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No. QAC/Vendor/Policy

Date : 17.09.2021

PCEs & CAO(Const.)

All Zonal Railways

(As per mailing list attached)

Sub: Procurement of track items – System improvement measures

Ref: (i) Rly. Board's letter No. 2020/TK-II/22/2, dated 19.02.2021 (copy enclosed)

(ii) Rly. Board's letter No. 2020/TK-II/22/6/1/Meeting, dated 26.08.21 (copy enclosed)

- 1.0** Railway Board vide ref(i) above, has directed RDSO for implementing the system improvement measures in procurement of track items and to come out with a policy treating all approved/developmental vendors to remain eligible for orders of upgraded/improved version of that track item, subject to fulfillment of certain essential requirements.

RDSO has gone through the directives of Railway Board and following detailed policy is finalised for achieving this system improvement. Based on the functional requirement and basic material, the track items have been clubbed together into one single item (Group item) and variants as mentioned in the table below:

Table-1

S.No.	Track Item	Sub item	Variants
1.	Cast Manganese steel Crossings	Nil	All drawings of CMS Crossings
2.	Fabricated crossings	Nil	All drawings of Fabricated Crossings
3.	Fabricated switches	Nil	All drawings of Fabricated switches
4.	Glued Insulated Rail Joints assembly	Nil	All drawings of Glued Insulated Rail Joints assembly
5.	Elastic Rail Clips	Nil	All drawings of Elastic Rail Clips i.e. MK-III, J and ERC MK-V, and respective Antitheft ERC (with Spring steel circlip)
6.	Glass filled Nylon-66 Insulating Liners	Nil	All drawings of Glass filled Nylon-66 Insulating Liners
7.	Metal Liners	Nil	All drawings of metal liner
8.	Polyethylene Dowel	Nil	All drawings of Polythene dowel
9.	Single Coil Spring Washer	Nil	All drawings of Single coil spring washer

10.	Spheroidal Graphite Cast Iron (SGCI) Insert	Nil	All drawings of SGCI Insert
11.	Spring steel round to material grade 55Si 7	Nil	Different diameter Spring steel rounds to material grade 55Si 7
12.	Improved Switch Expansion Joint	i. ISEJ for 65mm gap (max)	i. All drawings of ISEJ for 65 mm gap (max)
		ii. ISEJ for 80mm gap (max)	ii. All drawings of ISEJ for 80mm gap (max)
13.	Rubber pad	i. GRSP	i. All drawings of 6mm thick GRSP
			ii. All drawings of 10mm thick GRSP
		ii. CGRSP	i. All drawings of 6.2mm thick CGRSP
			ii. All drawings of 10 mm thick CGRSP
		iii. Nylon Cord Reinforced GRSP (being introduced)	All drawings of Nylon Cord Reinforced GRSP (6mm thick)

1.1 For items which only have variants and no sub items (item 1 to 11 in Table 1):

- i. In such track items, where no sub items are specified and only variants are specified, *approved or developmental* vendors for a track item with any one drawing/variant will be automatically eligible as *approved or developmental* vendor as the case may be, to participate in the tenders called for any of the other drawing /variant of the same item.
- ii. However, if a vendor falls in 'approved' and in 'developmental' category both for different drawings/variant, he will be considered in **approved category** in all drawings/variants.
- iii. For upgradation from 'developmental vendor' to 'approved vendor', minimum quantity to be supplied shall be considered as combined for all the variants of that particular item.
- iv. In case of delisting on account of any one drawing/ variant, vendor will be considered delisted for that track item.
- v. Further, supply of track item with specified drawing number as per contract agreement shall be started only after fulfilling some specified conditions as given below.
 - a. Passing of Gauges & samples/prototype manufactured in compliance of specifications of the product .
 - b. Initial inspection of stipulated quantity by RDSO for that particular variant/drawing of track item .
 - c. Compliance of additional changes of STR requirements, if any.

1.2 **For items which have sub items and their variants (item 12 &13 in Table 1):**

- i. In such track items, where sub items are specified, *approved or developmental* vendors for any variant /drawing of a sub-item, will be automatically eligible as following:
 - a. as **approved or developmental vendor** as the case may be, to participate in the tenders called for any of the other variant / drawing of the **same sub-item**
 - b. as **developmental vendor** to participate in the tenders called for any variant / drawing of a **different sub-item**
- ii. Further, supply of track item with specified drawing number as per contract agreement shall be started only after fulfilling some specified conditions **as given in 1.1(v) above.**
- iii. However, if a vendor falls in 'approved' and in 'developmental' category both for different drawings/variant of a sub-item, he will be considered in 'approved' category in all drawings/variants of that sub-item.
- iv. For upgradation from developmental vendor to approved vendor, minimum quantity to be supplied shall be considered as combined for all the variants of a sub-item.
- v. In case of delisting on account of any one drawing/ variant of a sub-item, vendor will be considered delisted for that sub-item.

Efforts are underway to prepare common specification and STR for all such track items (Item 12&13 of Table-1). After finalization, all such sub-items/items will be merged and attain similar status as of other track items (Item 1 to 11 of Table-1).

2.0 Other track items:

2.1 Fishplate is an item with continuously reduced requirement on IR. Further, due to heavy capital investment requirement, there was only one new vendor registration during last one year. Fishplate group consists of 4 types of Fishplates and there is varied M&P requirement for manufacturing each of these categories, therefore it is decided to continue with the present classification for Fishplate item.

2.2 Existing policy will continue for remaining track items.

3.0 Till the time, such facility is made available on "UVAM" portal, in order to monitor the status of vendors approved for different drawings of an item, an updated summary of all vendors will be kept on RDSO website (by QA Civil Directorate) for the **para 1.1(v)/ para 1.2(ii) above.**

This will facilitate Zonal Railways to cross-check (in addition to the approval certificates issued by RDSO), if a particular vendor is already satisfying conditions of Para 1.1(v) & Para 1.2(ii) above, as applicable.

Further, a direct link is being provided to vendors for applying for Gauge and Sample/Prototype

approval in UVAM portal on IREPS platform.

- 4.0** After implementing above policy guidelines, most variants of track items will be merged and only item description will continue in the UVAM portal. This will eliminate requirement of new registration by an already existing approved/developmental vendor of an item, for a revised drawing/design based on upgraded /improved version of that track item. Accordingly, there will not be any new vendor development requirement for revised designs of fittings finalized by Railway Board vide ref(ii) (i.e all modified fastenings of new wider sleeper RT-8746 for 52/60 Kg rail). Only new drawings will be added in the list of drawings for that particular item or sub-item (in case of GRSP, CGRSP and Nylon Cord Reinforced GRSP & ISEJ 65mm/80mm gap).
- 5.0** Necessary changes in UVAM Vendor Directory for items Composite Grooved Rubber Sole plates, Glass filled Nylon-66 Insulating Liners and Metal Liners have already been done by incorporating relevant drawings in the drawing list of these items. Necessary modifications in remaining items are in process and will be completed shortly. Further, considering urgent need of fastenings of new wider sleeper to drawing no. RT-8746, it has been decided to permit one-time exemption in prototype testing of CGRSP 10 mm and Metal liner (Since critical tests of these items are carried out on test sample prepared from parent material i.e Test Slab/ Bar, so unaffected by change in prototype dimensions) corresponding to above mentioned new wider sleeper by carrying out gauge approval & only dimensional testing on prototypes.

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(Mudit Bhatnagar)

Executive Director/QA Civil

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3. PED/Track/RDSO
4. ED/Track-II & III/RDSO