidders must be authorized to transact business in the State and comply with all Nebraska Secretary of State Registration requirements. The Bidder who is the recipient of an Intent to Award will be required to certify that it has complied and produce a true and correct copy of its current (within ninety (90) calendar days of the intent to award) Certificate or Letter of Good Standing, or in the case of a sole proprietorship, provide written documentation of sole proprietorship and the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the DAS website at: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>. This must be accomplished prior to execution of the contract.

**F. ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING**

The State reserves the right to reject bids, withdraw an intent to award or award, or terminate a contract if a Bidder commits or has committed ethical violations, which include, but are not limited to:

1. Offering or giving, directly or indirectly, a bribe, fee, commission, compensation, gift, gratuity, or anything of value to any person or entity in an attempt to influence the bidding process;
2. Utilize the services of lobbyists, attorneys, political activists, or consultants to influence or subvert the bidding process;
3. Being considered for, presently being, or becoming debarred, suspended, ineligible, or excluded from contracting with any state or federal entity;
4. Submitting a bid on behalf of another party or entity;
5. Collude with any person or entity to influence the bidding process, submit sham bids, preclude bidding, fix pricing or costs, create an unfair advantage, subvert the bid, or prejudice the State.

The Bidder shall include this clause in any subcontract entered into for the exclusive purpose of performing this contract.

Bidder shall have an affirmative duty to report any violations of this clause by the Bidder throughout the bidding process, and throughout the term of this contract for the successful Bidder and their subcontractors.

**G. EXCEPTIONS FROM THE ITB**

The requirements contained in the solicitation (Sections II through VI) become a part of the terms and conditions of the contract resulting from this solicitation. Any exceptions from the solicitation in Sections II through VI must be clearly defined by the Bidder in its bid and, if accepted by the State, will become part of the contract. Any specifically defined exceptions must not be in conflict with the basic nature of the solicitation, solicitation requirements, or applicable state or federal laws or statutes. "Exception", for the purposes of this solicitation, means any proposed changes or alterations to either the contractual language or deliverables within the scope of this solicitation. The State discourages exceptions and reserves the right to reject proposed exceptions.

**H. SUBMISSION OF BIDS**

The State is accepting electronically submitted bids for this ITB.

**IT IS THE BIDDERS' RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE ALL BIDS SHALL BE SUBMITTED AS INSTRUCTED BELOW, BE MANUALLY SIGNED IN AN INDELIBLE MANNER OR BY DOCUSIGN AND RECEIVED BY THE DATE AND TIME INDICATED IN THE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS FOR EACH BID SUBMITTED TO BE EVALUATED.**

**\*\*\*DO NOT SUBMIT DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN SAVED WITH A PASSWORD\*\*\***

**SUBMITTING DOCUMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN SAVED WITH A PASWORD MAY MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR SPB TO DOWNLOAD YOUR BID/BID DOCUMENTS, THUS YOUR BID WILL BE NON-RESPONSIVE.**

1. **ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTING ELECTRONIC BID(S)**
  - a. Bidders should upload bid(s) via ShareFile to:

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<https://nebraska.sharefile.com/r-r37b4af963e96459483597f3b98b62db6>

- b. **Not all browsers are compatible with ShareFile. Currently Chrome, Internet Explorer and Firefox are compatible, but Microsoft Edge is not.**
- c. **After the bidder clicks the bid submission link, the bidder will be prompted to enter contact information including an e-mail address so that the bidder will receive a confirmation email confirming the successful upload directly from ShareFile.**
- d. The Bidder is solely responsible for any variance between the copies submitted.
- e. If multiple bids are submitted, the State will retain only the most recently submitted response.

## 2. OTHER BID DOCUMENTS TO UPLOAD TO SHAREFILE

- a. Any **Proprietary information** (if applicable) should be uploaded as separate and distinct files.
- b. If it is the bidder's intent to submit multiple bids, the bidder must clearly identify each submission separately (see "Electronic ITB File Names" below).
- c. It is the Bidder's responsibility to submit the Electronic Bid(s) and be received by the date and time of the Bid Opening indicated in the Schedule of Events.
- d. **Hardware, software, internet, user, or electronic issues will not excuse a late bid.**

## 3. ELECTRONIC ITB FILE NAMES

- a. The Bidder should clearly identify the uploaded Bid files.
- b. **Do not submit bid file(s) more than 30 days prior to the Bid Opening. Once file(s) are uploaded they are only available for 30 days.**
- c. **DO NOT ADD ANY LANGUAGE TO THE NAMING CONVENTIONS BELOW. Long titles can make the files difficult to work with AND CAN MAKE YOUR BID/BID DOCUMENTS UNABLE TO DOWNLOAD MAKING YOUR BID NON-RESPONSIVE.**
- d. If the bidder submits the bid/bid documents as **one (1) complete packet (preferred method)**, please use the following naming convention:
  - **6806 OF LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM <<NAME OF BIDDER>>** Bid.
- e. If the bidder submits the bid/bid documents as separate files, please use the following naming convention(s):
  - **6806 OF LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM <<NAME OF BIDDER>>** Bid, File 1, File 2, File 3, etc....
- f. If multiple bids are submitted for the same ITB number, follow the same naming convention as letter "e", for example:
  - **6806 OF LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM <<NAME OF BIDDER>>** Bid 2, File 1, File 2, File 3, etc....

Emphasis Should be concentrated on conformance to the ITB. Bids Should be clear and complete. If the bid is not presented clearly or is difficult to discern, in the sole opinion of the State, the State reserves the right to reject the bid

It is the responsibility of the Bidder to check the website often for all information relevant to this ITB to include Addenda and/or Amendments issued prior to the Opening Date and Time. The website address is: <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html>.

## I. BID PREPARATION COSTS

The State shall not incur any liability for any costs incurred by Bidders in replying to this solicitation, including any activity related to bidding on this solicitation.

## J. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ITB

Violation of the terms and conditions contained in this solicitation or any resultant contract, at any time before or after the award, shall be grounds for action by the State which may include, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Rejection of a Bidder's bid;
2. Withdrawal of the Intent to Award;
3. Withdrawal of the Award;
4. Negative Vendor Performance Report(s)
5. Termination of the resulting contract;
6. Legal action; or,
7. Suspension of the Bidder from further bidding with the State for the period of time relative to the seriousness of the violation, such period to be within the sole discretion of the State.

## K. BID CORRECTIONS

A Bidder may correct a mistake in a bid prior to the time of opening by giving written notice to the State of intent to withdraw the bid for modification or to withdraw the bid completely. Changing a bid after opening may be permitted if the change is made to correct a minor error that does not affect price, quantity, quality, delivery, or contractual conditions. In case of a mathematical error in extension of price, unit price shall govern.

## L. LATE BIDS

All bids must be received by SPB by the date and time of the Bid Opening per the Schedule of Events. It is the Bidder's responsibility to ensure timely submission and receipt and the State is not responsible for bids that are late or lost, regardless of

## INVITATION TO BID 6806 OF

cause or fault. No Late Bids will be evaluated. Late Bids may be returned to the bidder if requested by the Bidder within sixty (60) Calendar days after this late bid was submitted and will at the Bidder's expense.

### M. BID OPENING

Anyone may attend the opening. It is considered a public opening. The PCO will read the names of the respondents. Depending upon the complexity of the bid for goods, the PCO may read the bids aloud or allow bids to be available for viewing by the public during the bid opening. Once the bid opening has concluded, the bids will not be available for viewing until the Intent to Award has been posted. An initial bid tabulation will be posted to the website as soon as feasible. Information identified as proprietary by the submitting Bidder, in accordance with the solicitation and state statute, will not be posted. If the state determines submitted information should not be withheld, in accordance with the [Public Records Act](#), or if ordered to release any withheld information, said information may then be released. The submitting Bidder will be notified of the release and it shall be the obligation of the submitting Bidder to take further action if it believes the information should not be released.

### N. ITB REQUIREMENTS

The bids will first be examined to determine if all requirements listed below have been addressed and whether further evaluation is warranted. Bids not meeting the requirements may be rejected as non-responsive. The requirements are:

1. Original Commodity ITB form signed in an indelible manner or by DocuSign;
2. Clarity and responsiveness of the bid;
3. Completed Sections II through VI; and,
4. Completed ITB Form or State's Bid Sheet.

### O. EVALUATION OF BIDS

All bids that are responsive to the solicitation will be evaluated based on the following:

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-161 allows the quality of performance of previous contracts to be considered when evaluating responses to competitively bid solicitations in determining the lowest responsible bidder.** Information obtained from any Vendor Performance Report (See Terms & Conditions, Section H) may be used in evaluating responses to solicitations for goods and services to determine the best value for the State.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 allows for a preference for a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone.** When a state contract is to be awarded to the lowest responsible Bidder, a resident disabled veteran or a business located in a designated enterprise zone under the Enterprise Zone Act shall be allowed a preference over any other resident or nonresident Bidder, if all other factors are equal.

**Resident disabled veterans means any person (a) who resides in the State of Nebraska, who served in the United States Armed Forces, including any reserve component or the National Guard, who was discharged or otherwise separated with a characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions), and who possesses a disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department of Defense and (b)(i) who owns and controls a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection and (ii) the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in subdivision(a) of this subsection. Any contract entered into without compliance with this section shall be null and void.**

Therefore, if a resident disabled veteran or business located in a designated enterprise zone submits a bid in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 73-107 and has so indicated on the ITB cover page under "Bidder must complete the following" requesting priority/preference to be considered in the award of this contract, the following will need to be submitted by the Bidder within ten (10) business days of request:

1. Documentation from the United States Armed Forces confirming service;
2. Documentation of discharge or otherwise separated characterization of honorable or general (under honorable conditions);
3. Disability rating letter issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs establishing a service-connected disability or a disability determination from the United States Department of Defense; and
4. Documentation which shows ownership and control of a business or, in the case of a publicly owned business, more than fifty percent of the stock is owned by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection; and the management and daily business operations of the business are controlled by one or more persons described in subdivision (a) of this subsection.

Failure to submit the requested documentation within ten (10) business days of notice will disqualify the Bidder from consideration of the preference.

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**P. BEST AND FINAL OFFER**

If BAFO's are requested by the State and submitted by the Bidder, they will be evaluated (using the stated BAFO criteria) and ranked by the Evaluation Committee. The State reserves the right to conduct more than one BAFO. The award will then be granted to the lowest responsible Bidder. However, a Bidder should provide its best offer in its original bid. Bidders should not expect that the State will request a BAFO.

**Q. REFERENCE AND CREDIT CHECKS**

The State reserves the right to conduct and consider reference and credit checks. The State reserves the right to use third parties to conduct reference and credit checks. By submitting a bid in response to this solicitation, the Bidder grants to the State the right to contact or arrange a visit in person with any or all of the Bidder's clients. Reference and credit checks may be grounds to reject a bid, withdraw an intent to award, or rescind the award of a contract.

**R. AWARD**

The State reserves the right to evaluate bids and award contracts in a manner utilizing criteria selected at the State's discretion and in the State's best interest. After evaluation of the bids, or at any point in the solicitation process, the State of Nebraska may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Amend the solicitation;
2. Extend the time of or establish a new bid opening time;
3. Waive exceptions or errors in the State's solicitation process and in Bidder bids that are not material, do not compromise the solicitation process or a Bidder's bid, and do not improve a Bidder's competitive position;
4. Accept or reject a portion of or all of a bid;
5. Accept or reject all bids;
6. Withdraw the solicitation;
7. Elect to rebid the solicitation;
8. Award single lines or multiple lines to one or more Bidders; or,
9. Award one (1) or more all-inclusive contracts.

The State of Nebraska may consider, but is not limited to considering, one or more of the following award criteria:

1. Price;
2. Location;
3. Quality;
4. Delivery time;
5. Bidder qualifications and capabilities; and,
6. State contract management requirements and/or costs.

The solicitation does not commit the State to award a contract. Once intent to award decision has been determined, it will be posted to the Internet at: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

Any protests must be filed by a Bidder within ten (10) business days after the intent to award decision is posted to the Internet. Grievance and protest procedure is available on the Internet at: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

**S. SPECIFICATIONS**

Any manufacturer's names, trade names, brand names, information and/or catalog numbers listed in a specification are for reference and not intended to limit competition, but will be used as the standard by which equivalent material offered will be judged. The Materiel Administrator will be the sole judge of equivalency. The Bidder may offer any brands which meets or exceeds the specification. When a specific product is required, the solicitation will so state. Any item bid is to be the latest current model under standard production at the time of order. No used or refurbished equipment will be accepted, unless otherwise stated.

**T. SAMPLES**

When requested, samples should be furnished at the Bidder's expense prior to the opening of the bid, unless another time is specified. Each sample should be labeled clearly, and identify the Bidder's name, the ITB number, item number, and the brand and model number, if applicable. Samples submitted must be the commodities or equipment which would be delivered if awarded the bid. The State reserves the right to request samples even though this may not have been set forth in the solicitation. Samples may be destroyed in testing. If a sample is not destroyed in testing and a Bidder wishes to have the sample returned, it will be returned at the Bidder's expense upon request. The sample will not be returned until thirty (30) calendar days after any bid protest or, the execution of a contract. The Bidder shall have ten (10) calendar days to arrange for the return of the sample to the Bidder following any of the above dates. If no request from the Bidder is received within the above dates, the State reserves the right to use, donate, or surplus the samples in accordance with the State's policies.

**A. "CORE" AND "CATALOG/NON-CORE" ITEMS**

1. The State of Nebraska intends to enter into a Contract(s) for state agencies and/or facilities. The contract(s) will be for items of common use items identified as "Core Items" and additional items identified as "Catalog/Non-Core Items".

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"Catalog/Non-Core Items" shall be represented by a catalog or current manufacturer price list(s) containing items not called out as "Core Items", as shown in the ITB.

2. The "Core Items" shall consist of the most repetitively purchased items and will represent those products which the State wishes to establish as standard items based upon their value to the State in terms of quality and price. The "Core Items" shall be subject to a greater discount than the "Catalog/Non-Core Items". The "Core Items" are identified as the most commonly purchased items but is not a complete list of items purchased by the State, nor does it guarantee future purchase of these products. The State reserves the right to add or remove "Core Items" based on usage.
3. "Catalog/Non-Core Items" are defined as those additional items available from the bidder not listed as part of the "Core Items". Prices for "Catalog/Non-Core Items" shall be determined by applying the quoted discount for the item(s)/category to the manufacturer's current catalog or manufacturer contractor's price list(s). The discount percentage for the Catalog/Non-Core items shall remain firm for the duration of the contract period.
4. All items not included as "Core Items" shall be considered "Catalog/Non-Core Items".
5. At the request of the SPB, the bidder shall block availability on certain "Catalog/Non-Core Items" as identified by SPB (i.e. printing, weapons, furniture, vehicles, micrographic equipment/copiers, mail equipment, and office supplies).
6. A manufacturer's model/number shall be provided for each item, if requested.
7. In those cases where items may have been more than one (1) brand name, the bidder may submit a bid on either brand. Please indicate which brand is being bid. The bidder must complete the ITB. **Pay special attention to the unit of measure.**
8. Prices for "Catalog/Non-Core Items" shall be determined by applying the quoted discount for the item to the manufacturer's current catalog or price list. **The percentage discount for all "Catalog/Non-Core Items" shall remain firm for the duration of the contract period.** The Bidder must clearly state the date of the catalog or price list used and provide a copy of the catalog to the State upon request.
9. The pricing structure, consisting of all pricing formulas and pertinent information, for all "Catalog/Non-Core Items" must be clearly defined and documented for future auditing purposes.
10. A firm percentage rate must be quoted for "Catalog/Non-Core Items" or categories, but a percentage range will not be considered by "Catalog/Non-Core Items" or categories.
11. "Catalog/Non-Core Item" Categories have been identified as follows:
  - a. **Miscellaneous Aluminum Products** (excluding core items)
12. After award of the contract(s), the bidder shall supply additional copies of the current catalog or price list used for this solicitation for distribution to any requesting state agency at no charge, within ten (10) business days of request.
13. Any catalog or price list revisions which occur during the duration of the contract shall be provided upon request and without charge.
14. Any additional report(s) the State deems necessary may be requested by the State at any time.
15. The bidder will not substitute any "Core Items" that have been awarded without prior written approval of SPB.

### **B. ALTERNATE/EQUIVALENT BIDS**

Bidder may offer bids which are at variance from the express specifications of the solicitation. The State reserves the right to consider and accept such bids if, in the judgment of the Materiel Administrator or their designee, the bid will result in goods and/or services equivalent to or better than those which would be supplied in the original bid specifications. Bidder must indicate on the solicitation the manufacturer's name, number and shall submit with their bid, sketches, descriptive literature and/or complete specifications. Reference to literature submitted with a previous bid will not satisfy this provision. Bids which do not comply with these requirements are subject to rejection. In the absence of any stated deviation or exception, the bid will be accepted as in strict compliance with all terms, conditions and specification, and the Bidder shall be held liable therefore.

### **C. "LUMP SUM" OR "ALL OR NONE" BIDS**

The State reserves the right to purchase "item-by-item", by groups or as a total when the State may benefit by so doing. Bidders may submit a bid on an "all or none" or "lump sum" basis but should also submit a bid on an "item-by-item" basis. The term "all or none" means a conditional bid which requires the purchase of all items on which bids are offered and Bidder declines to accept award on individual items; a "lump sum" bid is when the Bidder offers a lower price than the sum of the individual bids if all items are purchased but agrees to deliver individual items at the prices quoted.

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**“LUMP SUM” OR “ALL OR NONE” BIDS SHOULD BE CONSPICUOUSLY MARKED ON THE FIRST PAGE OF THE ITB AND BID SHEET (IF APPLICABLE)**

**D. EMAIL SUBMISSIONS**

SPB will not accept bids by email, electronic, voice, or telephone bids **except** for one-time purchases under \$50,000.00.

**E. BID TABULATIONS**

Bid tabulations are available on the website at: <https://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/bidopps.html>.

**F. REJECTION OF BIDS**

The State reserves the right to reject any or all bids, wholly or in part, in the best interest of the State.

**G. RESIDENT BIDDER**

Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 73-101.01 through 73-101.02, a Resident Bidder shall be allowed a preference against a Non-resident Bidder from a state which gives or requires a preference to Bidders from that state. The preference shall be equal to the preference given or required by the state of the Nonresident Bidders. Where the lowest responsible bid from a resident Bidder is equal in all respects to one from a nonresident Bidder from a state which has no preference law, the resident Bidder shall be awarded the contract. The provision of this preference shall not apply to any contract for any project upon which federal funds would be withheld because of the provisions of this preference.

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**II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

**Bidders should complete Section II through VI as part of their bid.** Bidder is expected to read the Terms and Conditions and must initial either accept, reject, or reject and provide alternative language for each clause. The Bidder should also provide an explanation of why the Bidder rejected the clause or rejected the clause and provided alternate language using "Track Changes". Upon request an electronic copy of the bid with "Track Changes" must be submitted in an editable Word format. **By signing the solicitation, Bidder is agreeing to be legally bound by all the accepted terms and conditions, and any proposed alternative terms and conditions submitted with the bid.** The State reserves the right to negotiate rejected or proposed alternative language. If the State and Bidder fail to agree on the final Terms and Conditions, the State reserves the right to reject the bid. The State is soliciting bids in response to the solicitation. The State reserves the right to reject bids that attempt to substitute the Bidder's commercial contracts and/or documents for this solicitation.

The Bidder should submit with their bid any license, user agreement, service level agreement, or similar documents that the Bidder wants incorporated in the Contract. Upon notice of Intent to Award, the Bidder must submit a copy of these documents in an editable Word format. The State will not consider incorporation of any document not submitted with the Bidder's bid. These documents shall be subject to negotiation and will be incorporated as addendums if agreed to by the Parties.

If a conflict or ambiguity arises after the addendums have been negotiated and agreed to, the addendums shall be interpreted as follows:

1. If only one (1) Party's document has a particular clause then that clause shall control;
2. If both Party's documents have a similar clause, but the clauses do not conflict, the clauses shall be read together;
3. If both Party's documents have a similar clause, but the clauses conflict, the State's clause shall control.

**A. GENERAL**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract resulting from this solicitation shall incorporate the following documents:

1. ITB and Addenda;
2. Amendments to the solicitation;
3. Questions and Answers;
4. Bidder's bid response;
5. The executed Contract and any Addenda, if applicable, and properly submitted documents; and,
6. Amendments to the Contract

Unless otherwise specifically stated in a future contract amendment, in case of any conflict between the incorporated documents, the documents shall govern in the following order of preference with number one (1) receiving preference over all other documents and with each lower numbered document having preference over any higher numbered document: 1) Amendment to the executed Contract with the most recent dated amendment having the highest priority, 2) executed Contract and any attached Addenda, 3) Amendments to solicitation and any Questions and Answers, 4) the original solicitation document and any Addenda, and 5) the Bidder's submitted Bid. Any ambiguity or conflict in the contract discovered after its execution, not otherwise addressed herein, shall be resolved in accordance with the rules of contract interpretation as established in the State.

**B. NOTIFICATION**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Communication regarding the executed contract shall be given in writing and deemed to have been delivered via email to the specified Contract Contact information provided on the submitted ITB form with the submitted bid(s). The Vendor should send written notice to the SPB. The State will send notices to the authorized contact provided on the ITB form. Either party may change its address for notification purposes by giving notice of the change and setting forth the new address and an effective date.



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**C. PCO REPRESENTATIVE**

The State reserves the right to appoint a PCO's Representative to manage [or assist the PCO in managing] the contract on behalf of the State. The PCO's Representative will be appointed in writing, and the appointment document will specify the extent of the PCO's Representative authority and responsibilities. If a PCO's Representative is appointed, the Bidder will be provided a copy of the appointment document and is expected to cooperate accordingly with the PCO's Representative. The PCO's Representative has no authority to bind the State to a contract, amendment, addendum, or other change or addition to the contract.

**D. GOVERNING LAW (Statutory)**

Notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, or any amendment or addendum(s) entered into contemporaneously or at a later time, the parties understand and agree that, (1) the State of Nebraska is a sovereign state and its authority to contract is therefore subject to limitation by the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, and regulation; (2) this contract will be interpreted and enforced under the laws of the State of Nebraska; (3) any action to enforce the provisions of this contract must be brought in the State of Nebraska per state law; (4) the person signing this contract on behalf of the State of Nebraska does not have the authority to waive the State's sovereign immunity, statutes, common law, or regulations; (5) the indemnity, limitation of liability, remedy, and other similar provisions of the final contract, if any, are entered into subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity; and, (6) all terms and conditions of the final contract, including but not limited to the clauses concerning third-party use, licenses, warranties, limitations of liability, governing law and venue, usage verification, indemnity, liability, remedy or other similar provisions of the final contract are entered into specifically subject to the State's Constitution, statutes, common law, regulations, and sovereign immunity. The Parties must comply with all applicable local, state and federal laws, ordinances, rules, orders, and regulations.

**E. AMENDMENT**

This Contract may be amended in writing, within scope, upon the agreement of both parties.

**F. SUBSTITUTIONS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

In the event any product is discontinued or replaced upon mutual consent during the contract period or prior to delivery, the State reserves the right to amend the contract or purchase order to include the alternate product at the same price.

**If the Vendor requests to substitute any contracted item and the substitute meets or exceeds the original specifications, the State may accept or reject the substitution.**

**If the Vendor requests to substitute any contracted item, which meets or exceeds the original specifications, and the cost of the substitute is higher, the State may accept or reject the substitution and price change.**

If the State and the Vendor do not agree to the requested substitution and price change, the Contract may be terminated immediately by the State. In the event any product is discontinued or replaced upon mutual consent and prior to delivery during the Contract Period the State reserves the right to amend the contract or purchase order to include the alternate product.

**\*\*\*Bidder will not substitute any item that has been awarded without prior written approval of SPB\*\*\***

**G. VENDOR PERFORMANCE REPORT(S)**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State may document any instance(s) of products or services delivered or performed which exceed or fail to meet the terms of the purchase order, contract, and/or solicitation specifications. SPB may contact the Vendor regarding any such report. Vendor performance report(s) will become a part of the permanent record of the Vendor.

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**H. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL BIDDER BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

If Bidder breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract, the Bidder shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach, a proposed cure, and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, in its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a waiver, the State does not forfeit any rights or remedies to which the State is entitled by law or equity, or pursuant to the provisions of the contract. Failure to give immediate notice, however, may be grounds for denial of any request for a waiver of a breach.

**I. BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Either Party may terminate the contract, in whole or in part, if the other Party breaches its duty to perform its obligations under the contract in a timely and proper manner. Termination requires written notice of default and a thirty (30) calendar day (or longer at the non-breaching Party's discretion considering the gravity and nature of the default) cure period. Said notice shall be delivered by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, or in person with proof of delivery. Allowing time to cure a failure or breach of contract does not waive the right to immediately terminate the contract for the same or different contract breach which may occur at a different time.

In case of breach by the Bidder, the State may, without unreasonable delay, make a good faith effort to make a reasonable purchase or contract to purchased goods in substitution of those due from the Bidder. The State may recover from the Bidder as damages the difference between the costs of covering the breach. Notwithstanding any clause to the contrary, the State may also recover the contract price together with any incidental or consequential damages defined in UCC Section 2-715, but less expenses saved in consequence of Bidder's breach. OR In case of default of the Bidder, the State may contract the service from other sources and hold the Bidder responsible for any excess cost occasioned thereby.

The State's failure to make payment shall not be a breach, and the Bidder shall retain all available statutory remedies. (See Indemnity - Self-Insurance and Payment)

**J. NON-WAIVER OF BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The acceptance of late performance with or without objection or reservation by a Party shall not waive any rights of the Party nor constitute a waiver of the requirement of timely performance of any obligations remaining to be performed.

**K. SEVERABILITY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

If any term or condition of the contract is declared by a court of competent jurisdiction to be illegal or in conflict with any law, the validity of the remaining terms and conditions shall not be affected, and the rights and obligations of the parties shall be construed and enforced as if the contract did not contain the provision held to be invalid or illegal.

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**L. INDEMNIFICATION**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

**1. GENERAL**

The Bidder agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the State and its employees, volunteers, agents, and its elected and appointed officials (“the indemnified parties”) from and against any and all claims, liens, demands, damages, liability, actions, causes of action, losses, judgments, costs, and expenses of every nature, including investigation costs and expenses, settlement costs, and attorney fees and expenses (“the claims”), sustained or asserted against the State for personal injury, death, or property loss or damage, arising out of, resulting from, or attributable to the willful misconduct, negligence, error, or omission of the Bidder, its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents, resulting from this contract, except to the extent such Bidder liability is attenuated by any action of the State which directly and proximately contributed to the claims.

**2. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

The Bidder agrees it will, at its sole cost and expense, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the indemnified parties from and against any and all claims, to the extent such claims arise out of, result from, or are attributable to, the actual or alleged infringement or misappropriation of any patent, copyright, trade secret, trademark, or confidential information of any third party by the Bidder or its employees, Subcontractors, consultants, representatives, and agents; provided, however, the State gives the Bidder prompt notice in writing of the claim. The Bidder may not settle any infringement claim that will affect the State’s use of the Licensed Software without the State’s prior written consent, which consent may be withheld for any reason.

If a judgment or settlement is obtained or reasonably anticipated against the State’s use of any intellectual property for which the Bidder has indemnified the State, the Bidder shall, at the Bidder’s sole cost and expense, promptly modify the item or items which were determined to be infringing, acquire a license or licenses on the State’s behalf to provide the necessary rights to the State to eliminate the infringement, or provide the State with a non-infringing substitute that provides the State the same functionality. At the State’s election, the actual or anticipated judgment may be treated as a breach of warranty by the Bidder, and the State may receive the remedies provided under this solicitation.

**3. SELF-INSURANCE (Statutory)**

The State is self-insured for any loss and purchases excess insurance coverage pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,239.01 (Reissue 2008). If there is a presumed loss under the provisions of this contract, Bidder may file a claim with the Office of Risk Management pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-8,829 through 81-8,306 for review by the State Claims Board. The State retains all rights and immunities under the State Miscellaneous (Section 81-8,294), Tort (Section 81-8,209), and Contract Claim Acts (Section 81-8,302), as outlined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-8,209 et seq. and under any other provisions of law and accepts liability under this contract to the extent provided by law.

**M. ATTORNEY’S FEES**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

In the event of any litigation, appeal, or other legal action to enforce any provision of the contract, the Parties agree to pay all expenses of such action, as permitted by law and if ordered by the court, including attorney’s fees and costs, if the other party prevails.

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**N. ASSIGNMENT, SALE, OR MERGER**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Either party may assign the contract upon mutual written agreement of the other party. Such agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld.

The Bidder retains the right to enter into a sale, merger, acquisition, internal reorganization, or similar transaction involving Bidder's business. Bidder agrees to cooperate with the State in executing amendments to the contract to allow for the transaction. If a third party or entity is involved in the transaction, the Bidder will remain responsible for performance of the contract until such time as the person or entity involved in the transaction agrees in writing to be contractually bound by this contract and perform all obligations of the contract.

**O. CONTRACTING WITH OTHER POLITICAL SUB-DIVISIONS OF THE STATE OR ANOTHER STATE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder may, but shall not be required to, allow agencies, as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-145, to use this contract. The terms and conditions, including price, of the contract may not be amended. The State shall not be contractually obligated or liable for any contract entered into pursuant to this clause.

The Bidder may, but shall not be required to, allow other states, agencies or divisions of other states, or political subdivisions of other states to use this contract. The terms and conditions, including price, of this contract shall apply to any such contract, but may be amended upon mutual consent of the Parties. The State of Nebraska shall not be contractually or otherwise obligated or liable under any contract entered into pursuant to this clause. The State shall be notified if a contract is executed based upon this contract.

**P. FORCE MAJEURE**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Neither party shall be liable for any costs or damages, or for default resulting from its inability to perform any of its obligations under the contract due to a natural or man-made event outside the control and not the fault of the affected party ("Force Majeure Event"). The Party so affected shall immediately make a written request for relief to the other party, and shall have the burden of proof to justify the request. The other Party may grant the relief requested; relief may not be unreasonably withheld. Labor disputes with the impacted party's own employees will not be considered a Force Majeure Event.

**Q. CONFIDENTIALITY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

All materials and information provided by the Parties or acquired by a Party on behalf of the other Party shall be regarded as confidential information. All materials and information provided or acquired shall be handled in accordance with federal and state law, and ethical standards. Should said confidentiality be breached by a Party, the Party shall notify the other Party immediately of said breach and take immediate corrective action.

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It is incumbent upon the Parties to inform their officers and employees of the penalties for improper disclosure imposed by the Privacy Act of 1974, 5 U.S.C. 552a. Specifically, 5 U.S.C. 552a (i)(1), which is made applicable by 5 U.S.C. 552a (m)(1), provides that any officer or employee, who by virtue of his/her employment or official position has possession of or access to Agency records which contain individually identifiable information, the disclosure of which is prohibited by the Privacy Act or regulations established thereunder, and who knowing that disclosure of the specific material is prohibited, willfully discloses the material in any manner to any person or Agency not entitled to receive it, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and fined not more than \$5,000.00.

**R. EARLY TERMINATION**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract may be terminated as follows:

1. The State and the Bidder, by mutual written agreement, may terminate the contract at any time.
2. The State, at its sole discretion, may terminate the contract for any reason upon thirty (30) calendar day's written notice to the Bidder. Such termination shall not relieve the Bidder of warranty or other service obligations incurred under the terms of the contract. In the event of termination the Bidder shall be entitled to payment, determined on a pro rata basis, for products or services satisfactorily performed or provided.
3. The State may terminate the contract immediately for the following reasons:
  - a. if directed to do so by statute;
  - b. Bidder has made an assignment for the benefit of creditors, has admitted in writing its inability to pay debts as they mature, or has ceased operating in the normal course of business;
  - c. a trustee or receiver of the Bidder or of any substantial part of the Bidder's assets has been appointed by a court;
  - d. fraud, misappropriation, embezzlement, malfeasance, misfeasance, or illegal conduct pertaining to performance under the contract by its Bidder, its employees, officers, directors, or shareholders;
  - e. an involuntary proceeding has been commenced by any party against the Bidder under any one of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code and (i) the proceeding has been pending for at least sixty (60) calendar days; or (ii) the Bidder has consented, either expressly or by operation of law, to the entry of an order for relief; or (iii) the Bidder has been decreed or adjudged a debtor;
  - f. a voluntary petition has been filed by the Bidder under any of the chapters of Title 11 of the United States Code;
  - g. Bidder intentionally discloses confidential information;
  - h. Bidder has or announces it will discontinue support of the deliverable; and,
  - i. In the event funding is no longer available.

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**III. BIDDER DUTIES**

**A. INDEPENDENT BIDDER / OBLIGATIONS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

It is agreed that the Bidder is an independent Bidder and that nothing contained herein is intended or should be construed as creating or establishing a relationship of employment, Agency, or a partnership.

The Bidder is solely responsible for fulfilling the contract. The Bidder or the Bidder's representative shall be the sole point of contact regarding all contractual matters.

The Bidder shall secure, at its own expense, all personnel required to perform the services under the contract. The personnel the Bidder uses to fulfill the contract shall have no contractual or other legal relationship with the State; they shall not be considered employees of the State and shall not be entitled to any compensation, rights or benefits from the State, including but not limited to, tenure rights, medical and hospital care, sick and vacation leave, severance pay, or retirement benefits.

By-name personnel commitments made in the Bidder's bid shall not be changed without the prior written approval of the State. Replacement of these personnel, if approved by the State, shall be with personnel of equal or greater ability and qualifications.

The Bidder warrants that all persons assigned to the project shall be employees of the Bidder or a Subcontractor, and shall be fully qualified to perform the work required herein. Personnel employed by the Bidder or a subcontractor to fulfill the terms of the contract shall remain under the sole direction and control of the Contractor or the subcontractor respectively.

With respect to its employees, the Bidder agrees to be solely responsible for the following:

1. Any and all pay, benefits, and employment taxes and/or other payroll withholding;
2. Any and all vehicles used by the Bidder's employees, including all insurance required by state law;
3. Damages incurred by Bidder's employees within the scope of their duties under the contract;
4. Maintaining Workers' Compensation and health insurance that complies with state and federal law and submitting any reports on such insurance to the extent required by governing law;
5. Determining the hours to be worked and the duties to be performed by the Bidder's employees; and,
6. All claims on behalf of any person arising out of employment or alleged employment (including without limit claims of discrimination alleged against the Bidder, its officers, agents, or subcontractors or subcontractor's employees).

If the Bidder intends to utilize any subcontractor, the Subcontractor's level of effort, tasks, and time allocation must be clearly defined in the Bidder's bid. The Bidder shall agree that it will not utilize any Subcontractors not specifically included in its bid in the performance of the contract without the prior written authorization of the State.

The State reserves the right to require the Bidder to reassign or remove from the project any Bidder or Subcontractor employee.

Bidder shall insure that the terms and conditions contained in any contract with a subcontractor does not conflict with the terms and conditions of this contract.

The Bidder shall include a similar provision, for the protection of the State, in the contract with any Subcontractor engaged to perform work on this contract.

**B. EMPLOYEE WORK ELIGIBILITY STATUS**

The Bidder is required and hereby agrees to use a federal immigration verification system to determine the work eligibility status of employees physically performing work within the State. A federal immigration verification system means the electronic verification of the work authorization program authorized by the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, 8 U.S.C. 1324a, known as the E-Verify Program, or an equivalent federal program designated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or other federal Agency authorized to verify the work eligibility status of an employee.

If the Bidder is an individual or sole proprietorship, the following applies:

1. The Bidder must complete the United States Citizenship Attestation Form, available on the DAS website at <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing.html>

The completed United States Attestation Form should be submitted with the bid.

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2. If the Bidder indicates on such attestation form that he or she is a qualified alien, the Bidder agrees to provide the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services documentation required to verify the Bidder's lawful presence in the United States using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) Program.
3. The Bidder understands and agrees that lawful presence in the United States is required and the Bidder may be disqualified or the contract terminated if such lawful presence cannot be verified as required by Neb. Rev. Stat. § 4-108.

**C. COMPLIANCE WITH CIVIL RIGHTS LAWS AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT / NONDISCRIMINATION (Statutory)**

The Bidder shall comply with all applicable local, state, and federal statutes and regulations regarding civil rights laws and equal opportunity employment. The Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act prohibits Bidders of the State, and their Subcontractors, from discriminating against any employee or applicant for employment, with respect to hire, tenure, terms, conditions, compensation, or privileges of employment because of race, color, religion, sex, disability, marital status, or national origin (Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 48-1101 through 48-1125). The Bidder guarantees compliance with the Nebraska Fair Employment Practice Act, and breach of this provision shall be regarded as a material breach of contract. The Bidder shall insert a similar provision in all Subcontracts for goods or services to be covered by any contract resulting from this solicitation.

**D. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BIDDERS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Bidder may be required to work with or in close proximity to other Bidders or individuals that may be working on the same or different projects. The Bidder shall agree to cooperate with such other Bidders or individuals, and shall not commit or permit any act which may interfere with the performance of work by any other Bidder or individual. Bidder is not required to compromise Bidder's intellectual property or proprietary information unless expressly required to do so by this contract.

**E. DISCOUNTS**

Prices quoted shall be inclusive of ALL trade discounts. Cash discount terms of less than thirty (30) days will not be considered as part of the bid. Cash discount periods will be computed from the date of receipt of a properly executed claim voucher or the date of completion of delivery of all items in a satisfactory condition, whichever is later.

**F. PRICES**

Prices quoted shall be net, **including transportation and delivery charges fully prepaid by the Vendor**, and FOB Destination as named in the ITB. **No additional charges will be allowed for packing, packages, or partial delivery costs.** When an arithmetic error has been made in the extended total the unit price will govern.

All prices, costs, and terms and conditions submitted in the bid shall remain fixed and valid commencing on the opening date of the bid and shall remain firm for the first one hundred twenty (120) days of the contract award.

Requests for an increase must be submitted in writing to SPB. SPB has a minimum of thirty (30) days to review and award any Price increase or decrease (after documentation is approved). Documentation will be required by the State to support the price increase. The State reserves the right to deny any requested price increase.

**No price increases are to be billed to the State prior to an Amendment to the Contract, which has been signed and completed by both the State and the awarded bidder, the Amendment is posted to the State Purchasing Bureau website and written notice has been given to both the State and the awarded bidder.**

**The State will be given full proportionate benefit of any decreases for the term of the contract.**

**G. COST CLARIFICATION**

The State reserves the right to review all aspects of cost for reasonableness and to request clarification of any bid where the cost component shows significant and unsupported exception from industry standards or in areas where detailed pricing is required.

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**H. PERMITS, REGULATIONS, LAWS**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The contract price shall include the cost of all royalties, licenses, permits, and approvals, whether arising from patents, trademarks, copyrights or otherwise, that are in any way involved in the contract. The Bidder shall obtain and pay for all royalties, licenses, and permits, and approvals necessary for the performance of the contract. The Bidder must guarantee that it has the full legal right to the materials, supplies, equipment, software, and other items used to execute this contract.

**I. NOTICE OF POTENTIAL BIDDER BREACH**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

If Bidder breaches the contract or anticipates breaching the contract the Bidder shall immediately give written notice to the State. The notice shall explain the breach or potential breach, and may include a request for a waiver of the breach if so desired. The State may, at its discretion, temporarily or permanently waive the breach. By granting a temporary waiver, the State does not forfeit any rights or remedies to which the State is entitled by law or equity, or pursuant to the provisions of the contract. Failure to give immediate notice, however, may be grounds for denial of any request for a waiver of a breach.

**J. ANTITRUST**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder hereby assigns to the State any and all claims for overcharges as to goods and/or services provided in connection with this contract resulting from antitrust violations which arise under antitrust laws of the United States and the antitrust laws of the State.

**K. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

By submitting a bid, bidder certifies that no relationship exists between the bidder and any person or entity which either is, or gives the appearance of, a conflict of interest related to this Bid or project.

Bidder further certifies that bidder will not employ any individual known by bidder to have a conflict of interest nor shall bidder take any action or acquire any interest, either directly or indirectly, which will conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of its contractual obligations hereunder or which creates an actual or appearance of conflict of interest.

If there is an actual or perceived conflict of interest, bidder shall provide with its bid a full disclosure of the facts describing such actual or perceived conflict of interest and a proposed mitigation plan for consideration. The State will then consider such disclosure and proposed mitigation plan and either approve or reject as part of the overall bid evaluation.



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**L. ADVERTISING**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder agrees not to refer to the contract award in advertising in such a manner as to state or imply that the company or its goods and services are endorsed or preferred by the State. Any publicity releases pertaining to the project shall not be issued without prior written approval from the State.

**M. DISASTER RECOVERY/BACK UP PLAN**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The Bidder shall have a disaster recovery and back-up plan, of which a copy should be provided upon request to the State, which includes, but is not limited to equipment, personnel, facilities, and transportation, in order to continue delivery of goods and services as specified under the specifications in the contract in the event of a disaster.

**N. DRUG POLICY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Bidder certifies it maintains a drug free work place environment to ensure worker safety and workplace integrity. Bidder agrees to provide a copy of its drug free workplace policy at any time upon request by the State.

**O. WARRANTY**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Despite any clause to the contrary, the Bidder represents and warrants that its services hereunder shall be performed by competent personnel and shall be of professional quality consistent with generally accepted industry standards for the performance of such services and shall comply in all respects with the requirements of this Contract. For any breach of this warranty, the Bidder shall, for a period of ninety (90) days from performance of the service, perform the services again, at no cost to Customer, or if Bidder is unable to perform the services as warranted, Bidder shall reimburse Customer the fees paid to Bidder for the unsatisfactory services. The rights and remedies of the parties under this warranty are in addition to any other rights and remedies of the parties provided by law or equity, including, without limitation actual damages, and, as applicable and awarded under the law, to a prevailing party, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.

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**IV. PAYMENT**

**A. PROHIBITION AGAINST ADVANCE PAYMENT (Statutory)**

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-2403 states, “[n]o goods or services shall be deemed to be received by an Agency until all such goods or services are completely delivered and finally accepted by the Agency.”

**B. TAXES (Statutory)**

The State is not required to pay taxes and assumes no such liability as a result of this solicitation. The Bidder may request a copy of the Nebraska Department of Revenue, Nebraska Resale or Exempt Sale Certificate for Sales Tax Exemption, Form 13 for their records. Any property tax payable on the Bidder's equipment which may be installed in a state-owned facility is the responsibility of the Bidder.

**C. INVOICES**

Invoices for payments must be submitted by the Bidder to the Agency requesting the services with sufficient detail to support payment. The terms and conditions included in the Bidder's invoice shall be deemed to be solely for the convenience of the parties. No terms or conditions of any such invoice shall be binding upon the State, and no action by the State, including without limitation the payment of any such invoice in whole or in part, shall be construed as binding or estopping the State with respect to any such term or condition, unless the invoice term or condition has been previously agreed to by the State as an amendment to the contract.

**D. INSPECTION AND APPROVAL**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

Final inspection and approval of all work required under the contract shall be performed by the designated State officials. The State and/or its authorized representatives shall have the right to enter any premises where the Bidder or Subcontractor duties under the contract are being performed, and to inspect, monitor or otherwise evaluate the work being performed. All inspections and evaluations shall be at reasonable times and in a manner that will not unreasonably delay work.

**E. PAYMENT (Statutory)**

Payment will be made by the responsible Agency in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-2403). The State may require the Bidder to accept payment by electronic means such as ACH deposit. In no event shall the State be responsible or liable to pay for any goods and services provided by the Bidder prior to the Effective Date of the contract, and the Bidder hereby waives any claim or cause of action for any such services.

**F. LATE PAYMENT (Statutory)**

The Bidder may charge the responsible Agency interest for late payment in compliance with the State of Nebraska Prompt Payment Act (See Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 81-2401 through 81-2408).

**G. SUBJECT TO FUNDING / FUNDING OUT CLAUSE FOR LOSS OF APPROPRIATIONS (Statutory)**

The State's obligation to pay amounts due on the Contract for a fiscal years following the current fiscal year is contingent upon legislative appropriation of funds. Should said funds not be appropriated, the State may terminate the contract with respect to those payments for the fiscal year(s) for which such funds are not appropriated. The State will give the Bidder written notice thirty (30) calendar days prior to the effective date of termination. All obligations of the State to make payments after the termination date will cease. The Bidder shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any authorized work which has been satisfactorily completed as of the termination date. In no event shall the Bidder be paid for a loss of anticipated profit.

**H. RIGHT TO AUDIT**

Accept (Initial)	Reject (Initial)	Reject & Provide Alternative Response (Initial)	NOTES/COMMENTS:

The State shall have the right to audit the Bidder's performance of this contract upon a thirty (30) day written notice. Bidder shall utilize generally accepted accounting principles, and shall maintain the accounting records, and other records and information relevant to the contract (Information) to enable the State to audit the contract. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304 et seq.) The State may audit and the Bidder shall maintain the information during the term of the contract and for a period of five (5) years after the

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completion of this contract or until all issues or litigation are resolved, whichever is later. The Bidder shall make the Information available to the State at Bidder's place of business or a location acceptable to both Parties during normal business hours. If this is not practical or the Bidder so elects, the Bidder may provide electronic or paper copies of the Information. The State reserves the right to examine, make copies of, and take notes on any Information relevant to this contract, regardless of the form or the Information, how it is stored, or who possesses the Information. In no circumstances will Bidder be required to create or maintain documents not kept in the ordinary course of Bidder's business operations, nor will Bidder be required to disclose any information, including but not limited to product cost data, which is confidential or proprietary to Bidder.

The Parties shall pay their own costs of the audit unless the audit finds a previously undisclosed overpayment by the State. If a previously undisclosed overpayment exceeds one-half of one percent (.5%) of the total contract billings, or if fraud, material misrepresentations, or non-performance is discovered on the part of the Bidder, the Bidder shall reimburse the State for the total costs of the audit. Overpayments and audit costs owed to the State shall be paid within ninety (90) days of written notice of the claim. The Bidder agrees to correct any material weaknesses or condition found as a result of the audit.

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**V. SCOPE OF WORK**

**A. SCOPE**

It is the intent of this bid invitation to establish a contract to supply **License Plate Aluminum** per the attached specifications from date of award for a period of three (3) years with the option to renew for an additional two (2) one-year periods when mutually agreeable to the Bidder and the State. The State reserves the right to extend the period of this contract beyond the end date when mutually agreeable to the Bidder and the State.

All items proposed shall be of the latest manufacture in production as of the date of the solicitation and be of proven performance and under standard design complete as regularly advertised and marketed. All necessary materials for satisfactory performance of the supplies shall be incorporated into the **License Plate Aluminum** whether or not they may be specifically mentioned below.

Complete specifications, manufacturer's current descriptive literature and/or advertising data sheets with cuts or photographs must be included with the bid for the IDENTICAL items proposed. Any information necessary to show compliance with these specifications not given on the manufacturer's descriptive literature and/or advertising data sheets must be supplied in writing on or attached to the bid document. If manufacturer's information necessary to show compliance with these specifications is not attached to the bid document, the Bidder may be required to submit requested information within three (3) business days of a written request. Failure to submit requested descriptive literature or advertising data sheets may be grounds to reject the bid.

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**VI. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS**

**A. BIDDER INSTRUCTIONS**

Bidder must respond to each of the following statements. Specifications listed are minimum conditions that must be met in order for a Bidder to qualify for the award.

“YES” response means the Bidder guarantees they can meet this condition.

“NO” response means the Bidder cannot meet this condition and will not be considered.

“NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE” responses should be used only with a narrative response in the “NOTES/COMMENTS” section explaining in detail any exception from the Bidder’s ability to meet the condition, and an explanation of how this would be determined to be an acceptable alternative to meeting the condition. **Alternatives must be detailed in such a way that allows such exceptions to be fully evaluated. The State shall determine at its sole discretion whether or not the Bidder’s alternative is an acceptable alternative.**

**\*\*\*ALL ITEMS IN THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATIONS ARE REQUIREMENTS\*\*\***

**B. NON-COMPLIANCE STATEMENT**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. Read these specifications carefully.
			2. Any and all exceptions to these specifications must be written on or attached to solicitation response.
			3. Any noncompliance may void your bid. Non-compliance to any single specification can void your bid.
			4. It is the responsibility of Bidders to obtain information and clarifications as provided below.
			5. The State is not responsible for any erroneous or incomplete understandings or wrongful interpretations of this solicitation by any Bidder.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**C. TWELVE (12) INCH UNPAINTED LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. Conversion coated aluminum substrate material suitable in the manufacture of reflectorized six (6) year motor vehicle license plates.
			2. Chrome-free.
			3. Spool dimensions sixteen (16) inches ID, with a forty-five (45) inch OD minimum and sixty (60) inch OD maximum.
			4. 3105 H18 Alloy.
			5. Twelve (12) inch wide aluminum, -0 + 1/16 inches.
			6. 022 ± .0015 inches thick.
			7. 30,000 to 35,000 PSI Tensile Strength.
			8. Minimum 25,000 PSI Yield Strength.
			9. Both sides to be treated with a light, tightly-adherent, chrome-free conversion coating that is compatible with the State’s current Reflective Sheeting supplier Avery L3050.

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			10.	The coating to be applied in conformance with specifications outlined in ASTM Designation B-449-93, class 2 or as revised <a href="http://www.astm.org/Standards/B499.htm">http://www.astm.org/Standards/B499.htm</a> .
			11.	The surface should be free of any powdery residue, oil or other foreign material, which may affect the adhesion of the <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> .
			12.	Coating Weight should range from a minimum of ten (10) to a maximum of thirty-five (35) mg/ft <sup>2</sup> with a median of twenty-five (25) mg/ft <sup>2</sup> as the optimum.
			13.	Must withstand blanking by steel die.
			14.	Product must be approved for usage with Avery L3050.
			15.	Roll Weight should be a minimum of 2,000 lbs. and shall not exceed a maximum of 2,300 lbs.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>				

**D. SEVEN (7) INCH UNPAINTED LICENSE PLATE ALUMINUM**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE		
			1.	Conversion coated aluminum substrate material suitable in the manufacture of reflectorized six (6) year motor vehicle license plates.
			2.	Chrome-free.
			3.	Spool dimensions sixteen (16) inch ID, with a forty-five (45) inch OD minimum and sixty (60) inch OD maximum
			4.	3105 1112568H18 Alloy.
			5.	Seven (7) inch aluminum, - 0 + 1/16 inches.
			6.	.022 ± .0015 inches thick.
			7.	30,000 to 35,000 PSI Tensile Strength.
			8.	Minimum 25,000 PSI Yield Strength.
			9.	Both sides to be treated with a light, tightly adherent, chrome-free conversion coating that has been approved by the State's current Reflective Sheeting supplier Avery L3050.
			10.	The coating to be applied in conformance with specifications outlined in ASTM Designation B-449-93, class two (2) or as revised <a href="http://www.astm.org/Standards/B499.htm">http://www.astm.org/Standards/B499.htm</a> .
			11.	The surface should be free of any powdery residue, oil or other foreign material, which may affect the adhesion of the reflective sheeting.
			12.	Coating Weight should range from a minimum of ten (10) to a maximum of thirty-five (35) mg/ft <sup>2</sup> with a median of twenty-five (25) mg/ft <sup>2</sup> as the optimum.
			13.	Must withstand blanking by steel die.
			14.	Product must be approved for usage with Avery L3050.
			15.	Roll Weight should range from a minimum of one thousand two hundred(1,200) lbs. to a maximum of one thousand four hundred (1,400) lbs.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>				

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**E. PRICING, FLUCTUATING AND FIXED**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			<b>1.</b> There are Two (2) Pricing Indexes can be determined for this contract:
			<b>a.</b> The First way Pricing will be determined is the Bidder will state which index is being used for the purposes of this bid and resulting contract.
			<b>i.</b> The selected Index is to remain consistent for the duration of the contract period.
			<b>ii.</b> Pricing to be determined by utilizing the AMM monthly average for steel and nonferrous prices <a href="http://www.amm.com/">http://www.amm.com/</a>
			<b>iii.</b> Monthly averages are published on the first Friday of the month for the previous month.
			<b>iv.</b> This price will go into effect the first Monday after the first Friday of the month.
			<b>b.</b> The Second Pricing Index will be determined is by utilizing the Platts Metals Monthly report average for steel and nonferrous prices which can be found at <a href="http://www.platts.com">www.platts.com</a> .
			<b>i.</b> Monthly averages are published on the first day of the month for the previous month.
			<b>ii.</b> This price will go into effect the first business day after the first of the month.
			<b>2.</b> The Fluctuating Index prices will be valid for deliveries during the entire month directly after the report is released.
			<b>3.</b> Prices may only be carried out to the fourth decimal place.
			<b>4.</b> Fixed Contract Fabrication Cost to remain in place for the first year of the contract.
			<b>5.</b> Two (2) copies of the Fluctuating Index used for pricing will be provided each order to CSI and will be included with each shipment to verify current aluminum price billing billed.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**F. ANNUAL USAGE, ESTIMATED**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			<b>1.</b> Annual usage figures provided are estimates and are not to be construed as either a minimum or maximum purchase quantity.
			<b>2.</b> The orders shall be for the actual quantities of each item ordered by or for any Agency during the life of the contract.
			<b>3.</b> The awarded Bidder shall not impose minimum or maximum order requirements.
			<b>4.</b> Vendor is responsible for identifying any order minimums or delivery limitations that may apply.
			<b>5.</b> <b>Nebraska has a six (6) year plate cycle with the bulk of materials needed the first three (3) years of the contract.</b>
			<b>6.</b> 7" aluminum coil total usage from **/**/** to **/**/** = ***** pounds

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			7. 12" aluminum coil total usage 80,000 to 120,000 pounds per quarter times four (4) equals 320,000 to 480,000 pounds annual estimated usage over the first two (2) years of the contract.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**G. USAGE REPORT**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. The bidder shall, upon request at any time by the State as determined by the State, provide a usage report of this contract by state agencies and political subdivisions and dollar amount.
			2. <b>Information will include, but is not limited to:</b>
			a. Agency/political subdivision name.
			b. Item name.
			c. Item number.
			d. Dollar amount.
			e. Fill rate information for Core List and Catalog/Non-Core items.
			f. Number of orders received
			g. Orders processed
			h. Back orders
			i. Partially filled orders
			j. Any additional report the SPB may deem necessary.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**H. DELIVERY ARO**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. Delivery of initial order placed after contract award desired within sixty (60) days after receipt of order.
			2. Delivery of all subsequent order(s) desired within thirty (30) days after receipt of order.
			3. Quoted deliveries beyond the above-mentioned time frames of sixty (60) and thirty (30) days are an award consideration.
			4. <b>Deliveries must be clearly marked with the Purchase Order number.</b>
			5. If delays in delivery are anticipated, the awarded bidder(s) will immediately notify CSI of the expected delivery date.
			6. The order(s) may be cancelled if the delivery time is unsatisfactory, and CSI may procure item(s) from other sources.



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			a. If CSI does order from other sources the awarded bidder(s) will be held responsible for any excess costs.
			7. At the time of delivery, a designated CSI employee will sign the "Invoice/Packing Slip".
			a. This signature will only indicate that the order has been received and that the items delivered agree with the delivery invoice.
			b. This signature does not indicate all items were received in good condition and/or that there is no possible hidden damage.
			8. Bidder must specify any delivery limitations that may apply in the "NOTES/COMMENTS" section below.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**I. DELIVERY LOCATIONS / INSTRUCTIONS (BIDDER AGREES THAT THEY CAN MEET THE DELIVERY LOCATIONS/INSTRUCTIONS)**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. Delivery Location:  Cornhusker State Industries 800 Pioneers Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68502
			2. Deliveries are to be made between 8:00 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. Monday through Friday except for State and Federally observed Holidays.
			3. The Manufacturer's certified test results for each lot of material must be furnished with each shipment of product.
			4. Bidder is responsible for identifying any delivery limitations, special conditions or exceptions.
			a. Failure of bidder to note any special conditions or exceptions shall be deemed a waiver of any such condition or exception.
			5. Anything outside of the specification must have prior approval to deliver.
			6. Any delivery limitations, special conditions, or exceptions specified may be an award consideration.
			7. The State will be the sole judge in determining the acceptability of any delivery limitations, special conditions, or exceptions.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**J. PACKAGING**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. Coils will be wound to sixteen (16) inch ID, with a forty-five (45) inch OD minimum and sixty (60) inch OD maximum.
			2. Pallets/skids shall be packaged and poly-wrapped to insure proper protection against inclement weather and environmental damage.
			3. Pallets/skids should allow four (4) inches clearance to accept a 3 1/2" pallet jack tine to slip in the pallet for pallet truck off-loadings from truck-trailer to accommodate rear off-loading.
			4. Each coil shall be securely banded both around the circumference and through the eye of the coil to prevent telescoping with plastic banding sufficient to assure coil integrity.
			5. Coils shall be coiled straight and tight and free of all rough, wavy or damaged edges

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			<b>6.</b> Each pallet/skid must be identified with the following information:
			<b>a.</b> The packing slip (must include the Purchase Order number and be legible without removing).
			<b>b.</b> Purchase Order number (must be referenced on the packing slip, and invoice).
			<b>c.</b> Lot number.
			<b>d.</b> The coil identification number.
			<b>e.</b> Alloy.
			<b>f.</b> Gage.
			<b>g.</b> Width.
			<b>h.</b> Size.
			<b>i.</b> Gross weight.
			<b>j.</b> Net weight.
			<b>7.</b> Unidentified shipments may be rejected.
			<b>8.</b> Allowable shipping weight tolerance of $\pm$ ten percent (10%).
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**K. ORDERS**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			<b>1.</b> Orders will be placed either by, phone, e-mail or Internet (if available and not to the exclusion of the other methods).
			<b>2.</b> Orders will be placed in full truckload amounts of approximately 40,000 pounds.
			<b>3.</b> All orders must reference a purchase order number.
			<b>4.</b> The purchase order number must be referenced on the packing slip, and invoice.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**L. INVOICING**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			<b>1.</b> The Purchase Order number must be referenced on the invoice.
			<b>2.</b> Invoices are to be sent to the "Invoice to" / "Billing Address on the Purchase Order.
			<b>3.</b> Billing Address:  NE Department of Correctional Services Attn: Accounts Payable P.O. Box 94661

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			Lincoln, NE 68509-4661  Email: DCS.AccountsPayable@nebraska.gov  Phone: 402-479-5701
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**M. QUALITY**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. A guarantee of satisfactory performance of the <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> , performance of the supplier, and the supplier meeting delivery dates are all considered to be an integral part of the purchase contract resulting from this bid.
			2. <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> must be first-quality, free of damage and/or defects, and be consistent through term of the contract.
			3. The awarded bidder shall guarantee that the <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> furnished meets the design specifications and quality requirements of this bid.
			4. The awarded Bidder shall, for the duration of the contract, maintain a product quality equal to the sample provided by the Bidder, the ITB specifications, and approved by NDCS, CSI prior to award.
			5. The State reserves the right to accept only <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> deemed to meet specifications.
			6. Any deliveries over the duration of the contract may be rejected if the <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> fails to meet the design specification and quality in accordance with the specifications.
			7. The Bidder will not be compensated for rejected <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> nor will the roll(s) count toward the required quantity.
			8. Rejected <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> shall be replaced by the awarded Bidder within thirty (30) calendar days after notification of the rejection at no cost to the State.
<b>NOTES/COMMENTS:</b>			

**N. WARRANTY**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. The Contractor warrants for a period of one (1) year from the date of Acceptance that: (a) the Products perform according to all specific claims that the Contractor made in its response to the solicitation, (b) the Product is suitable for the ordinary purposes for which such Product is used, (c) the Product is suitable for any special purposes identified in the solicitation or for which the State has relied on the Contractor's skill or judgment, (d) the Product is designed and manufactured in a commercially reasonable manner, and (e) the Product is free of defects. Upon breach of the warranty, the Contractor will repair or replace (at no charge to the State) the Product whose nonconformance is discovered and made known to the Contractor. If the repaired and/or replaced Product proves to be inadequate, or fails of its essential purpose, the Contractor will refund the full amount of any payments that have been made. The rights and remedies of the parties under this warranty are in addition to any other rights and remedies of the parties provided by law or equity, including, without limitation actual damages, and, as applicable

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			and awarded under the law, to a prevailing party, reasonable attorneys' fees and costs.
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**NOTES/COMMENTS:**

**O. SAMPLES**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			<b>1.</b> Samples of <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> , in accordance with the specifications of material and construction, and utilizing materials and features as bid, may be required prior to award, shall be provided at no cost to the State and will not be returned to the bidder upon completion of testing conducted by CSI.
			<b>2.</b> Bidders shall have fifteen (15) business days to provide <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> sample(s) upon written request from the State.
			<b>3.</b> Samples of <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> requested by the State, ordered and delivered, may be tested at any time during the duration of the contract.
			<b>4.</b> <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> Samples that do not meet specifications and/or fail any of the protocols/tests as outlined below may result in bids being rejected and/or constitute a breach of the contract.
			<b>5.</b> Upon written request from the State, <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> sample(s) shall be shipped to:  Cornhusker State Industries Attn: Purchasing 800 Pioneers Blvd. Lincoln, NE 68502
			<b>6.</b> Receiving hours are between 8:00 A.M. and 2:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday excluding State and Federally observed holidays and/or as otherwise directed.
			<b>7.</b> All <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> samples must be delivered according to full specifications.
			<b>8.</b> <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> Samples will consist of one (1) continuous roll/strip of <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> matching bid specifications.
			<b>9.</b> Samples of the twelve (12) inch <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> are to weigh a minimum of one hundred (100) pounds.
			<b>10.</b> Samples of the seven (7) inch <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> are to weigh a minimum of fifty (50) pounds.
			<b>11.</b> <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> Samples shall be properly labeled with:
			<b>a.</b> The name and address of the Manufacturer.
			<b>b.</b> The lot number.
			<b>c.</b> Alloy.
			<b>d.</b> Gauge strength.
			<b>e.</b> Any other characteristics that benefit testing and analysis.

**NOTES/COMMENTS:**

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**P. PERFORMANCE TESTING**

YES	NO	NO & PROVIDE ALTERNATIVE	
			1. The limits shown in the ITB specifications include all testing tolerances provided by industry standard test methods.
			2. <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> Samples shall be processed through the blanking line to confirm proper adhesion of the sheeting and successful blanking performance to determine desired results are achieved.
			3. <b>License Plate Aluminum</b> Samples may be evaluated through testing conducted by an independent lab to determine if samples provided meet design specifications and quality in accordance with specifications.
			4. In case of dispute, the State's test results shall prevail.

**NOTES/COMMENTS:**

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