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भारत सरकार Government of India
रेल मंत्रालय Ministry of Railways
(रेलवे बोर्ड Railway Board)

No: 99/RS(G)/709/1

New Delhi, dated: 22-06-2010

The General Manager, All Indian Railways & PUs including NF(C).
The General Manager, CORE, Allahabad.
The General Manager, Metro Railway, Kolkata.
The Director General, RDSO, Lucknow & Railway Staff College, Vadodara.
The MD, RITES, RITES Bhavan, Sector-29, Gurgaon.
The MD, KRCL, Belapur Bhavan, 4th Floor, Sector-11, CBD, Belapur, Navi Mumbai.
The MD, MRVC, 2nd Floor, Church Gate station Building, Mumbai.
The MD, CRIS, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
CAO/Workshop Projects organisation, 1st Floor, Chamber Bhawan, J.C. Road, Patna -800001.
CAO/DMW, Patiala and COFMOW, New Delhi.
CAO/MTP, NBCC Place, Bhisma Pitamah Marg, Pragati Vihar, New Delhi.
CAO/MTP, Mumbai and Chennai.

Subject: Regime for change notification of specifications.

Ref: AM(ME)'s letter No.2007/ML/466/5(402)/Pt. dated 1.9.2009 (copy enclosed).

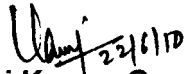
While investigating a case, Vigilance noticed that RDSO has revised specification of an item without developing the sources and intimated Railways to procure as per revised specification, which was not found proper.

In this respect, AM (ME), vide letter No.2007 /ML/466/5(402)/Pt. dated 1.9.2009 has issued instructions for "regime for change notification of specifications" to be followed by all Railways.

It is also clarified that for niche items (as defined in AM(ME)'s above referred letter and to be decided by Railway Board only), in the event of tenders being invited in the absence of part I & part II sources and when it is intended to restrict ordering on select developmental sources, it shall be so stated in the tender by prescribing an appropriate eligibility clause. The select developmental sources will be those where prior credibility has been established on technical considerations clarified in para 2 of AM(ME)'s letter.

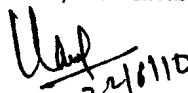
This also disposes off COS/ICF's letter No. ICF/02/08/1893/Airspring dated 9.7.2009.

These instructions are issued with the approval of Board (MM).


(Manoj Kumar Gupta)
Director Railway Stores(IC),
Railway Board

Copy to:

1. The COSs, All Indian Railways & PUs including NF(C).
2. The COS, Metro Railway, Kolkata.
3. The COS, COFMOW, New Delhi.
4. The COS, CORE, Allahabad.
5. The COS, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Belapur Bhavan, 4th Floor, Sector-11, CBD, Belapur, Navi Mumbai-400614.
6. The COS, Mumbai Rail Vikas Corporation, 2nd Floor, Church Gate station Building, Mumbai-400020.
7. The Directors-
 - a. Indian Railway Institute of Sig. Engg. & Telecom, Secunderabad.
 - b. Indian Railway Institute of Mech. & Elec. Engg., Jamalpur.
 - c. Indian Railway Institute of Elect. Engg., Nasik.
 - d. Sr.Prof. (Material Management), Railway Staff College, Vadodara.
 - e. Indian Railway Institute of Civil Engg., Pune.
 - f. Indian Railway Institute of Logistics & Materials Management, IDA House, Sector IV, R.K.Puram, New Delhi
8. Chairman, Railway Rates Tribunal, Chennai.
9. Director, Iron & Steel, 3, Koila Ghat Street, Kolkata.
10. Executive Director (Stores), RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow.
11. Chief Commissioner, Railway Safety, Lucknow.
12. ED(QA)/RITES, RITES Bhavan, Sector-29, Gurgaon, Haryana.
13. CPM, CRIS, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.
14. GM(Proj)-V, CRIS, Chanakya Puri, New Delhi.
15. Dy.CMM / Workshop Projects organisation, 1st Floor, Chamber Bhawan, J.C. Road, Patna -800001.


 (M.K.Gupta)
 Director, Rly.Stores(IC)
 Railway Board

Copy to:- Sr. PPSs / PPS / PS to

- (i) CRB, FC, ME, ML, MM, MS, MT, SECY., DG (RHS), DG (RPF)
- (ii) All AMs and Advisors of Railway Board.
- (iii) All Executive Directors of Railway Board.
- (iv) All Directors of Electrical, Engineering, Finance, Mechanical, Stores, Signal & Telecom Dte. & All Branches of Electrical, Engineering, Finance, Mechanical, Stores, Signal & Telecom Dte.

of No 3

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
RAILWAY BOARD**

No. 2007/M(L)/466/5 (402)/Pt.

New Delhi, dated 01-09-09
08:09

**Director General,
RDSO,
Lucknow.**

**General Managers/CAO,
All Open Line Railways & PUs.**

Sub: Regime for change notification of specifications.

1. Regimen for change notices of specifications that already have part 1 or 2 sources

Barring exceptions/aberrations, the vendor directory identifies approved sources as part 1 or part 2, only with respect to the Main specification of the component. This is as it should be. Occasional changes notified under qualifiers like Rev 1, Rev 2 etc, should normally apply to the entire set of approved sources, in an implied manner, as they are deemed to be of a marginal nature, not impacting the status of a particular vendor with in the set of approved sources. In an isolated case, should a few do not immediately comply, the revision is best delayed, so that the wait acts both as an enabler for eventual qualification, or a notice for altogether deletion from the directory, given that the wait would be sustainable since some sources with part 1 or part 2 status in any case exist for the revision sought to be superseded. Needless to say that Railway interest in early upgrade has also to be kept in view. In other words, a revision and its associated set of approved sources must be concurrent even if the latter gets truncated, allowing purchase decisions simply in terms of the main specification.

In situations where changes are of a greater import, the main specification itself must be assigned a new number/code with its own set of approved sources, and based on merits of the case the new spec need not necessarily do a roll back to the development stage, leaving no source even in part 2. It is desirable to avoid a sudden void with regard to sources, though this may not be always possible if the new spec is substantially different from the old.

2. **Regimen for situations with no part 1 or 2.**

However, in some niche items loaded with technological complexity, it may not be possible to wait for even part 2 set to get populated. In such situations multiple sourcing is less of an immediate issue. In any case, a niche area implies that we have to contend with few promising sources, at least to begin with. More important is to pursue development selectively, even if with a few, based on credentials that may at discretion arising out of technical considerations factor in leads such as history of application in a related area, recognition accorded to it by other rolling stock builders of repute, etc. Also, under such situations, accelerated elevation to part 2 should be an imperative, and in niche areas this aspect could be addressed because developmental sources may in fact be backed by strong credentials. It should also be remembered that objectivity with field trials diminishes if there are too many developmental sources at play, given the limitations of monitoring mechanism.

Should there be no part 1 or part 2, and bulk procurement has to be sustained through an array of developmental sources, it would be desirable to make an additional qualifier for the development sources, *ie whether they are fit for bulk procurement or not*. In niche areas it is quite inconceivable that all developmental sources are at par vis-à-vis each other. The credentials of some may be more compelling than others. And if all are at par, it may invite questions as to whether the component is indeed a niche item. Indicating fitness for bulk procurement to a development source, when there is no part 1 or 2, is in consonance with the accepted concept of part 1 & part 2 which already makes such a distinction.

In other areas that cannot be construed as niche, and where change signifies superseding an established in use spec with the new, organizations that bring out vendor directories must be mindful of the imperative of indicating at least one source, even if part 2, alongside the new specification. Superseding an existing spec for bulk proliferation, entirely on the basis of vendors who are at initial stage of development, is not desirable.

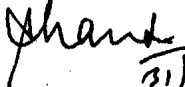
3. **Using the inspection clause to precipitate approval**

Unless there is a prior decision of the agency responsible for vendor development and an approval exists to do so, it is not quite correct for the purchase organization to place a developmental order on an unapproved source, as it could circumvent the system and procedure of vendor approval. At times this is done with the specious argument that the vendor approving authority will in any case undertake inspection after approving the source. This may indirectly result in a situation of undue haste in according approval and short cut certain steps necessary in the process of development, which must happen only in due course. The vendor approving authority is best kept insulated from individual orders as much as possible so as to rule out the extraneous.

The term *niche area*, and *credentials* need not be given generic definitions, given the wide spectrum of technological inputs. Case by case technical considerations will often dictate a view in this regard, based on the imperatives of reliability, safety, and assured performance despite complexity and other imponderables.

This also disposes of DG RDSO's letter SV.EMU.RAS dated 3/8/09, which in effect is in the context of niche items.

Should these instructions be in irreconcilable conflict with present dispensation, and should there be a compulsion to persist with the existing, a reference to this office would be in order.


(Sanjiv Handa)
Adviser (Mech. Engg.),
Railway Board.

Not On Original :-

- 1) AM (PU)
- 2) Adv. ME(W)
- 3) Adv./Projects
- 4) EDME (Chg)
- 5) EDME (Tr)
- 6) EDME (Fr)
- 7) EDME (Dev)
- 8) DME (Chg)
- 9) DME (Tr)
- 10) DME (Fr)
- 11) DME (W)
- 12) DME (PU)
- 13) DME (Dev)