

Section VIII. Bill of Quantities

Notes on the Bill of Quantities

Objectives

The objectives of the Bill of Quantities are:

- a. to provide sufficient information on the quantities of Works to be performed to enable Bids to be prepared efficiently and accurately; and
- b. when a Contract has been entered into, to provide a priced Bill of Quantities for use in the periodic valuation of Works executed.

In order to attain these objectives, Works should be itemized in the Bill of Quantities in sufficient detail to distinguish between the different classes of Works, or between Works of the same nature carried out in different locations or in other circumstances which may give rise to different considerations of cost. Consistent with these requirements, the layout and content of the Bill of Quantities should be as simple and brief as possible.

Daywork Schedule

A Daywork Schedule should be included only if the probability of unforeseen work, outside the items included in the Bill of Quantities, is high. To facilitate checking by the Entity of the realism of rates quoted by the Bidders, the Daywork Schedule should normally comprise the following:

- a. A list of the various classes of labor, materials, and Constructional Plant for which basic daywork rates or prices are to be inserted by the Bidder, together with a statement of the conditions under which the Contractor will be paid for work executed on a daywork basis.
- b. Nominal quantities for each item of Daywork, to be priced by each Bidder at Daywork rates as Bid. The rate to be entered by the Bidder against each basic Daywork item should include the Contractor's profit, overheads, supervision, and other charges.

Provisional Sums

A general provision for physical contingencies (quantity overruns) may be made by including a provisional sum in the Summary Bill of Quantities. Similarly, a contingency allowance for possible price increases should be provided as a provisional sum in the Summary Bill of Quantities. The inclusion of such provisional sums often facilitates budgetary approval by avoiding the need to request periodic supplementary approvals as the future need arises. Where such provisional sums or contingency allowances are used, the SCC should state the manner in which they will be used, and under whose authority (usually the Procuring Entity's Representative's).

The estimated cost of specialized work to be carried out, or of special goods to be supplied, by other contractors should be indicated in the relevant part of the Bill of Quantities as a particular provisional sum with an appropriate brief description. A separate procurement procedure is normally carried out by the Procuring Entity to select such specialized contractors. To provide an element of competition among the Bidders in respect of any facilities, amenities, attendance, etc., to be provided by the successful Bidder as prime Contractor for the use and convenience of the specialist contractors, each related provisional sum should be followed by an item in the Bill of Quantities inviting the Bidder to quote a sum for such amenities, facilities, attendance, etc.

Signature Box

A signature box shall be added at the bottom of each page of the Bill of Quantities where the authorized representative of the Bidder shall affix his signature. Failure of the authorized representative to sign each and every page of the Bill of Quantities shall be a cause for rejection of his bid.

These Notes for Preparing a Bill of Quantities are intended only as information for the Procuring Entity or the person drafting the Bidding Documents. They should not be included in the final documents.