



CITY OF HOUSTON

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Strategic Purchasing Division

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Date: May 18, 2009

Subject Letter of Clarification No. 3 for Fire Station No. 20 Structural Bracing and Wall Construction for the General Services Department

Reference: Bid Inv. No: S50-C23242

To: All Prospective Contractors:

This Letter of Clarification is issued for the following reasons: To answer questions posed by prospective bidders and to add clarification to the technical specifications on the drawings.

NOTICE TO BIDDER

The bid opening date has remained unchanged, 10:30 AM, May 21, 2009

Question: "All rusted bolts should be replaced" This appears general and left to someone's interpretation. We discussed the possibility of quantifying a number of bolts to be included in the bid.

Answer: Contractor shall make allowance of 50 bolts to be replaced with same size high-strength bolts conforming to ASTM A325.

Question: A new detail on the "pointed" brick wall, southwest corner of the building was discussed to eliminate a weak joint.

Answer; The contractor shall follow the brick layout as it is shown in sheets A-102 & A-103, for new detail see Sketch 01 of this addendum hereby included. (See attached drawing).

Question: The precast concrete forms at the roof line are not clear, the plan includes the elimination of the parapet wall above the roof line?

Answer: Remove brick, flashing, etc above line of existing lightweight concrete up at the building perimeter parapet wall to avoid conflict with new roof. Contractor shall provide temporary waterproofing membrane to prevent water in the building after exterior walls are in place.

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Partnering to better serve Houston

Question: The brick in the large I-beam over the overhead doors requires further clarification?

Answer: The face of brick within the beam must align with the face of brick above the soldier courses. The contractor shall provide adequate bearing by extending the bottom flange of the beam by field welding (full penetration weld) a continuous bar 1" wide and matching the thickness of the beam flange for the entire length of the beam.

Question: Are the antenna masts part of this contract?

Answer: Use the antenna masts shown in drawings as reference only.

Clarification: The distance between masts shown on sketch No. 10 is 6' and needs to be changed to 4'.

Clarification: The structural drawings indicate that for the wind design criteria for this project the Basic Wind Speed is 90 mph, the Exposure is B, and the Importance Factor is 1.0. The Dietrich Design Group expects that the Basic Wind Speed should be 110 mph for buildings in the Houston area and the importance factor should be 1.15 for a fire station. The Dietrich Design Group will provide preliminary member sizing for both circumstances, but this issue should be clarified with the architect/engineer of record. The correct Basic Wind Speed is 110 mph 3-second Gust and Importance Factor = 1.15.

Question: What is the proper coating for the columns that are to be painted prior to being enclosed in the walls? Can we use an alternate coating?

Answer: The columns are required to be primed and painted with Acrylic-epoxy paint conforming to FS.TT-C-550.

Question: Will the second floor steel be the outer perimeter steel only?

Answer: All columns and the channel reinforcements are to be primed after welding has been completed.

Question: The first floor steel will be all exposed steel and will be painted after the outer walls are erected?

Answer: That is correct.

Question: Includes touch up of welds on new steel?

Answer: That is correct.

Question: Should there be a perimeter flashing added, where the mast support enters the stucco wall, to prevent water from entering the wall thru possible future cracks that can result from expansion/contraction or movement of the stainless steel mast supports?

Answer: There is no mast support located in the stucco wall. Re: Addendum 1 drawing Mast supports are located in the south brick wall. The contractor shall provide the required joint to avoid brick cracking and water penetration.

Question: The size of handrails called for the new staircase is 2". Is this correct? or should it be 1.1/2"?

Answer: The handrails shall be 2" diameter.

Question: The drawing A-605 on Window Schedule calls for "Operable" for Window Type 4 and 5. Detail B2 and B3 of the same sheet are indicating that those windows are fixed windows. Please clarify if windows are operable or fixed? If those are operable we need specification (Section 8520). Please note operable windows are substantially more expensive than fixed storefront type windows and have about 12 weeks lead time from field measurement. If operable windows are required, the Contractor shall provide temporary windows at those two locations at completion of this phase of the project to close out the building and replace those windows with the actual windows at a later time.

Answer: Windows 4 and 5 are operable windows.

Question: Please provide a detail for brick work at the corners with angles less than 90 degree. We would like to know if a vertical joint at those locations are permitted or a special brick shall be ordered.

Answer: Detail is shown in Sketch 01 of this addendum hereby included. (See attachment drawing)

Question: Drawing A-401, detail A3 calls for a steel lintel right below elevation 17' 9" and refers to structural drawing for its size. The structural drawing does not show the size of this lintel, please clarify?

Answer: It is an existing lintel along grid 1 below the Second Floor. It shall be removed.

Question: The brick veneer above the overhead doors shall sit on the bottom flange of the existing plate girder. The width of this flange is not sufficient for that purpose. It appears another steel member shall be added to the bottom flange for secure installation of the brick work, please clarify?

Answer: Expand flange to 1". The contractor shall cut 1" from the back of the brick, do not cut soldier brick in form of arch.

Question: Addendum No. 1 calls for "All rusted bolts shall be replaced with same size high-strength bolts". At this stage there is no way to estimate the quantity of such work. Please provide a number for bidding purposes to be verified during construction.

Answer: Contractor to make allowance for 50 bolts to be replaced with same size high-strength bolts conforming to ASTM A325.

Question: The steel beam above the north overhead doors is rusted will it require some reinforcements?

Answer: Refer to Note 1 on Section 12/S602.

Question Detail 1 of drawing S603 shows the vertical brace elevation. This detail calls for 1/4x4 plates for the braces which does not appear to be correct. Please clarify?

Answer: The 1/4" x 4" plate note is correct.

Question: Please verify if the application of Water Repellent on the exterior brick veneer and cement plaster is required for this project and shall be included in the scope of this contract? (Specification Section 7190)

Answer: Yes, it is included.

Question: Brick special shaped pieces for angled corners are not in stock and will need to be special ordered. Do we figure on special order or not?

Answer; No special order, it can delay completion of the brick work. Re: Sketch 01 of this addendum hereby included for angled corners detail. (See attachment drawing)

General note:

Also attached is a layout guide for the communication cable entry panel that will be mounted on the wall below the area of the antennae masts. The exact location will be determined in the field at time of construction. The entry panel product number is B1905with4-5"ports.

Note - No further questions will be accepted after the publication of this Letter of Clarification.

When issued, Letter(s) of Clarification shall automatically become a part of the bid documents and shall supersede any previous specification(s) and/or provision(s) in conflict with the Letter(s) of Clarification. It is the responsibility of the bidders to ensure that it has obtained all such letter(s). By submitting a bid on this project, bidders shall be deemed to have received all Letter(s) of Clarification and to have incorporated them into this solicitation.

Furthermore, it is the responsibility of each Contractor to obtain any previous Letter of Clarification associated with this solicitation.

Arturo Lopez

Arturo Lopez
Senior Procurement Specialist
832-393-8731

Attachments: Additional drawing labeled Sketch No. 01 and Structural Plan, Transmission Line Support Systems.

A PDF version of the Addendum Drawing and Structural Plan can also be viewed on the following web Link
<https://purchasing.houstontx.gov/buyer/BidDocumentManager.aspx?id=C23242>

TRANSMISSION LINE SUPPORT SYSTEMS

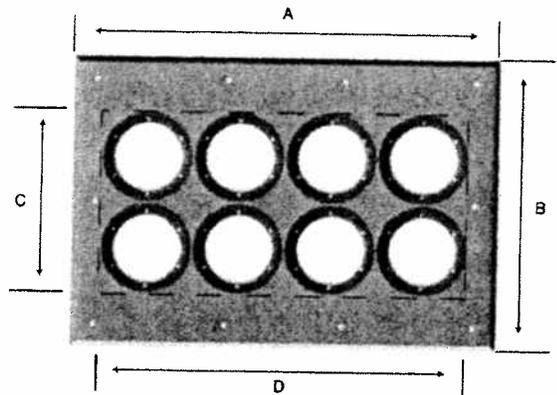
BUILDING ENTRIES

6.2

ENTRY PANEL WITH 5" DIAMETER PORTS

Product Number	Number of Ports	Port Layout	Entry Panel Dimensions <i>See Layout Guide</i>				List Price
			A	B	C	D	
B549	1	—	9 1/2"	9 1/2"	N/A	5"	\$27.00
B550	2	1 x 2	1'-5 1/2"	9 1/2"	7"	5"	\$47.00
B551	3	1 x 3	2'-11 1/2"	9 1/2"	7"	5"	\$63.00
B1905	4	1 x 4	2'-9 1/2"	9 1/2"	7"	5"	\$80.00
B552	4	2 x 2	1'-5 1/2"	1'-5 1/2"	7"	5"	\$80.00
B553	6	2 x 3	2'-11 1/2"	1'-5 1/2"	7"	5"	\$118.00
B1191	8	2 x 4	2'-9 1/2"	1'-5 1/2"	7"	5"	\$153.00
B1113	9	3 x 3	2'-11 1/2"	2'-11 1/2"	7"	5"	\$170.00
B1846	12	3 x 4	2'-9 1/2"	2'-11 1/2"	7"	5"	\$221.00

Entry Panel Layout Guide

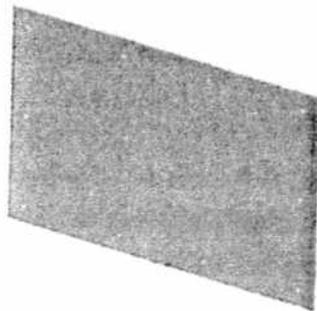


ENTRY PANEL WITH 6" DIAMETER PORTS

Product Number	Number of Ports	Port Layout	Entry Panel Dimensions <i>See Layout Guide</i>				List Price
			A	B	C	D	
B1694	1	—	8"	8"	N/A	6"	\$75.00
B1269	1	—	9 1/2"	9 1/2"	N/A	6"	\$75.00
B1864	4	1 x 4	2'-9 1/2"	10 1/4"	7 1/4"	6"	\$120.00
B1642	4	2 x 2	1'-6"	1'-6"	7 1/4"	6"	\$120.00

BLANK ENTRY PANELS

As the newest addition to Valmont Microflect's extensive entry panel product line, the Blank Entry Panel enhances flexibility in installation and resource-saving options for pre-fabricated radio buildings, as well as other applications.



Product Number	Dimensions	List Price
B2916	17 1/2" x 25 1/2"	\$42.00
B2917	25 1/2" x 25 1/2"	\$60.00
B2918	25 1/2" x 39 1/2"	\$79.00

SEALING CAP

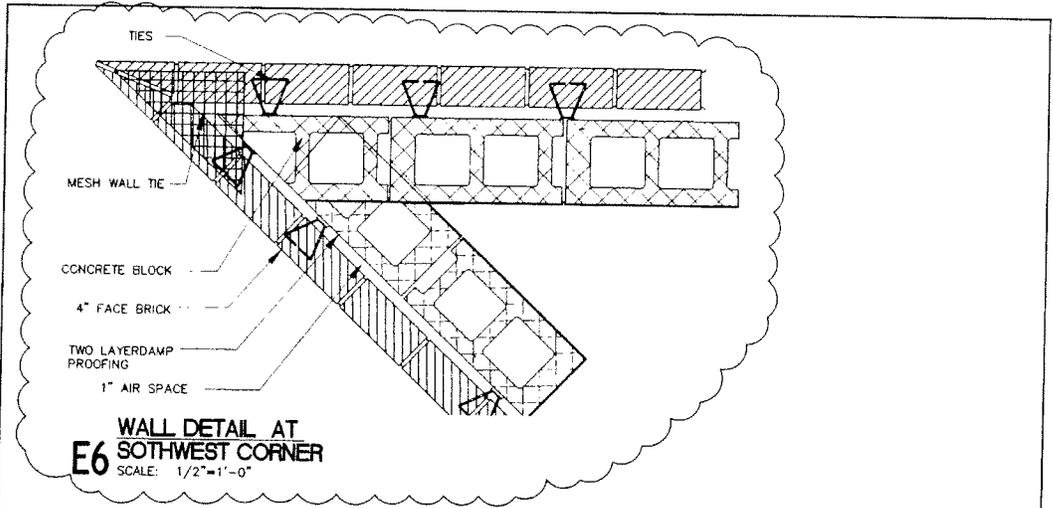
FOR ENTRY PANEL PORTS

Sealing Caps provide a watertight cover on the ports of Entry Panels. Sealing Caps are furnished on each port of an Entry Panel and may be replaced with Boots for an active port.

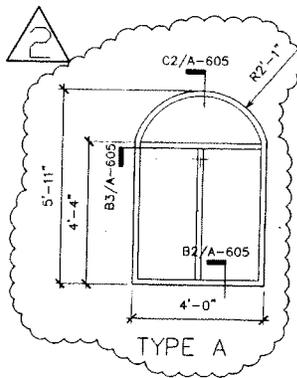
Additional Sealing Caps are available for each of the port sizes.



Product Number	Description	List Price
B267	4" ports	\$1.00
B268	5" ports	\$1.50
B1307	6" ports	\$7.00
B1308	8" ports	\$8.00



**WALL DETAIL AT
E6 SOTHWEST CORNER**
SCALE: 1/2"=1'-0"



NATEX
CORPORATION
ARCHITECTS
2500 WILGREST - SUITE 300
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77042
TELEPHONE: 713-978-8223
FAX: 713-790-7524

SHEET NO: A-401 AND A-605

PROJECT : FIRE STATION 20
ADDRESS : 6902 NAVIGATION
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77011

WBS No:
ADDENDUM No: 02
DATE: MAY 18, 2009



CITY OF HOUSTON
GENERAL SERVICES
DEPARTMENT

SKETCH NO: 01