***EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)***

***Manufacture of Gravel Road Test Kits (GRTKs) on behalf of the CSIR through a license manufacturing agreement***

***EoI No. BDC/SMC/001/20/01/2021***

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| Date of Issue: | Wednesday, 27/01/2021 | |
| Closing Date and Time: | Friday, 12/02/2021 at 16:30 | |
| EoI submission: | Link: <https://www.csir.co.za/expression-interest-eoi-manufacture-gravel-road-test-kits>  Only electronic submissions will be accepted | |
| Enquiries | Mr. Benoit Verhaeghe | Email: [BVerhaeg@csir.co.za](mailto:BVerhaeg@csir.co.za) |
| CSIR business hours | 08h00 – 16h30 | |
| Category | Engineering | |

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# **Introduction**

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is one of the leading scientific research and technology development organisations in Africa. In partnership with national and international research and technology institutions, the CSIR undertakes directed and multidisciplinary research and technology innovation that contributes to the improvement of the quality of life of South Africans. The CSIR’s main site is in Pretoria while it is represented in other provinces of South Africa through regional offices.

# **Purpose**

The objective of this invitation process is to collect information to enable the CSIR to evaluate and identify suitably experienced, highly qualified, and a financially sustainable supplier within the manufacturing industry or related sector with a commitment to continue with the production of these products on terms and conditions acceptable to the CSIR.

# **Background**

The Gravel Road Test Kits (GRTKs) were developed as a result of a joint effort between the CSIR and the International Labour Organisation, in which the team developed the field test kit to evaluate borrow pit materials for use as wearing course on unsealed roads and to ensure that the quality of the construction is appropriate. Borrow pits are areas close to major construction projects where soil, gravel, and sand are dug up for use in the construction.

Simply put, the field test kit is a ubiquitous soils testing kit, tucked in two 1 m x 60 cm x 50 cm steel trunks, weighing about 56 kg and 45 kg each. The idea was to design and develop a simple technology that could be operated independently of resources like energy and water – which are scarce in some parts of the continent – and by someone with relatively modest training. At first glance, the mobile materials testing kit, with its components neatly arranged in a wooden framework inside these trunks, looks old fashioned. However, “the genius of it lies in its simplicity”, according to the CSIR workshop supervisor.

Historically, the GRTKs were manufactured at the CSIR based on a purchase order from a client.

# **Specifications for the GRTKs**

## 3.1 Description

### 3.1.1 General description of the product

The **Field Gravel Road Test Kit** allows materials grading, cohesion (liquid limit and linear shrinkage), compacted strength, and aggregate strength of the borrowed material to be determined. The thickness probe and the rapid compaction control device (RCCD) in the kit ensure construction quality assurance. The kit is designed to make use of local water and solar energy (solar oven and calculator) and therefore does not require electricity and running water to be available. A manual describing the step-by-step test methods with result worksheets and practical guidelines is supplied with every kit.

### 3.1.2 Description and listing of components

OPTION 1

Canvas sheet for quartering sample

5 test sieves with pan and cover

Balance with leveling platform and windshield

2 stiff and 2 soft brushes

5 pans

3 shrinkage molds

Steel rule

Spatula

Drop cone apparatus

Silicone spray

Water bottle

Thickness probe

Clip board with result worksheets and manual

Solar oven in separate steel trunk

OPTION 2

Treton hammer plus option 1

OPTION 3

RCCD (a unique impulse road layer penetrometer, based on a spring-loaded hammer and mechanical trigger mechanism) plus option 2.

## 3.2 Photo of product



## 3.3 Benefits of using the product

The performance of a gravel road is primarily a function of the material selected, as well as testing and control of constructed layer work. The field test kit enables the practitioner to evaluate borrow materials for use as wearing course on unsealed roads and to ensure that the quality of the construction is appropriate.

## 3.4 Function of the product

The function and objective of the gravel roads field kit is to enable the practitioner to perform certain basic tests on materials in the field, without the back up of a soils laboratory.

# **Invitation for the Expressions of Interest**

Invitation to submit Expressions of Interest (EoI) are hereby sought from suitably-qualified and financially sustainable investors within the manufacturing industry or related sector to manufacture GRTKs on behalf of the CSIR through a manufacturing license.

# **Expressions of Interest Submission**

All EoI submissions must be submitted to Mr. Benoit Verhaeghe via the email address BVerhaeg@csir.co.za In light of the Covid-19 pandemic, the CSIR requires that all EoI submissions be submitted electronically via the email address provided..Should the file size exceed 30 MB, the interested parties can submit EoIs in multiple emails. Use the EoI number **BDC/SMC/001/20/01/2021** and the description of the EoI as the subject on your email.(10 MB per email is fine)

# **Expressions of Interest Programme**

The EoI programme, as currently envisaged, incorporates the following key dates:

* Issue of EoI documents: Wednesday, 27/01/2021;
* Closing / submission Date: Friday, 12/02/2021 at 16:30; and
* Target start date of the project: As soon as the agreement is signed by both parties.

# **Submission of Expressions of Interest**

* All EoIs must have the ff reference number: BDC/SMC/001/20/01/2021, as indicated on the cover of this call.
* The EoI submission should include certified copies of the following mandatory documentation:
  + B-BBEE verification certificate
  + SARS Tax clearance certificate
  + Letter of good standing
  + Bank letter
  + Annual Report showing financial turn-over
  + Municipality Rates and Taxes
* The EoI submitted by companies must be signed by a person or persons duly authorised thereto.

# **Eligibility criteria**

* Proven track record and active participation in the manufacturing of similar products in the sector;
* Adequate financial resources;
* BEE Level 1 contributor; and
* An evaluation panel will assess the EoIs. Based on the results of the evaluation process, the CSIR will enter into discussions with the shortlisted parties.

# **Evaluation Process**

An evaluation panel will assess the proposals. Based on the results of the evaluation process, the CSIR will approve the awarding of the contract to the successful applicant.

The **applicant** must prepare for a possible presentation should the CSIR require such, in which case, the **applicant** shall be notified timeously.

**Please Note: If you have not heard anything from us within 12 weeks of applying, please consider your application unsuccessful.**

# **Elimination Criteria**

EoI submissions will be eliminated under the following conditions:

* Submission after the deadline.
* Submitted to an incorrect email address.
* EoI submissions that do not accompany the mandatory documentation as listed above.

# **Deadline for submission**

Eol must be submitted to Mr. Benoit Verhaeghe via the email address **BVerhaeg@csir.co.za** above no later than 16H30 on 12th February 2021.

# **Appointment of a successful applicant**

* The contract will be awarded to the applicant who is recommended and supported via the evaluation process, except where the law permits otherwise.
* The successful appointment shall be subject to the parties agreeing to mutually acceptable contractual terms and conditions. In the event of the parties failing to reach such agreement within a mutually agreed date after the provisional appointment date, the CSIR reserves the right to appoint or not appoint.

1. **Enquiries and Contact with the CSIR**

Any enquiry regarding this EoI shall be submitted in writing to [BVerhaeg@csir.co.za](mailto:BVerhaeg@csir.co.za) quoting the EoI reference number as the subject.

1. **CSIR and RESERVE THE RIGHT TO**
2. Extend the closing date,
3. Request documentary evidence regarding any issue,
4. Appoint one or more entities, separately or jointly (whether or not they submitted a joint EoI),
5. Award this EoI as a whole or in part, or not at all, and
6. Cancel or withdraw this EoI as a whole or in part.