



## **ADVANCE CONTRACT AWARD NOTICE (ACAN)**

### **1. Definition**

An Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN) allows departments and agencies to post a notice, for no less than fifteen (15) 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 Statement 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.

### **2. Definition of Requirements**

The Canadian Wood Fibre Centre of the Canadian Forest Services (CFS) within Natural Resources Canada requires a Silviscan analysis of Canadian wood fibre samples will help assess the fibre quality of trees or in some cases, the fibre quality of samples at certain locations within the tree. The results will be used to assess the fibre quality response to various forest management treatments.

These results will be used for many research projects involving forest value chain analysis and the results of management treatments.

### **3. Background**

Wood fibres have fundamental characteristics that affect final pulp and paper properties and solid wood products (dimensional lumber). Fibre characteristics vary from species to species, from tree to tree and with height within individual trees due to silvicultural treatments. Thus it is possible to select and produce trees possessing desirable fibre attributes that will make possible to manufacture higher quality pulp and paper and solid wood products. Fibre characteristics of destructively sampled standing trees are generally assessed using technologies such as SilviScan and FQA (Fibre Quality Analysis). The information gathered will also be useful to develop models that allow enhancing forest inventory systems and evaluate the significance of relationships between fibre attributes and acoustic velocity.

### **4. Objective**

The objective of this procurement is to obtain specific tree fibre analysis. The elements of this analysis are:

1. Assess wood physical properties and fibre characteristics and fibre length of one hundred and sixty three (163) red pine (*Pinus resinosa*) samples
2. Assess wood physical properties and fibre characteristics and fibre length of one hundred and seventy five (175) jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) samples



## 5. Tasks

- 1 For the 163 red pine (*Pinus resinosa*) bark-to-pith-to-bark tangential xylem sections (20 mm x 20 mm), the following characteristics will be determined: SilviScan analysis will deliver image analysis and densitometry at 25 um resolution and diffractometry at 5 mm resolution whereas the FQA analysis will be 1 age class (whole radii) residual resulting in estimates of wood density, microfibril angle, modulus of elasticity (MOE), coarseness, cell dimensions (thickness and diameters), specific area, ring width and fibre length.
2. For the 175 jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) bark-to-pith-to-bark tangential xylem sections (20 mm x 20 mm), the following characteristics will be determined: SilviScan analysis will deliver image analysis and densitometry at 25 um resolution and diffractometry at 5 mm resolution whereas the FQA analysis will be 1 age class (whole radii) residual resulting in estimates of wood density, microfibril angle, modulus of elasticity (MOE), coarseness, cell dimensions (thickness and diameters), specific area, ring width and fibre length.

### 5.1 Deliverables

The deliverables from this contract will be the following:

1. The results of the 163 bark-to-pith-to-bark tangential xylem sections for red pine (*Pinus resinosa*) will be in the following format:
  - A report in English detailing the methodology followed including an Excel spreadsheet with the results;
  - The report will also include a short synthesis (with graphs) of the principal variation patterns of the radial variation of the rings observed for: wood density, microfibril angle (MFA), modulus of elasticity (MOE), cell dimensions (image analysis) and ring width
  - The fibre length will be determined for each cross sectional radius.
  - The report and data are required by **March 31, 2015**
2. The results of the 175 bark-to-pith-to-bark tangential xylem sections for jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) will be in the following format:
  - A report in English detailing the methodology followed including an Excel spreadsheet with the results;
  - The report will also include a short synthesis (with graphs) of the principal variation patterns of the radial variation of the rings observed for: wood density, microfibril angle (MFA), modulus of elasticity (MOE), cell dimensions (image analysis) and ring width
  - The fibre length will be determined for each cross sectional radius.
  - The report and data are required by **March 31, 2016**

### 5.2 Milestones and Control Points

The work should be completed at the dates indicated in the description of deliverables. It will be approved by the departmental Project Authority once the deliverables are received by him/her and in accordance with the agreed plan.

## 6. Trade Agreements

### ***Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under WTO-AGP (Article XV.1)***

XV.1 (a) - protection of exclusive rights, such as patents or copyrights, or in the absence of competition for technical reasons, the products or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists



### ***Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under NAFTA (Article 1016.2)***

1016.2(b) - where, for works of art, or for reasons connected with the protection of patents, copyrights or other exclusive rights, or proprietary information or where there is an absence of competition for technical reasons, the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists;

### ***Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under AIT (Article 506.12)***

506.12(a) - to ensure compatibility with existing products, to recognize exclusive rights, such as exclusive licenses, copyright and patent rights, or to maintain specialized products that must be maintained by the manufacturer or its representative.

### ***Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under Canada-Chile (Article Kbis-09)***

Kbis-09 (b) - protection of exclusive rights, such as patents or copyrights, or in the absence of competition for technical reasons, the products or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute exists

### ***Applicable Limited Tendering Provision under Canada-Peru / Canada-Colombia (Article 1409)***

1409 (b) where the goods or services can be supplied only by a particular supplier and no reasonable alternative or substitute goods or services exist for any of the following reasons:

- (i) the requirement is for a work of art,
- (ii) the protection of patents, copyrights or other exclusive rights, or
- (iii) due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;

## **7. Contract Period**

The period of the contract shall be from date of award of contract to **March 31, 2015**.

### **7.1 Option to Extend**

NRCan reserves the right to extend the term of the Contract by **four (4)** additional one (1) year option periods, on an "as and when required" basis, under the same terms and conditions, in order to finalize any error files that might arise. Canada may exercise this option at any time by sending a notice to the Contractor prior to the Contract expiry date.

The Contractor agrees that, during the extended period of the Contract, the per diem rate will be in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

## **8. Estimated Cost**

It is estimated that the cost of this requirement shall be in the amount of \$35,000.00, excluding GST for the initial term of the contract. Pricing for the option periods is estimated at \$36,000.00 for a total cost of approximately \$180,000.00 for the entire term of the contract (which includes option periods).

## **9. Exception to the Government Contracts Regulations and applicable trade agreements**

Part 1, Section 6 (d) of the Government Contract Regulations

- Only one firm/person is able to provide services.

To be considered qualified for this request you must have the following qualifications:



- a) Have the required equipment (Silviscan) to do All of the following measurements: : density ( $\text{kg/m}^3$ ), radial fibre diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ ), radial fibre tangential diameter ( $\mu\text{m}$ ), fibre coarseness ( $\mu\text{g/m}$ ), microfibril angle ( $^\circ$ ), Modulus of elasticity (GPa), fibre wall thickness ( $\mu\text{m}$ ), and fibre specific surface area ( $\text{kg/m}^2$ ).
- b) Have the ability eliminate test condition variations by performing the test in the same facility
- c) Have the capacity to do this work with the appropriate Silviscan equipment and be within the area of the signatories of the relevant Trade Agreements.

FPInnovations is the only company that meets all three (3) of the qualifications.

#### **10. Name and Address of the Proposed Contractor(s)**

**FPInnovations**

3800 Westbrook Mall  
Vancouver, British Columbia  
V6S 2L9

#### **11. Inquiries on 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, preferably by e-mail, to the contact person identified in this Notice on or before the closing date and time of this Notice. The Statement of Capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements."**

#### **12. Closing Date**

Closing Date: December 05, 2014  
Closing Time: 2:00 p.m., EST.

#### **13. Contract Authority**

**Valerie Holmes**

Senior Contracting Officer  
Finance and Procurement Branch  
Natural Resources Canada  
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