



**CITY OF HOUSTON
STRATEGIC PROCUREMENT DIVISION**

NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

**STRATEGIC
PROCUREMENT DIVISION**
901 Bagby, Concourse Level
Houston, Texas 77002
(832) 394-6761
(832) 394-6788 Fax

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE BUNKER BOOTS

The City of Houston ("the City") Fire Department is considering soliciting bids from manufacturers/suppliers specializing in a personal protective bunker boot. The objective of this Request for Information (RFI) is to obtain information from manufacturers/suppliers for a personal protective bunker boot for the most current standards and best bunker boot. Specifically, a 14" high black reinforced toe, pull-on bunker style with side and back stays, water-repellent, polish-able leather safety boot having a safety toe, electrical hazard rated soles, bottom penetration resistance barrier, steel shank and quick donning and doffing. The boot shall meet NFPA 1971 "Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting, 2007 Edition or the latest edition.

Prior to issuing a bid solicitation, the Houston Fire Department (HFD) would like to take into consideration all manufacturers/suppliers of a personal protective bunker boot that meets NFPA 1971 "Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting, 2007 Edition, or latest edition who are interested in participating in a future solicitation, as well as, provide a presentation, or thorough informational materials regarding this particular procurement. The response should include all possibilities and considerations that could be utilized in the documentation when issued. The presentation and/or informational materials and all other related expenses must be supplied at "NO COST" to the City and a meeting will be scheduled with each respondent to this RFI after it has closed.

Please review the basic overview of the intended Scope of Work below. If you believe that your company can provide recommendations to enhance the overall products stated below and would be interested in conducting a presentation, about 30 minutes long, please indicate your interest to this RFI by submitting the following contact information: Company Name, Contact Person, Address, Telephone No., Fax No., and E-mail Address to Thelma Diaz, Procurement Specialist, via one of the following methods listed below by **3:00 p.m. CST, Thursday, June 26, 2014:**

E-mail (Preferred Method): thelma.diaz@houstontx.gov

Fax: (832) 394-6788

Mail: City of Houston
Finance Department/Strategic Procurement Division
600 Jefferson, 7th Floor, Rm 7.002
Houston, TX 77002



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OVERVIEW

The Houston Fire Department is evaluating current technology and standards for personal protective bunker boots that meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1971, 2007 Edition, or latest edition requirements and comply with current standards for HFD which exceed NFPA 1971 requirements. The purpose of the personal protective bunker boot is to provide protection during structural firefighting operations in conditions where there is a threat of fire or when certain physical hazards are likely to be encountered; such as, non-fire related rescue operations, emergency medical operations, and victim extrication.

STANDARDS:

The protective bunker boot is mandatory by NFPA 1971, 2007 Edition, or latest edition, by State law. All personal protective bunker boots produced shall meet or exceed the criteria set forth in the current edition of NFPA 1971, 2007, Edition or latest edition, Protective Clothing for Structural Fire Fighting.

All components and composites used in the construction of the protective gear bunker boot shall be third party tested, certified and listed for compliance to NFPA 1971, 2007 Edition or latest edition. The label of the third party tester shall denote certification.

The manufacturer shall be registered to the ISO Standard 9001 to assure a satisfactory level of quality. Prior to completing and releasing the personal protective bunker boot solicitation, the City shall extend an invitation to all interested personal protective bunker boot manufacturers/distributors to individually meet with the HFD Equipment Advisory Board for the purposes of providing an overview of their latest products.

CERTIFICATION:

The supplier must certify that the information being requested for the personal protective bunker boot meets or exceed the following requirements, NFPA 1971, 2007 Edition, or latest edition. The supplier must also list and label this product with Underwriters Laboratories Inc. (UL) and/or Safety Equipment Institute (SEI) as the third party certification organization prescribed in NFPA 1971. All certification testing and test preconditioning must have been performed by an ISO 17025-certified laboratory. UL or a UL Authorized Client Test Data Program laboratory will fulfill this requirement.



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COMPOSITE PERFORMANCE:

The composite of the personal protective bunker boot, consisting of a 14" high black reinforced toe, pull-on bunker style with side and back stays, water-repellent, polish-able leather safety boot having a safety toe, electrical hazard rated soles, full-grain, water, flame, chemical and cut resistant, bottom penetration resistance barrier, steel shank and quick donning and doffing and meets NFPA 1971 "Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting, 2007 Edition, or latest edition.

All respondents to this RFI may be contacted and invited to conduct a presentation to the Houston Fire Department. Suppliers interested in meeting with the City's staff will be given an allotted time range of thirty (30) minutes, depending upon the overall number of presentations that need to be scheduled. The goal of this RFI is to guide HFD in its efforts in obtaining the most current standards and best performance for personal protective bunker boots.

All recommendations and comments are welcomed and will be reviewed and considered. All recommendation(s) of good merit and clear business logic and methodology may be used and incorporated into the final bid solicitation document.