

Treasurer's Instruction No	1122
Title	Multi-Use Lists: goods and services
Effective date	1 January 2009
Objective and Background	Details the processes that agencies must use to set up a Multi-Use List.
Version Number	4
Last Reviewed Date	November 2008

Black letter (or bold) items within these Instructions are mandatory and other plain font items are instructional or for the purpose of providing guidance only.

- (1) This instruction applies only to the procurement of goods and services and is to be read in conjunction with other Instructions relating to goods and services which are contained in the 1100 series of the Treasurer's Instructions.**

Further information on goods and services procurement, including a definition of "goods and services", can be located at www.purchasing.tas.gov.au> Buying for Government.

For information on building and construction and roads and bridges procurement, refer to the 1200 series of the Treasurer's Instructions.

A multi-use list is a list of pre-qualified suppliers, intended for use in more than one procurement process. A multi-use list can include an unlimited number of suppliers and suppliers can be added either continuously or annually, it can operate indefinitely and does not make reference to pricing. Suppliers included on the list have satisfied the conditions for participation.

A panel, by comparison, is an arrangement under which a number of suppliers may each supply property or services to an agency as specified in the panel contract arrangements. A panel has a finite number of suppliers and operates for a finite period. The panel is re-opened at the conclusion of the established period. A panel usually provides a set or indicative price for the goods or services that can be obtained from it. A panel can be established through an open tender process or through a multi-staged purchasing process. In either case, panel members have been selected at the conclusion of a full evaluation process.

Further information on the difference between a multi-use list and a panel can be located at www.purchasing.tas.gov.au>Buying for Government>Goods & Services>Purchasing G&S \$100 000 and over>Planning the Purchase.

- (2) Inclusion on a multi-use list may be used either as an essential criterion or condition for participation in an open tender or as the basis for selecting participants in a multi-staged procurement.**

- (3) When using inclusion on a multi-use list as a condition for participation in an open tender conducted under Instruction 1107, agencies must set up the multi-use list in accordance with clauses (5) – (7) below.**

Inclusion on the multi-use list can then be set as a mandatory requirement that must be met by suppliers for a tender to be considered.

Where:-

- an agency intends to limit the submission of applications to suppliers who are included on a multi-use list (except when using a list to which entry has been readily accessible in electronic form for a reasonable period); and
- the procurement is one that is impacted by a free trade agreement;

reference should be had to the *Free Trade Agreements Guideline* for further information on allowing suppliers time to pre-qualify. The Guideline can be located at www.purchasing.tas.gov.au>Buying for Government>Resources>Publications.

- (4) When using a multi-use list as a basis for pre-selection of participants in a multi-staged procurement, agencies must firstly set up the multi-use list in accordance with clauses (5) – (7) below. The second stage of the process requires Agencies to comply with the provisions of Instruction 1108(6).**

A multi-staged purchasing process is where information is requested from suppliers in order to gain knowledge about the market, obtain industry input, or to shortlist suppliers before seeking offers. Further information on multi-staged tendering processes is available in Instruction 1108 and at www.purchasing.tas.gov.au>Buying for Government.

- (5) An agency may establish a multi-use list provided the agency itself (or another government agency) either:**
- (a) annually publishes a notice inviting interested suppliers to apply for inclusion on the list; or**
 - (b) makes available in a continuous electronic form, a notice inviting interested suppliers to apply for inclusion on the list.**
- (6) The notice inviting interested suppliers to apply for inclusion on the list must include:**
- (a) a description of the goods and services, or categories thereof, for which the list may be used;**
 - (b) the conditions for participation to be satisfied by suppliers and the methods that the agency will use to verify a supplier's satisfaction of the conditions;**
 - (c) the name and address of the agency and details of the relevant contact officer; and**

(d) any deadlines for submission of applications for inclusion on the list.

- (7) When undertaking procurements impacted by a free trade agreement (refer to Instruction 1102), agencies must limit any conditions for participation in a multi-use list to those that ensure that a potential supplier has the legal, commercial, technical and financial abilities to fulfill the requirements of the procurement.**

A 'condition for participation' means any pre-requisite (or mandatory requirement) for participation in a procurement and includes pre-registration and pre-qualification. These requirements are assessed as either being 'met' or 'not met' by a supplier in the first stage of evaluation of their submission.

Conditions for participation include any pre-qualification or pre-registration requirements (such as for building and construction). Examples of conditions for participation include –

- Solvency and financial viability;
- Relevant licences;
- Professional accreditations or registrations; and
- Inclusion on a multi-use list or other forms of pre-qualification.

The *Free Trade Agreements Guideline* can be located at www.purchasing.tas.gov.au>Buying for Government>Resources>Publications.

- (8) Agencies that maintain a multi-use list must include all potential suppliers that satisfy the conditions for participation on that multi-use list as soon as practicable after application.**