



Forest Preserve District of Cook County Office of the Purchasing Agent

Sole Source Justification Form

General Information	Date: 8/20/24
Department: Facilities & Fleet	Phone
Contact Name: Denise Vaca	Email: denise.vaca@cookcountyil.gov

Vendor Information	
Company Name: Atlas Bobcat, LLC	Contact person: Todd Swartz
Address: 1815 Landmeier in Elk Grove Village, IL 60007	
Phone: 847-678-3587	Email: tswartz@atlasbobcat.com

Description. Please provide a description of the goods or services required, pricing, the duration or frequency of the requirement, and where will the services or goods be delivered.
The Department of Resource Management is requesting a one-time purchase of fifteen (15) Cronkhite heavy duty equipment trailers with upgrade options assembled for field operations, not to exceed \$375,000.

Type. Please select one of the options and explain below.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Single Source <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary/Copyright Restrictions <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment Compatibility <input type="checkbox"/> Patented Product <input type="checkbox"/> Exclusive or Unique Capability <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please explain
Explanation: Why is this product or service the only one that would satisfy the requirement(s)? Cronkhite is the only manufacturer that can produce the specified trailer with the desired custom ramp and deck. Atlas Bobcat, LLC is the distributor for Cronkhite. Please see attached memo.

Due Diligence. Describe the due diligence performed that led to the conclusion that this is a sole source.
Cronkhite is the only manufacturer that can produce the specified trailer. Atlas Bobcat, LLC is the distributor for Cronkhite (Please see the attached memo for details).

Department Recommendation		
Requestor: Denise Vaca	Requisition Number: 17000011104	Date: 8/20/24
Department Head: Eric Pedersen		Date: 8/20/24

Purchasing Agent Officer or Designee Approval	
Signature: <i>Thomas J. Conlon</i>	Date: 9/4/24

Chief Financial Officer or Designee Approval	
Signature: Damon Howell	Date: <small>Digitally signed by Damon Howell Date: 2024.09.05 16:05:33 -05'00'</small>

Chief Attorney or Designee Approval	
Signature: <i>Yuse Lee</i>	Date: 9/6/2024



2212 Kickapoo Drive
Danville, IL 61832
Phone: 217.443.3700
Fax: 217.443.3778
www.cronkhitrailers.com

August 28, 2024

To: Forest Preserves of Cook County

Authorized Dealer – Atlas Bobcat

To Whom It My Concern,

Atlas Bobcat LLC located in Elk Grove Village with branch locations in Wauconda, West Chicago, DeKalb, Yorkville, Mokena in Illinois and Merriville Indiana is the Sole Distributor for the Sales, Service and Parts for Cronkhite Trailers in the Chicagoland and surrounding area.

Regards,

Tim Steinbaugh

Tim Steinbaugh
Sales Manager

August 30, 2024

TO: Tom Conlon
FROM: Eric Pedersen
CC: Denise Vaca / Ricky Phiri
RE: Cronkhite Heavy Duty Equipment Trailers

The Fleet department is requesting a purchase order for a one-time purchase of fifteen (15) Cronkhite heavy duty equipment trailers to be assigned to the Department of Resource Management for land management operations.

Resource Management is requesting trailers with specialized ramps that only one manufacturer can produce this year. The specialized ramp will aid Resource Management field staff with the transportation of field equipment (such as track machines) to and from work sites. The ramps needed on the trailers have a specific width to accommodate our specialized machinery. Additionally, the hitch set up we are looking for along with the deck make-up, in particular the size and hauling capacity tilt deck, are not available at the specifications we are requesting from the other vendors.

The request is based on two specific reasons: customization and operational needs. Operational need is critical as the Resource Management trailer fleet is in need of partial replacement due to age and supplementation due to increased staffing. With the addition of 3 staff to the existing 5 resource crews and the additional newly added 6th resource crew in Thorn Creek we simply just need more trailers. Currently we are borrowing trailers across crews or in some instances dropping equipment with a trailer and then having to return to the yard to pick up another piece of equipment to go to the same work site. This lack of trailers is restricting our ability to split our crews up and work as two crews within one region – which was the intent when adding additional staffing to each crew. Significant impact on efficiency of work and a negative impact on our sustainability/emission goals.

The customization requests that we are looking for have all been agreed to by the Cronkhite manufacturer. Other vendors that we spoke with could not meet the customization at all or provide a substitute that we determined was NOT sufficient. The only other manufacturer that could manufacture this trailer was Feilling Trailer who is backlogged 76 weeks. This makes Cronkhite the only manufacturer that can produce the specified trailer in a reasonable timeframe. Atlas Bobcat, LLC is the distributor for Cronkhite.

We respectfully request that we use Atlas Bobcat, LLC distributor of Cronkhite heavy duty trailer as a sole source vendor.

Please call / email with any questions.

Thank you.

Eric Pedersen
DIRECTOR of FACILITIES and FLEET
Forest Preserves of Cook County

C: 708-982-0971

Eric.pedersen@cookcountyil.gov

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