



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Departments of Fire and Procurement**

Date: April 16, 2009
To: Honorable Don Samuels, Chair Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee
Referral to: Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Committee
Subject: **Approval of Official Publication No. 7092 Bids for Fire Fighter Turnout Clothing**

Recommendation:

Acceptance of the low responsive bid of Innotex, Inc / Clarey's Safety Equipment for an estimated annual expenditure of \$427,680.00 to furnish and deliver fire fighter turnout clothing for the Minneapolis Fire Department, as follows.

1.	330 each	Inno 68E3 Turnout Coats	per each	\$774.00	\$255,420.00
2.	330 each	Inno 68E3 Turnout Pants	per each	\$522.00	\$172,260.00
				Total	\$427,680.00

Bidder offers to extend terms and conditions for an additional 12 month period after March 1, 2010 at the sole option of the City of Minneapolis.

Terms are Net 30 days with delivery 35 working days after each request with complete measurements.

F.O.B.: Fires Stores, 1200 Currie Avenue North, Minneapolis MN 55403

Approved by the Civil Rights Department.

Prepared by: Gary Warnberg

Ant.
Director Purchasing

[Signature]

Approved by: Alex Jackson

Fire Chief

[Signature]

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget

Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget

Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase

Action requires use of contingency or reserves

Other financial impact (Explain): Action is within Budget

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

Tabulation of seven (7) bids received on Official Publication No. 7092 for fire fighter turnout clothing

Staff Recommendation/Notes: The apparent low bidders did not meet the required specifications. Please refer to the enclosed staff correspondence.

Attachments - Staff Recommendation
Tabulation Sheet

cc: J. Fruetel
K. Wagner
J. Burns

February 10, 2009

Purchasing
Room 552, towel Building
330 2nd Ave South
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401-221

On January 29th 2009 and February 1st 2009 the Turnout Committee evaluated the turnout gear test sets as requested with the bids. The committee was not shown bid price sheet. The committee rated all the turnout sets for comfort and the range of motion. The evaluation included climbing stairs, stepping up on a running board, arms over head and out to the side, donning and doffing, bending and mobility

Veridan **Industrial Safety**

Significant coat rise, metal snaps that contact the users skin is a major concern for heat transfer. Thermal liner stops 4" short of the sleeve hem and would not provide complete sleeve coverage for protection.

Mobility is a major issue stepping up and off the running board along with stair climbing. The pants would pull on the thigh and buttock area. Doffing was also difficult. The overall design does aid in mobility. There were drain slots vs. grommets.

The Turnout Committee does not recommend Veridan as an acceptable bidder because of lack of mobility and metal snaps exposed to the skin.

Globe G-Extreme **MES**

The overall bagginess added bulk and mass to the coat. When wet this would add extra weight. Chin strap has a poor design, deployment and storage of this strap was not user friendly. Elbow reinforcement design reduces reflective trim on the upper arm. The wristlets were extremely bulky in the palm making difficult to don fire gloves. Storm flap on the coat was too narrow making it difficult to don correctly and properly cover the zipper.

The pants received high marks on the running board and stair climb test, this could be due to the fact that they are extremely baggy and oversized. The increase mass would add more weight when wet and could contribute to early fatigue. The knees have pleats and not darts that cause for catching.

The Turnout Committee does not recommend Globe G-Extreme as an acceptable bidder because of the overall bagginess.

Globe **Metro Fire**

The Globe turnout's evaluation was very close to the Globe G-Extreme.

The Turnout Committee does not recommend Globe because of the overall bagginess.

Janesville **Fire Equipment Specialist**

Wristlet thumb hole was of poor design causing it to bunch up inside the gloves. Reaching up greatly increased pull on the wristlet thumb hole. Not having pleats on the back of the coat affected reaching overhead by the coat pulling on the sleeves and thumb wristlets.

Pants were long and baggy, pulling slightly at the gussets. Excessive material at the knees cause drag between the legs.

The Turnout Committee does not recommend Janesville because of lack of mobility and coat/wristlet is poorly designed.

Innotex **Innotex**

Coat design has great mobility. Very little if any issues with the running board and stair test. This coat had the least amount of rise with the range of motion tests which adds much better protection. The knee design gives excellent mobility. Only bidder to include Gloflex trim on their bid and a 12 month extension of their bid.

The Turnout Committee does recommend Innotex as an acceptable bidder.

Sperian **Fire Safety USA**

The DRD is installed in the collar, this design pushed your head forward and is very uncomfortable and creates a lot of bulk in the neck area. The thumb strap design on the wristlets is restrictive. Metal snaps at the wrist touch the skin, can easily transfer heat and could cause a burn. Liner is cut differently then the outer shell which cause it bunch at the shoulders with arms overhead as in pulling ceiling. Chin strap snap hinders donning especially with gloves on. No darts or pleats at the knee, which makes for less mobility.

The Turnout Committee does not recommend Sperian because the DRD design in the collar pushes your head forward, very uncomfortable. Metal in the wristlet that makes contact with your skin. Thermal liner material does not meet our specifications.

Morning Pride **Total Fire**

The coat take ups are possible areas of snagging on to something. DRD design is bulky and uncomfortable with or without SCBA on. The chin strap is not user friendly has a void when fasten leaving an open/exposed area for possible burns.

There was pulling at the thigh and knee area during the running board and stair test.

The Turnout Committee does recommend Morning Pride as an acceptable bidder.

Conclusion

None of the sets of turnout gear came in with Gloflex trim. The trim was certified to late to get the product to the vendors. Gloflex will be available when the turnout bid is awarded. Innotex was the only bidder to offer Gloflex at no additional charge.

Low bidders Industrial Safety Inc with Veridian and Fire Safety USA with Sperian were unacceptable low bids

The Turnout Committee recommends accepting lowest responsible bid from Innotex for \$1,296.00 because of fit, mobility. Morning Pride would be the 2nd lowest responsible bidder for \$1472.03

If you have any further questions or concerns feel free to contact me. Once you have seen this recommendation and concur, the Minneapolis will contact the Vendors and notify them of our decision

Sincerely

John Fruetel
Assistant Chief
February 10th, 2009

