

AASHTOWare Project Bids™ Implementation



- MDT highway contracts let through the Contract Plans Bureau require an upgrade to the new AASHTOWare Project Bids™ bidding software. This will replace the current bidding program -- Expedite™.
- MDT Contract Plans Bureau plans to go "live" effective with the **December 7, 2017 letting (advertising November 9, 2017)**
- MDT Contract Plans will host a demonstration of downloading the Project Bids™ software and bid files immediately following the **November 16, 2017** bid opening at MDT Headquarters for any contractors that are interested. This training is not mandatory. The install is very seamless and Project Bids™ is very similar to Expedite™ that prime bidders are already familiar with.
- Stay tuned to the MDT – Doing Business – Contracting and Consulting webpage beginning October 23, 2017 for updates and announcements at:
<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/>



General Information

- MDT's current bidding program, Expedite™, for contracts let through the Contract Plans Bureau has been in use since the late 1990's. It is an old Windows based program and is nearing the end of its functional life.
- Expedite™ and Project Bids™ are sponsored by AASHTO, and produced by InfoTech, Inc. which produces all the AASHTOWare™ suite of software products used by the majority of state transportation agencies. Thirteen states have transitioned to Project Bids™ at this time, and the migration in those states has been successful.
- Prime contractors currently must prepare and submit their bids to the MDT Contract Plans Bureau using Expedite™. This is true whether they submit a 'paper' bid delivered to Contract Plans on bid letting day, or submit it remotely using the Bid Express Internet Bidding Service. This process will remain the same using Project Bids™.
- AASHTOWare Project Bids™ is a free software. There is no fee for use of the software program. However, there are fees associated with the Bid Express Internet Bidding Service for prime contractors who elect to submit bids remotely. Subscribing to the Bid Express Internet Bidding Service is not required now, nor will be in the future.
- Prime contractors who are Bid Express Digital ID holders must obtain a new Digital ID (Digital Signature). This will be free for existing Bid Express subscribers. Note: The credit card on file will be charged \$100 when creating the new Digital ID, but the \$100 will be credited back once Bid Express verifies that the vendor's account is in good standing.
- The look and feel of Project Bids™ is very similar to Expedite™. The transition should be very easy for contractors.
- Bid Express will provide assistance to Bid Express Digital ID holders migrating to the new software. Visit www.bidx.com Phone (888) 352-2439, or email customer.support@bidx.com for more information. They will send a notice to active Bid Express Digital ID holders for Montana on October 23, 2017 to begin the process.
- MDT Contract Plans will be able to provide customer assistance for installation to non-Bid Express subscribers. Visit the MDT – Doing Business – Contracting and Consulting webpage for updates and announcements at: <http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/contracting/> or phone (406) 444-6215, (406) 444-6284, or (406) 444-6212.



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General Information



KEY DATES	DESCRIPTION
OCTOBER 18, 2017	AASHTOWare Project Bids™ Implementation Announcement at the MCA/MDT Technical Committee Meeting.
OCTOBER 19, 2017	Advertising day for the November 16, 2017 Letting – THE FINAL LETTING UTILIZING EXPEDITE™!!!!.
OCTOBER 23, 2017	<p>Updated MDT Contracting/Consulting webpage with announcements and updated links for download of AASHTOWare Project Bids™.</p> <p>Bid Express Internet Bidding Service will begin outreach to Bid Express subscribers for obtaining new Project Bids™ Digital ID.</p>
NOVEMBER 9, 2017	Advertising Day for the December 7, 2017 bid letting. THE FIRST LETTING UTILIZING PROJECT BIDS™ !!
NOVEMBER 16, 2017	<p>LAST BID LETTING UTILIZING EXPEDITE™!!</p> <p>MDT will host a demonstration of downloading Project Bids™ and bid files for any interested contractors immediately following our bid opening.</p>
DECEMBER 7, 2017	FIRST BID LETTING UTILIZING PROJECT BIDS™ - advertised November 9, 2017!!



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