

January 7, 2002

Dear Transportation Service Provider:

This Request for Offers (RFO) transmits the Special Filing Instructions (SFI) for the submission of rate offers for the United States Mint (U.S. Mint). On behalf of the U.S. Mint, the General Services Administration (GSA) is requesting non-alternating, Standing Route Order (SRO) rate offers. Rate offers filed in response to this RFO and its SFI will be in accordance with GSA's Standard Tender of Service (STOS) to include the GSA General Freight Tender of Service No. 1-F, the GSA National Rules Tender No. 100-D, and the GSA Baseline Rate Publication No. 1000-D, supplements and reissues thereto. Please note that certain provisions and requirements of this RFO and its SFI may deviate from and/or supercede those published in the STOS. Rate offers filed in response to this RFO and its SFI will also be in accordance with the terms and conditions of the GSA/U.S. Mint Specifications dated July 1, 1984, and amended September 1, 1991, along with any subsequent amendments and/or reissues thereto. Rate offers submitted in accordance with this RFO and its SFI are due by 4:30 p.m. Central Standard Time on February 4, 2002. Acceptable rate offers will be for the filing period of March 1, 2002, through April 30, 2003.

Non-alternating, SRO rate offers are being requested for the following two U.S. Mint facilities:

1. U.S. Mint, Denver, CO; and
2. U.S. Mint, Philadelphia, PA.

All rate offers submitted in response to this RFO and its SFI must be submitted to GSA electronically in accordance with Sections 8, 9, and 10. **NO PAPER RATE OFFERS WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

Please note the following significant items:

1. Effective March 1, 2002, all previously accepted paper rate offers will no longer be considered when routing the identified U.S. Mint traffic; consequently, it is imperative that TSPs submit new rate offers electronically in accordance with this RFO and its SFI if a TSP wants rates effective March 1, 2002. If a TSP does not meet the appropriate filing deadlines identified in Section 1-3. Filing Period, the TSP will have to wait until the next filing window before they can submit a rate offer for the identified U.S. Mint traffic;

2. Only those TSPs who have met the established approval requirements per the STOS No. 1-F, Section 2 – Participation, may submit rate offers in accordance with this RFO and its SFI. In addition, only those Tariff Publishing Agents and Rate Filing Service Providers who have a valid Trading Partner Agreement on file with the Freight Program Management Office (FPMO) and have met all other approval requirements established by GSA may submit rate offers on behalf of approved TSPs. If a TSP is not currently approved in accordance with Section 2 – Participation, the TSP can go to www.kc.gsa.gov/fsstt/, click on “Freight,” click on “Standard Tender of Service (STOS),” and then click on “1-F Section 2, Participation” to obtain the appropriate approval requirements;

3. Please pay special attention to Section 6, Terms & Conditions for Bills of Lading Issued for Government Shipments and Section 7, Basis for Determining Applicable Distance/Mileage. These Sections contain recently implemented changes that should be considered when submitting rate offers; and

4. **IMPORTANT:** If you are a current subscriber to the Inter-Agency Transportation Management System (ITMS) CD-Rom and intend to use its capabilities for the creation and submission of your rate offer for the identified traffic, you will need to contact the FPMO to request an updated version of ITMS as your current ITMS CD does not incorporate the changes/additions contained in this RFO and its SFI. To obtain an updated version of ITMS, please contact Carey DeForest via e-mail at carey.deforest@gsa.gov or facsimile at 816-823-3656. If you do not intend to utilize the capabilities of ITMS to create and submit your rate offers, you will not need to obtain a new version of ITMS as nothing else has been changed from your current version.

If you have any questions regarding this RFO, its SFI, or the STOS, please contact Felicia Rogers or Bob Clayton at (404) 331-5121 or via e-mail at felicia.rogers@gsa.gov or robert.clayton@gsa.gov, respectively. Questions dealing with the submission of electronic rate offers should be directed to Carey DeForest at (816) 823-3646 or via e-mail at carey.deforest@gsa.gov.

Sincerely,

Ed Hodges, Director
Property & Traffic Management Division (6FBD)

Enclosure