



April 4, 2017

Received:
APR - 7 2017
Exec Sec - Hancock

FRA Administrator
Federal Railroad Administration
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E.
Washington D.C 20590
VIA: Federal Express

RE: Request for Buy America Waiver for Foreign Sourced Fire Alarm Components to be installed in the NCDOT Locomotive & Railcar Maintenance Facility in Charlotte, NC
NCSCO ID #10-08634-03A
Grantee: North Carolina DOT: FRA Grant: FR-HSR-0006

Dear Administrator,

Lake Electric hereby requests from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) a non-availability waiver of Buy America requirements set forth in 49 U.S.C. 24405 (a) to support the development of the Locomotive and Railcar Maintenance Facility in Charlotte, NC under FRA Grant FR-HSR-0006. North Carolina DOT is the Grantee.

Lake Electric Co., Inc. has been awarded the electrical construction contract for this project.

1. Project Description:

This project is located at 1128 South Graham Street in Charlotte, NC 28203. This project is a railcar and maintenance facility in which Lake Electric will be installing electrical/communication site infrastructure, building power, building lighting, emergency generator and back-up power systems, fire alarm, lighting control, and electrical power to building components. This project has the requirement that all Buy America Products will be provided in accordance with U.S.C 24405 (a) and the applicable regulations in 49 C.F.R Part 661.

2. Items Not Meeting Buy America Requirements:

In our efforts to source compliant Fire Alarm equipment, we have determined that most of the components of the fire alarm system can be sourced to meet Buy America requirements, but a few parts cannot be sourced in the United



States. The parts of the fire alarm system that cannot be sourced in the United States are listed in the attached / following matrix.

Part No.	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
S54400-C14-A1	252 Point Fire Alarm Control Panel	1	\$
S54400-A63-A1	Digital Alarm Communicator Transmitter	1	\$
S54400-B16-A1	Remote Annunciators	1	\$
S54400-A39-A1	RS-485 Interface Modules	1	\$
PS-1270	12V7ah SLA Batteries	4	\$
500-033400	Dual Action Manual pull stations	7	\$
S54320-F4-A2	Photoelectric Smoke Detectors	22	\$
S54320-F6-A2	Multi-Criteria Fire Detectors	5	\$
500-033370	Monitor Modules	5	\$
500-033360	Dual Input Monitor Modules	1	\$
500-033300	Relay Modules	4	\$
500-636161	Red Wall Mount Horn/Strobes	18	\$
500-636169	Red Wall Mount Strobes	14	\$
Total Non-U.S. Manufactured Components :			\$
Following are US Components of the Siemens Fire Alarm System:			
Part No.	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
S54400-C55-A2	Enclosure kit consisting of: FHB2002-R1 - backbox, FHD2003-R3 - 2HU Outer Door with 2 windows and FHD2006-U1; clear window & FHD2004-U1 black inner door & FHD2005-U1 Solid blank panel	1	\$
S54339-A3-A1	NAC Panels	1	\$
DTK-TSS4	AC Surge Protectors	1	\$
ELK-955	Dual Telco Surge Protector	1	\$
500-094151	Detector Bases	25	\$
S54319-B23-A1	Duct Detector Housings	2	\$
500-649712	Air Sampling Tubes	2	\$
S54319-527-A1	Remote Test Switches w/keys	2	\$
500-636015	Red Ceiling Mount Weatherproof Horn/Strobe	5	\$
500-636137	Red Weatherproof Surface Mount Backboxes	5	\$
A7F30030413	PIV Surge Protectors	2	\$
A7F30075681	Red Shunt Trip Relay	1	\$
Total US Manufactured Components :			\$



Attached is a letter from Southern Sound/Siemens that lists all the components of the fire alarm system that shows the detailed cost of all the components for the project.

The percentages of the foreign versus U.S. made components are as follows:

Total Non-U.S. F/A Manufactured Components	██████████	72%
Total U.S. F/A Manufactured Components	██████████	28%
Total Cost of F/A Components	██████████	100%
Total Cost of the Entire Project (Site & Bldg.)	\$13,500,000.00	

3. Description of the Efforts to Secure Complying Products:

Lake Electric made good faith efforts to all known vendors that could possibly comply with the Made in America certification requirements. Lake Electric has a standard list of low voltage/fire vendors that we send "Requests for Pricing" on for every project we bid. This list includes the following vendors: Simplex Grinnell; Edwards Electronics Systems; Lefler Electronics; Siemens; Cemco Systems; Southern Sound; BVS Systems; Custom Security; VSCFS; Strategic Systems; CRS Safety Solutions; AFAP; Mitec; and Schneider Electric.

4. Description of the Bidding Process:

During the bid process to procure the Fire Alarm Vendor, Lake Electric solicited bids from competent fire alarm companies (see list in #3 above) capable of providing and installing the products required per the project specifications. Southern Sound and Lefler Electronics were the only vendors who responded with quotes on this project. All of the system manufacturers use a mix of foreign and US made components. Southern Sound was the lowest responsible bidder. Although the foreign components from each vendor can vary, these components cannot be crossed from one operating system to another due to the proprietary programming, UL Listing, and operation of each vendors system.

5. Cost Differential:

N/A



6. Citation to Specific 49 U.S.C. 24405(a)(2) Waiver Category:

Lake Electric Co., Inc. is seeking a waiver based on 49 U.S.C. 24405 (a) (2) (B) as the products listed are not manufactured in the US in any quantity and there are not suitable substitutions available that allow the completed system to function and be warranted as an integrated, functional system.

7. Justification Supporting the Application Waiver Category:

No fire alarm systems are capable of complying 100% with the Buy America requirements.

8. Contact Information:

If you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bynum Caldwell".

Bynum Caldwell

Attachment

cc: FRA Legal

SIEMENS

29 March 2017

Project: NCDOT Locomotive and Railcar Maintenance Facility

Subject: Buy America Compliance with 49 U.S.C. 24405(a)

Siemens requests a Nonavailability waiver under FAR 25.202 of the Buy America requirements to support fire alarm material procurements for the NCDOT Locomotive and Railcar project. Siemens has made a good faith effort to identify domestic sources for the fire alarm devices and have concluded that there is currently no available domestic source for the devices on the attached spreadsheet. Siemens hereby requests a Buy America waiver for the devices of the attached spreadsheet.


Following are foreign components of the Siemens FA System which will require a waiver:

Part No.	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
S54400-C14-A1	252 Point Fire Alarm Control Panel	1	
S54400-A63-A1	Digital Alarm Communicator Transmitter	1	
S54400-B16-A1	Remote Annunciators	1	
S54400-A39-A1	RS-485 Interface Modules	1	
PS-1270	12V7Ah SLA Batteries	4	
500-033400	Dual Action Manual pull stations	7	
S54320-F4-A2	Photoelectric Smoke Detectors	22	
S54320-F6-A2	Multi-Criteria Fire Detectors	5	
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500-033360	Dual Input Monitor Modules	1	
500-033300	Relay Modules	4	
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500-636169	Red Wall Mount Strobes	14	

Following are the US components of the Siemens Fire Alarm system:

Part No.	Description	Quantity	Total Cost
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S54339-A3-A1	NAC Panels	1	
DTK-TSS4	AC Surge Protectors	1	
ELK-955	Dual Telco Surge Protector	1	

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500-094151	Detector Bases	25	
S54319-B23-A1	Duct Detector Housings	2	
500-649712	Air Sampling Tubes	2	
S54319-S27-A1	Remote Test Switches w/Keys	2	
500-636015	Red Ceiling Mount Weatherproof Horn/Strobes	5	
500-636137	Red Weatherproof Surface Mount Backboxes	5	
A7F30030413	PIV Surge Protectors	2	
A7F30075681	Red Shunt Trip Relay	1	

Please contact us should you require additional information or have any questions.

Sincerely,

Troy Conners

Troy Conners
Federal Business Development Mgr
248/ 444-5173
troy.conners@siemens.com