

March 12, 2004

Dear Transportation Service Providers (TSPs):

This Request for Offers (RFO) transmits the Special Filing Instructions (SFI) for the submission of rate offers for the General Services Administration (GSA) Standard Tender of Service (STOS), General Freight Traffic Management Program traffic. Rate offers filed in response to this RFO will be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the GSA STOS and this RFO and its SFI. Please note that in some instances this RFO and its SFI will deviate from and will supersede those published in the STOS, General Freight Tender of Service No. 1-F (GSA TOS No. 1-F), supplements and reissues thereto. Rate offers accepted in response to this RFO and its SFI will be for the filing period of May 1, 2004, through April 30, 2005.

Traffic to be included under this RFO and its SFI will be freight-all-kinds (FAK) shipments moving via closed van for all less than truckload (LTL) (0 pounds to 10,000 pounds) shipments and all truckload (TL) (20,000 pounds to 40,000 pounds and over) shipments which fall into one or more of the three categories identified in Section 1 of this RFO and its SFI. Rate offers are being requested for the following types of traffic:

- General Freight rate offers (Section 8);
- Intrastate Alaska rate offers (Section 8);
- US Postal Service (USPS) rate offers (Section 9);
- Reserved (Section 10)
- Fire Suppression Support Service rate offers (Section 11);
- Agency Specific Non-Alternating rate offers (Section 12);
- US Mint rate offers (Section 13)
- Federal Aviation Administration, Oklahoma City, OK, rate offers (Section 14);
- Agency Specific Alternating rate offers (Section 15).

All rate offers submitted in response to this RFO and its SFI must be submitted to GSA in accordance with Sections 16 and 17 - **NO PAPER RATE OFFERS** will be accepted. In addition, only those common/contract carriers, rail carriers, freight forwarders, and brokers and shippers agents/Intermodal Marketing Companies (including each of their underlying carriers which they represent) who have met the established approval requirements for participation in GSA's Freight Management Program may submit rate offers in accordance with this RFO and its SFI. Only those Rate Filing Service Providers (firms which offer to those approved to participate in GSA's Freight Management Program the service of submitting to GSA rate offers in accordance with this RFO and its SFI) who have a valid Trading Partner Agreement on file with GSA's Freight Program Management Office (FPMO) and have met all other approval requirements established by GSA can submit rate offers in accordance with Sections 16 and 17 of this RFO and its SFI on behalf of approved firms. Only those Tariff Publishing Agents who have a valid Trading Partner Agreement on file with the FPMO and have met all other approval requirements established by GSA may act as a Tariff Publishing Agent on behalf of approved firms.

Please note the following significant items:

1. Section 9, The United States Postal Service (USPS) Non-Alternating Standing Route Order (SRO) USPCN will continue for the next year. However due to the USPS restructuring annual shipment volume the USPS will not renew SRO's. The USPS will continue using GSA's General rates.

2. Section 10, The Non-Alternating SRO for the Western Distribution Center (WDC) French Camp, CA Freight-all- Kinds (FAK) has been Reserved due to a 90 day rate extension. The WDC has been testing new automation since August of 2003. This automation tracks the center's inventory while preparing shipping documents. The WDC is experiencing difficulty in the generation of accurate shipping documents for transportation of cargo. To allow the WDC time to refine this process, reconcile shipping discrepancies, and regain the efficiencies, GSA has extended the WDC rates set to expire on April 30, 2004. TSP's that currently have rates on file for the WDC French Camp, Ca FAK will be receiving a notice to extend rates. The extension is for a 90 day period and will expire on July 29, 2004. Prior to the extended expiration date, GSA will be requesting new rates for the WDC for the effective dates of July 30, 2004 through April 30, 2005.

3. Section 14, The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Non-Alternating SRO's have incorporated 5 new SRO codes for Hot Shots and Specialized Equipment. Please review the requirements carefully as some TSP's will not qualify for rate submission for the Hot Shot SRO's (FAAHS & FAABH).

If you have any questions please contact Carey DeForest of my staff at (816) 823-3646 or via e-mail at carey.deforest@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Ed Hodges
Director, Property & Traffic Management Division (6FBD)