

Business Opportunities

Fabrication and Distribution of Special Form Container

Executive Overview

The National Nuclear Security Administration's Global Threat Reduction Off-Site Source Recovery Project (OSRP) is managed by Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The OSRP's mission is to remove excess, unwanted, abandoned, or orphaned radioactive sealed sources from the environment that pose a potential risk to health, safety, and national security. Due to age, a lack of available manufacturer data and unknown origin or the potential for leakage some of the radioactive sealed sources targeted for recovery by the OSRP do not meet U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) Type A requirements.

In 2000, the OSRP developed a sealed source overpack, the LANL Special Form Capsule (SFC), to provide a method to ensure special form containment of radioactive sealed sources during transport. A key feature of the SFC is its ease of assembly in the field, which allows sealed sources that lack current special form certification for domestic transport to be made special form through field encapsulation. After successful testing, LANL fabricated a series of capsules that could accommodate multiple source sizes. LANL SFC Models I, II, and III have been tested and certified to meet all requirements specified in Title 49 Part 173 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 469. These developments expand the capabilities of the OSRP and the Department of Energy to efficiently transport and store sealed sources.

LANL is seeking a partnership to fabricate and distribute SFCs. The ideal partner(s) would have the capability to manufacture SFCs to existing quality control and tolerance standards. The partner would be granted a license to sell SFCs to third parties and be in a position to supply SFCs to LANL for its own use. A reliable partner with a reputation for quality and safety will be selected to move forward with this project.

Partnership Needs:

- Commercial SFC fabricator
- Vendor to the radioactive source shipping and recovery community
- Training

Development Stage:

Copyrighted drawings and specifications for the SFC that have been certified by federal regulation agencies are available for licensing for the commercial use of LANL's partner.

Licensing Status:

Licensing terms will include the freedom to operate under LANL certification and the requirements to meet safety and quality control standards.





The Los Alamos Special Form Capsule.

Partner Benefits:

- LANL's SFC meets U.S. DOT Special Form requirements.
- SFC Models I, II, and III are available in various sizes for specific shipping needs.
- All models have been tested for compliance with 49CFR 173.469(b)-(1)-(4).
- SFC Models II and III have DOT approval and IAEA Certificate of Competent Authority.
- SFC Models II and III are used internationally.
- To date over 500 SFCs have been used to recover over 5000 sources.

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