

ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTIFICATION (ACAN)

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows departments and agencies to post a notice, for no less than fifteen calendar days, indicating to the supplier community that it intends to award a good, service or construction contract to a pre-identified contractor. If no other supplier submits, on or before the closing date, a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the competitive requirements of the government's contracting policy have been met. Following notification to suppliers not successful in demonstrating that their statement of capabilities meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, the contract may then be awarded using the Treasury Board's electronic bidding authorities.

If other potential suppliers submit statements of capabilities during the fifteen calendar day posting period, and meet the requirements set out in the ACAN, the department or agency must proceed to a full tendering process on either the government's electronic tendering service or through traditional means, in order to award the contract.

1. Requirement Definition

Library and Archives Canada (LAC) has a requirement for the transferring of obsolete motion picture audio formats to new polyester optical sound tracks to support conservation activities. LAC does not have the capability to transfer obsolete motion picture sound formats to new polyester optical sound tracks. All work of this type has historically been contracted to a private service provider. This situation will continue for the foreseeable future, as LAC has no current plan to develop the capacity to do this type of copying as there is a limited need for it. Without these services, there would be no conservation copying of historically significant motion picture film that requires the creation of optical sound tracks.

The required services include the transfer of obsolete motion picture audio formats to 35mm polyester optical sound tracks. Specifically this includes the transfer of:

16 mm and/or 35mm magnetic tracks; 16mm and/or 35mm composite prints; 16mm and/or 35mm negative optical sound tracks; and 16mm and or 35mm positive optical sound tracks.
The 35mm formats include both acetate and nitrate bases.

The proposed supplier is the only laboratory in Canada that has the ability to transfer motion picture sound tracks from a nitrate base. As well, the proposed supplier is able to meet all of Library and Archives Canada's other audio copying needs as they relate to motion picture audio.

All work supplied the proposed supplier will be submitted to a cross-modulation test to very quality carried out by a LAC motion picture film conservator. Any work that does not meet the LAC inspection will be returned to the proposed supplier, with a request for a reassessment and explanation on the part of the proposed supplier. After this process, work that still does not pass inspection will be redone by the proposed supplier at no additional charge. The proposed supplier must abide by included cross-modulation criteria.

1.1 Glossary:

Cross Modulation

To find out the optimum exposure and processing conditions for both negative and positive, a series of cross-modulation tests is carried out by the sound mixer, preferably with each new batch of stock.

Photographic emulsions tend to diffuse images to a small degree, depending on the grain structure and speed of the emulsion, as well as development. Image spread must be controlled to preserve a good high frequency response and to maintain a clean reproduction of transients. The effect of a large amount of spread in area tracks is a clearly audible distortion of sibilants, particularly the letter "s". These become grossly exaggerated, and sometimes split, owing to failure to obtain the exact geometrical image of the exposed waveform. Incorrect exposure in the camera can have a similar effect, with a distorted waveform giving a rough sound quality.

The sound negative is exposed at various illumination levels while recording a combined audio signal of 400 and 6,000 Hz at 80% modulation. These tests are carefully processed, and a family of prints made at different densities from each negative density. All prints are then played on an optical reproducing machine, to which is connected a cross-modulation analyzer. This comprises a volume indicator and selective filters for eliminating either the high or low frequency content.

The optimum print density is the one which produces the highest output from the high frequency, and the lowest output from the low frequency. Incorrect negative densities show up as a 400 Hz modulation, owing to changes in the average transmission of light through the film. If optimum conditions are met only at one end of the range of prints, the negative density is adjusted accordingly. Once standards have been set, they are adhered to, for that particular batch of emulsion. Fortunately, slight errors in the sound negatives can be off-set in the printing.

2. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that it meets the following requirements:

- Minimum of two (2) years' experience in the last five (5) years in transferring obsolete motion picture sound from 35mm nitrate bases;
 - Experience (*e.g. x years' experience in the past x years conducting y; x number of projects similar in size, scope and complexity*);

Interested supplier must provide supporting documentation in the form of one (1) customer reference which includes the contact name, title, company name, address, city, province/state, postal code/zip code, phone number, fax number and email

3. Schedule

All work is to be performed on an "as and when required basis". Interested supplier shall make delivery within thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of material at their facility.

4. Ownership of Intellectual Property

It is understood and agreed that the Canada will retain ownership of the Intellectual Property generated by the proposed contract as per Treasury Board Guidelines, Policies directives under the Crown and has invoked exception 6.5 where the Foreground consists of material subject to copyright, with the exception of computer software and all documentation pertaining to that software.

The full policy is available on the Treasury Board Web Site at the following address: <http://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/pol/doc-eng.aspx?id=13697>

5. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception to the Government Contracts Regulations is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) - "only one supplier is capable of performing the work".

6. Period of proposed contract

- The proposed contract is for a period of one (1) year, from August 15, 2014 to August 14th, 2015.
- The proposed Contractor grants is to the Government of Canada the irrevocable option to extend the term of the Contract by up to two (2) additional one (1) year periods.

7. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

An estimate of the cost of the proposed contract upon signature is:

Initial contract period - August 15th, 2014 to August 14th, 2015, \$21,745.00 CDN;
Option period 1 – August 15th, 2015 to August 14th, 2016, \$21,745.00 CDN
Option period 2 - August 1st, 2016 to August 15th, 2017 \$21,745.00 CDN

The estimated value of the proposed contract, including options, \$65,235.00 CDN (GST/HST is extra).

8. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

Transit Audio is the only laboratory in Canada that has the ability to transfer motion picture sound tracks from a nitrate base. As well, Transit Audio is able to meet all of Library and Archives Canada's other audio copying needs as they relate to motion picture sound.

9. Name and Address of the pre-identified supplier

Transit Audio Services Ltd.
11 Hollydene Road
Scarborough, Ontario
M1L 2A4

10. Submission of Statement of Capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the services/goods described herein, may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date of this Notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

11. The closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is August 1st, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. EDT.

12. Inquiries and submission of statements of capabilities

Martine Rodier
Senior Contracting Officer
Library and Archives Canada
550 de la Cité Blvd
Gatineau, Québec
K1A 0N4

Tel. : 613-404-1421
E-mail: martine.rodier@bac-lac.gc.ca