

SECTION C
DESCRIPTION/SPECIFICATIONS/AND WORK STATEMENT

1. **BACKGROUND**

As one of the nation's principal conservation agencies, the National Park Service (NPS) has the responsibility to protect some of our most treasured natural and cultural resources. In order to preserve these treasures it is important that they be interpreted in ways that help NPS visitors experience them, understand them, and appreciate their value. It is also important that those who visit National Park sites be assured that their visits are safe and enjoyable.

Since its earliest days, the NPS has relied on a variety of interpretive media to assist in the effort to protect its resources and to assure the pleasure and safety of its visitors. Among the various media used by the NPS, wayside exhibits provide the most direct interpretation of park sites and features. Because they are located in a park's outdoor environment, "waysides" offer immediate -- and readily available -- sources of information tailored to a specific place and time. No other interpretive medium can match the power of direct association of information and resource, or the convenience of on-site location.

These contracts are designed to respond to a need to establish nationwide support services for different types of National Park Service outdoor panels. Projects range in scope of small to major.

2. **PURPOSE**

This contract is to meet the interpretive wayside exhibit panel requirements of the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and occasionally other agencies of the government, by providing fabrication of exhibit quality porcelain enamel panels for outdoor use. All work performed under this contract will be directed by the issuance of Task Orders in accordance with procedures outlined in Section G of the resulting contract. In no event will the government be responsible for any work performed by the contractor that is not undertaken pursuant to a Task Order authorized by the Contracting Officer.

3. **SCOPE OF WORK**

Independently, and not as an agent of the government, the contractor shall provide all labor, materials, equipment and facilities (except as otherwise specified), necessary to fabricate interpretive wayside exhibit porcelain enamel panels for outdoor use.

Work under this contract will proceed according to the following order of precedence: Drawings; Scope of Work; Attachments; Supplies or Services and Prices/Costs; Contract Clauses; and Representations, Certifications, and Other Statements of Offerors.

Specifically, the following services are required:

D. **PORCELAIN ENAMEL PANELS**

1. **Porcelain Enamel Imaging**

Imaging: Line art/script shall be screened one color at a time with intermediate firing of each color before subsequent color is screened. The quality of the screen image shall be of high resolution with no ragged edges. Line art shall be screened over background colors, so that characters are not obscured by the application of color. Line art resolution shall be accurately printed at a standard which accepts as a minimum ½ point line thickness and type in sizes as small as 4 lines per inch (lpi). Black and white and color photographic / lithographic imaging shall be available at a resolution of up to 200 lpi.

Multiple color work shall maintain (+ / -) 1/500 registration of all layers, one to another. Color layers shall be fully opaque, with no bleed-through, or change in hue, value or intensity as a result of the layering of color in the imaging process. Color shall match the specified color as converted from PMS reference to porcelain enamel and as approved by the COR as a match sample prior to imaging the job. Colors shall match CMYK with color shift base on inherent qualities of base frits.

The contractor shall:

- (a) Image in tight register in full color on a panel size range from 6" x 9" up to 42" x 72".
- (b) Maintain a capacity to handle the above described imaging in a group of subjects (average 30 subjects) comprising one job. All production phases of the work described shall be concurrent and continuous.
- (c) Fuse glass (enamel) to various substrates including enameling steel, stainless steel and plate glass.
- (d) Image four-color process images in perfect registration of separation rulings up to 150 lines per inch.
- (e) Image fine line detail including mezzotint and other special effect conversion screens, 150 line half-tones and duo-tones, and 6 pt. serif type faces without discernable saw-tooth edge or other character defects.

- (f) In-house capability to accomplish the required mechanical and chemical substrate preparation prior to imaging.
- (g) In-house capability to fabricate, image, and reclaim screens.
- (h) In-house capability to mix, apply, expose, develop, and fix enamel bearing photosensitive emulsions.
- (i) Mix and match enamel colors to PMS color specifications or government-furnished color swatches.
- (j) Maintain facilities and equipment required to prepare films, mix and match colors, fabricate screens, image screen stencils, screen print, apply presensitized coatings, prepare metal for the enameling process, and image and fire porcelain enamel exhibits.
- (k) Capability to round the panel edges and apply a continuous coat of porcelain enamel around the edges from the front of the panel to the back.

2. **Film Preparation**

The preparation of film mechanicals (positives and negatives) shall include the development of graphic layouts based on government-furnished design concepts. This phase is intended to support the production of the previously described porcelain enamel imaging and shall specifically involve the following:

- A. Preparation of original black and white and full color illustrations and photographic images for reproduction, i.e., the intermediate photomechanical steps required to convert original images into the necessary film form for porcelain enamel imaging.
- B. Table work to include paste up, negative stripping, and assembly of film positive and negative elements into final color separated and registered format required for porcelain enamel imaging.

B. **GRAPHIC ADJUSTMENTS**

Graphic adjustments include the simple image alteration, or adjustment to existing graphic files typically required before output. These shall include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Replacing FPO images with high resolution scans;
- 2. Color management required to match PMS specifications;

3. Creating masks from clipping paths attached to FPO images; and
4. Retouching photographs to eliminate scratches or blemishes.

C. **LABELS**

The contractor shall produce weatherproof labels that shall be placed on the back side of the wayside graphic panels indicating the following specific information for every panel:

Panel Identification Number (ex: GUIIS-332),
Size (ex: 36x48),
Material (ex: HPL),
Date of Manufacture,
Harpers Ferry Center, 304-535-5050.

The label shall also include a box with the words “Installation Date” above it so that the park staff can indicate the date of installation on the panel sticker. One sticker shall be secured to each panel prior to delivery of the panels to the COR.

D. **CLOSEOUT**

At the conclusion of all work, the contractor shall return the government-furnished property and all other outstanding materials as specified in the individual task order to the COR. All material generated by the contractor in the process of completing a task order is the property of the government.