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MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 6, 2007

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Linda Champion

SUBJECT: Award of Bid for School Buses (FDOE Bid Number 2008-04)

Attached please find the Pricing and Ordering Guide for School Buses 2007-2008 for Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Invitation to Bid (ITB) Number 2008-04, as awarded on September 24, 2007. Bid awards were made in accordance with applicable state purchasing laws and rules. Bids were received and awarded on Types A, C, and D complete school buses and optional equipment.

The accepted bid includes a provision for awards to multiple suppliers within each bus configuration. All approved suppliers that were within ten percent of the low bid for each configuration received an award. This award method provides flexibility to school districts in determining the types and manufacturers of equipment that best fits their needs.

An explanation of how to complete purchase orders is provided on pages 2-5 of the Pricing and Ordering Guide. Page 9 of the Pricing and Ordering Guide provides a sample for completing purchase orders.

Please note that Thomas Built Buses must be ordered from the appropriate designated dealer. See page 8 of the Pricing and Ordering Guide for district listings and a map to find which Thomas dealer has been designated for your district.

LINDA CHAMPION
DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

CHANGES IN EFFECT FOR BUSES PURCHASED FROM THIS ITB

As a result of recommendations made by the Florida Association for Pupil Transportation (FAPT), the following changes are in effect for buses purchased from this ITB:

- 1) Delivery is required within 240 days of the bidder's receipt of the purchase order.
- 2) The bid contains longer ordering time lines with an option for contract renewal.
- 3) Purchasing school districts and the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind (FSDB) will be responsible for calculating and collecting liquidated damages for late delivery, if applicable.
- 4) The straight floor is now offered as a separate option on wheelchair lift equipped buses.
- 5) Air conditioner systems are now offered as separate options. Base prices do not include air conditioner systems. School districts that opt to purchase air conditioner systems should carefully review the make, model, configuration information, and pricing, to determine which air conditioner system is most suited to their needs.

1. Ordering Time Lines

Purchase orders for buses to be purchased via this contract must be received by the FDOE no later than June 25, 2008. The time lines for ordering and delivery and other applicable ordering information (base prices, options, etc.) are included in the Pricing and Ordering Guide.

2. Delivery Requirements

Buses ordered from Bid Number 2008-04 are required to be produced and completed within 240 days from the date the bidder receives the purchase order. For example, if the FDOE forwards a district purchase order to a bidder on January 24, 2008, the required delivery date will be September 20, 2008. The required delivery date will be clearly specified on the FDOE cover sheet transmitted to the bidder with the district purchase order.

3. Liquidated Damages for Late Delivery

The contract requirements for the delivery dates are insured by performance bonds that were required from the bidders. Provisions for per-day liquidated damages for late delivery are specified in the contract. **Purchasing school districts and the FSDB will be responsible for calculating and collecting liquidated damages, if applicable.**

4. Optional Straight Floor

The straight floor is now offered as an option available on the appropriate pricing page. Please note that options such as air ride rear suspension and low-profile tires may be standard with the straight floor option. Bidders' notes to this effect are located in the option pricing pages.

5. Optional Air Conditioner (A/C) Systems

Districts purchasing units with air conditioners may choose the manufacturer, model, and system configuration. Please review the air conditioner specifications from Florida School Bus Specifications, Revised 2006, Section V, for details. Pricing information for buses with System A and System B air conditioner units has been provided for all applicable configurations. If your district is purchasing buses with air conditioners, please make sure the purchase order clearly indicates the price and the A/C (Air Conditioner) Code. The code can be located in the first column of the A/C information. As an example, in the A/C configuration below, the A/C code is BB1 and the price is \$3,650.

A/C CODE	Body Type	A/C MAKE	A/C MODEL	COM-PRESSOR	IMACA #250 (CITY) BTU OUTPUT	NUMBER OF:		PRICE:
						EVAPOR-ATORS	CONDEN-SERS	
BB1	Type A1	ACC Climate Control	FR53R	Seltec TM21, 13.1	53K BTU	1	2	\$3,650

If you have questions or need any other assistance with the school bus ordering process, please call Terri Egler or Bill Schroyer at (850) 245-9795 or Suncom 205-9795.

CFH: wrs/tje

Attachments: Pricing and Ordering Guide For School Buses 2007-2008

cc: Finance Officers
 Transportation Directors
 Service Managers
 Florida School Bus Bidders and Representatives