VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS
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VIRGINIA RAILWAY EXPRESS

REQUEST FOR QUOTES (RFQ) No. 002-FY27

RAILCAR AND LOCOMOTIVE AIR BRAKE HOSES

RFQ Issued: November 13, 2026

Questions Due: November 24, 2026, at 10:00 A.M. Eastern Time

Quotes Due: December 1, 2026, at 1:00 P.M. Eastern Time

Contact: Monica McKenzie, Contracts Administrator
Virginia Railway Express, 1500 King Street, Suite 202, Alexandria, VA 22314
Main Office: (703) 684-1001 **Email:** procurement@vre.org

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1. PURPOSE/BACKGROUND

A. INTRODUCTION

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) is soliciting Quotes to establish a firm-fixed unit price Blanket Purchase Order with one (1) qualified and experienced Contractor to supply railcar and locomotive air brake hoses.

B. VRE BACKGROUND

1. VRE is a commuter rail service linking the District of Columbia and Northern Virginia. The Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission (PRTC) are transportation districts established under Virginia law and jointly own this service. An Operations Board consisting of members from each of the jurisdictions within the VRE service area governs the development and operation of VRE and serves as an advisory board to the NVTC and PRTC governing boards. Use of the term VRE in this RFQ refers to NVTC and PRTC.

2. As a joint project of NVTC and PRTC, VRE will provide safe, cost effective, accessible, reliable, convenient, and comfortable commuter-oriented rail passenger service. VRE will contribute to the economic development of its member jurisdictions as an integral part of a balanced, intermodal regional transportation system.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR QUOTERS

A. SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN QUESTIONS

1. **Deadline**: All questions and requests for clarification regarding the meaning or interpretation of this RFQ and other solicitation documents, or any ambiguities, discrepancies, inconsistencies, or conflicts in or between any of the technical, pricing, or contractual provisions, must be submitted no later than the ***date and time specified on Page 1*** of this RFQ. Questions and clarifications requested after such time will not be answered unless VRE elects, in its sole discretion, to do so.

2. **Format for Questions**: Questions must be submitted in writing and include the related section number and title.

3. Questions must be submitted to VRE's contact in writing via electronic mail as listed on Page 1 of this RFQ. No questions or requests for additional information, clarification, or any other communication should be directed to any other individual.

4. No oral communication will be accepted. VRE will not be bound by any oral communications, or written interpretations or clarifications that are not set forth in an addendum to the RFQ.

5. Questions and responses will be posted on VRE's website at www.vre.org.

6. Any interpretation of the questions made by VRE will be responded to and distributed in the form of an addendum to the RFQ and will be available to all interested Quoters through VRE's website.

B. SUBMISSION OF QUOTE

1. Quotes must be submitted no later than the ***date and time specified on Page 1*** of this RFQ.

2. The Quote shall be submitted on **ATTACHMENT 1 - QUOTE FORM** provided by VRE.

3. Incomplete Quotes or Quotes received after the Quote closing date and time will not be considered by VRE.

4. Quoters must submit Quotes electronically through the Commonwealth of Virginia's e-Procurement Marketplace (eVA). To submit Quotes electronically, Quoters must be registered in eVA- www.eva.virginia.gov.

5. Quotes submitted in hard copy format or via email or facsimile will not be accepted.

6. Quotes shall be submitted through eVA by:

   a. Clicking on Business Opportunities, Virginia Business Opportunities (VBO).
   b. Typing "Virginia Railway Express" into the Search Box.
   c. Finding VRE RFQ No. 002-FY27.
   d. Clicking "View Opportunity" to select the solicitation.

e. Clicking “Respond Online” in the upper right corner of the screen.

f. Following the instructions provided online to submit a response.

7. Quoters must submit one (1) complete continuous electronic copy of the Quote package in PDF, including all attachments.

8. Quoters requiring assistance submitting an electronic response, must contact eVA Customer Care via email at eVACustomerCare@dgs.virginia.gov or at 866-289-7367.

9. Sealed electronic Quotes shall be received online through eVA no later than the date and time specified on the title page of this RFQ. The time an electronic Quote is received shall be determined by the time stamp on the submission receipt by the time clock on the eVA Sourcing and Contracting website. Quotes received after the closing date and time ***will not be considered***.

10. VRE is not responsible for any technical difficulties which may result in Quoters’ responses not uploading in time, or responses that are not properly uploaded. Late Quotes will not be accepted.

C. AWARD

A Blanket Purchase Order will be awarded by VRE based on the lowest total price quoted.

D. VRE POINT OF CONTACT (POC)

VRE’s Manager of Warehouse and Inventory Control will be the point of contact following award of a Purchase Order.

3. GENERAL CONDITIONS FOR QUOTERS

A. BRAND NAME OR EQUAL

1. Unless otherwise provided in the solicitation, or unless the name is followed by words indicating that no substitution is permitted, the reference to a certain brand name, make, model number, or manufacturer does not restrict the Quoter to the specific brand, make, model number or manufacturer identified. The specific references to a brand are not intended to be restrictive of other products, rather to be descriptive, and convey the salient characteristics of function, performance, design requirements and quality of the item described. Any item which VRE, at its sole discretion, determines to be the equal to that which is specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the process intended, will be accepted.

2. Whenever in the Scope of Work or specifications one or more items, trade names, or part numbers of specific manufacturers are mentioned, it is for the intent of establishing a basis of quality and durability, and though the term “or approved equal” may not be inserted, it is implied.

3. A Quoter quoting "equal" products will be considered for award if such products are clearly identified and are determined by VRE to be equal in performance and all material respects to the brand name products referenced.

4. If submitting a Quote for proposed “equal products”, the Quoter must provide the manufacturer, brand or trade name, and part/catalog number of the item offered.

B. DESCRIPTIVE LITERATURE

1. The Quoter shall clearly and specifically identify the product being offered in **ATTACHMENT 1 – QUOTE FORM** even if quoting the exact brand name, make or manufacturer specified.

2. The Quoter shall provide sufficient descriptive literature, technical detail, etc. only if the product being offered is other than what is specified herein, to enable VRE to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the solicitation. At a minimum, any offered product not specified in the RFQ should be represented by the manufacturer’s specifications.

3. Descriptive literature is not required if offering the exact brand, make or manufacturer specified. Only the descriptive literature furnished with the Quote shall be considered in the evaluation.

4. By submission of a Quote, the Quoter certifies that the items offered meet or exceed the specifications described herein.

4. SCOPE OF WORK

A. PURPOSE

The Contractor shall deliver railcar and locomotive air brake hoses on an as-needed basis. The issuance of a Blanket Purchase Order shall be based on the lowest total price quoted in **ATTACHMENT 1 – QUOTE FORM**, provided the Quoter is both responsive and responsible.

B. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The Contractor shall adhere to all applicable requirements of the current edition of the following:

   a. 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 229, Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards

   b. 49 CFR 238, Passenger Equipment Safety Standards

   c. Association of American Railroads (AAR) Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment Specifications

2. All air brake hoses and gaskets must be manufactured in a facility that maintains a current AAR M-1003 certification as a Manufacturer of Brake Hoses.

3. All air brake hose assemblies must be assembled in a facility that maintains a current AAR M-1003 certification as a Brake Hose Assembler.

4. The AAR Field Manual of Interchange Codes is available at https://www.aar.org/.

C. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS AND SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS

The Contractor shall provide the following to VRE on an as-needed basis:

1. Railcar Gladhand Gasket: Strato Part No. G324, New York Air Brake Part No. 739882, or approved equal
   a. AAR Specification M-602, Gaskets, Air Hose

2. Locomotive Hose Assembly, Main Reservoir: Strato Part No. S275209, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA778991, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 1-1/8”
   b. Overall Length 35.50”
   c. 1” Male Pipe Fitting End
   d. 1” Male Pipe Fitting by LP Gladhand
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

3. Railcar Hose Assembly, Tread Brake Unit to Air Line: Strato Part No. S275685, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA778644-0135, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID ½”
   b. Overall Length 13”
   c. ½” Male Pipe Fitting End
   d. ½” Male Pipe Fitting End

e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

4. Railcar Hose Assembly, Truck to Carbody: Strato Part No. S6187494, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA778947-0327, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 7/8”
   b. Overall Length 32.8”
   c. ¾” M Swivel Fitting
   d. ¾” Male Pipe Fitting End
   e. ¾” Male Pipe Fitting End
   f. AAR Specification M-618. Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   g. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

5. Railcar Intermediate Hose: Strato Part No. LTH058, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA779308-0305, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 1-3/8”
   b. Overall Length 30.5”
   c. 1-1/4” Male Pipe Fitting End
   d. 1-1/4” Male Pipe Fitting End
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

6. Locomotive Air Hose, Gladhand Locomotive Hose Assembly: Strato Part No. S275217, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA779248-0360, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 5/8”
   b. Overall Length 36-1/8”
   c. ½” Male Pipe Fitting End +15 degrees HP Gladhand
   d. ½” Male Pipe Fitting End
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

7. Railcar Standard Trainline Air Brake Hose Assembly: Strato Part No. S6012422CW, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA705880, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 1-3/8”
   b. Overall Length 26-3/4”
   c. 15-degree offset F style Gladhand End
   d. 1.25” Male Pipe Fitting End
   e. AAR Specification M-601, Hose, Wrapped, Air-Brake, “End Hose”

8. Railcar Hose Assembly, MR: Strato Part No. S275378, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA778992-0280, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 1-1/4”
   b. Overall Length 28”
   c. 1” Male Pipe Fitting End
   d. L Series Gladhand End
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

9. Locomotive Hose Assembly, Main Reservoir Equalizer: Strato Part No. S275587, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA779778-0324, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 7/8”
   b. Overall Length 32.38”
   c. 1” Male Pipe Fitting End
   d. 1” Male Pipe Fitting End
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

10. Locomotive Brake Cylinder Hose: Strato Part No. S275916, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA779071-0305, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 7/8”
   b. Overall Length 30.38”
   c. ¾” NPTF Male Pipe Crimped Fitting End
   d. ¾” NPTF Male Pipe Crimped Fitting End
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

11. Locomotive Hose Assembly with Gladhand Main Reservoir: Strato Part No. S275178, New York Air Brake Part No. NYA778992-0280, or approved equal
   a. Hose ID 1-1/4”
   b. Overall Length 28”
   c. 1” Male Pipe Fitting End, SBCF16-20
   d. LP415E Gladhand with Gasket
   e. AAR Specification M-618, Hose, Air, Wire-Reinforced
   f. AAR Specification M-927, Hose Fittings and Hose Assemblies, Air, Wire-Reinforced

D. SHIPPING AND DELIVERY

1. The Contractor shall ship parts within fifteen (15) consecutive calendar days of an order being placed by VRE against the Blanket Purchase Order. Partial shipments will be accepted.

2. Deliveries shall be made by the Contractor to VRE between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (excluding Federal Observed Holidays), to the following location:

   VRE Crossroads Maintenance and Storage Facility
   9400 Crossroads Parkway
   Fredericksburg, VA 22408

3. Any delay in the shipping schedule shall be submitted to VRE in writing for approval.

4. With each shipment to VRE, the Contractor shall include documentation listing the individual part or model numbers and quantity.

5. Shipments shall be FOB Destination. Therefore, the Contractor is responsible for the cost of shipping and any damage incurred in shipping is the sole responsibility of the Contractor.

5. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. TERM

1. The Blanket Purchase Order shall be valid for VRE Fiscal Year 2027, ending June 30, 2027.

2. A formal Blanket Purchase Order will not be provided to the Contractor by VRE; however, the Contractor will be notified by VRE in writing if selected following the receipt of Quotes.

3. The selected Contractor will subsequently receive individual Purchase Orders from VRE when each order is placed during the Fiscal Year.

B. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The Contractor shall comply with **ATTACHMENT 2 – VRE GENERAL PROVISIONS,** as applicable to the Scope of Work.

C. QUOTE ACCEPTANCE PERIOD

The Quote and any modification thereof shall be binding upon the Quoter for ninety (90) consecutive calendar days following the Quote closing date. Any Quote in which the Quoter shortens the acceptance period shall be rejected, although the acceptance period may be extended by mutual agreement between VRE and the Quoter. At the end of the Quote acceptance period, the Quoter may withdraw its Quote by giving written notice to VRE.

D. SIGNATURES

All documents requiring a signature may be executed via handwritten (manual) stamped, electronic (portable document format), photocopied, digital or scanned signature. A signed copy of the documents transmitted by any of the means listed above shall be deemed to have the same legal effect as an original executed copy.

E. QUALITY ASSURANCE

Any part which fails to meet the requirements of the Scope of Work or technical specifications shall be subject to rejection by VRE.

F. NEW MATERIALS

Unless noted otherwise, the Contractor shall furnish all parts in accordance with the Scope of Work and/or technical specifications and said parts shall meet the requirements of the Scope of Work, plans, drawings and/or specifications for the kind of applications involving their use. Only quality parts, which are generally accepted in the industry, and which conform to the requirements of the Scope of Work, plans, drawings and/or specifications, shall be provided by the Contractor.

G. SUBSTITUTIONS

1. The Purchase Order is based on the parts, materials, equipment and methods described herein that will allow for compliance with all Federal, State, and Local rules and regulations. No substitutions or cancellations shall be permitted without the written approval of VRE. VRE will consider requests for substitutions of parts, materials, equipment and methods only when such requests are accompanied by full and complete technical data and all other information required to evaluate the proposed substitution.

2. The Contractor shall not substitute parts, materials, equipment or methods unless VRE has specifically approved such substitutions in writing. Substitutions, if approved, shall be without any additional compensation from VRE, unless approved otherwise.

H. WARRANTY OF MATERIALS AND WORKMANSHIP

1. The Contractor shall warrant all labor and parts provided by the Contractor pursuant to the Scope of Work and/or technical specifications for a period of one (1) year. The Contractor, at no expense to VRE, shall correct all defects covered by this guarantee.

2. If any portion of the work performed or parts provided by the Contractor proves to be defective within the warranty period, the Contractor will be notified by VRE. Upon receipt of such notification, the Contractor shall immediately furnish VRE with instructions for the disposition of the defective part(s).

3. Within ten (10) business days from notification of the warranty claim by VRE, the Contractor shall deliver replacement parts. Prior written authorization is required from VRE for completions exceeding ten (10) business days.

4. Any material or labor applied by the Contractor to correct warranted defects shall be warranted for one (1) additional year from the date of delivery.

5. All defective parts returned to and by the Contractor for repair or replacement shall be shipped at the Contractor's sole expense.

6. The Contractor shall supply a failure analysis for any warranty failure, unless the requirement is waived in writing by VRE.

6. Repetitive failure (i.e., three (3) failures during the warranty period) of any part that was repaired by the Contractor shall be considered a breach. VRE may, at its sole discretion, have the repairs made by another party, with no further notice to the Contractor, and the Contractor shall be fully liable to pay for all such third-party work.

6. INSURANCE

A. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. The Contractor shall secure, pay the premiums for and keep in force until the expiration of the Purchase Order, and any renewal thereof, adequate insurance as identified in the "VRE Insurance Coverage Requirements" document. Items marked "X" are required to be provided. By signing and submitting a Quote under this solicitation, the Contractor certifies if issued a Purchase Order, the Contractor will have the insurance coverage identified and described below in the VRE Insurance Coverage Requirements at the time of the issuance of a Purchase Order.

2. All required insurance coverage must be acquired from insurers that are authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of Virginia, with a rating of "A-" or better and a financial size of "Class VII" or better in the latest edition of the A.M. Best Co. Guides.

3. The Contractor shall furnish VRE proof of compliance with these insurance requirements in the form of an original Certificate of Insurance signed by an authorized representative or agent of the insurance company(ies). The Certificates of Insurance must be furnished within three (3) calendar days of the request from VRE and before any work under the Purchase Order will be allowed to commence.

4. Failure to provide the Certificate(s) when required may be cause for VRE to issue a Purchase Order to the next responsive and responsible Quoter. However, in no event shall work be performed until the required Certificate(s) of Insurance have been furnished and approved by VRE.

5. If the Contractor is furnished a written notice of cancellation from the insurance carrier, the Contractor shall provide VRE a copy of the cancellation notice within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the notification.

6. In no event shall the failure by VRE to receive Certificates of Insurance required hereunder, or to receive them by the date(s) required hereunder, be construed as a waiver of the Contractor's obligation to obtain the required insurance coverages. Failure by VRE to demand any Certificate of Insurance or other evidence of full compliance with the insurance requirements set forth herein, or failure by VRE to identify a deficiency in the evidence provided, shall not be construed as a waiver of the obligation to procure or maintain the insurance required hereunder. The acceptance of shipments by VRE of any Certificate of Insurance does not constitute approval or agreement that the insurance requirements have been met or that the insurance policies identified in the Certificates of Insurance are in compliance with such requirements.

B. VRE INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS

"X" denotes that coverage is required. **Applicability**	**Description**	**Coverage**
X	1. Workers' Compensation and Employer's Liability	Limits as required by the Workers' Compensation Act of Virginia. Employers Liability - $1,000,000
	Admitted in Virginia	YES
	All States Endorsement	Statutory
	USL&H Endorsement	Statutory
	Voluntary Compensation	Statutory
X	2. General Liability, which shall be Commercial General Liability endorsed as broad form to include the following minimum limits: • General Aggregate • Products & Completed Operations Aggregate • Personal & Advertising Injury • Each Occurrence	 $2,000,000 $2,000,000 $1,000,000 $1,000,000
X	Contractual Liability	
X	Personal Injury	
X	Independent Contractors	
	XCU Property Damage Exclusion Deleted	
	3. Automobile Liability (Coverage sufficient to cover all vehicles owned, used, or hired by the Contractor, its agents, representatives, or employees.) Minimum limits: • Combined Single Limit • Medical Expense Limit	 $1,000,000 $ 5,000
	4. Professional Errors and Omissions	$1,000,000
	5. Builder's Risk	Purchase Order Value
	6. Installation Floater	Purchase Order Value
	7. Garage Liability	
	8. Garage Keeper's Legal Liability	
	9. Fire Legal Liability	
	10. Railroad Protective Liability Insurance. **VRE shall be named as insured. The language shall read as follows:** "Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, together known as the Virginia Railway Express."	$5,000,000 per occurrence; $10,000,000 aggregate
	11. Railroad Protective Liability Insurance. A second policy shall name the host railroad as insured. Furnish a copy of the policy to VRE, prior to entry on VRE property or any other railroad property upon which VRE operates.	$5,000,000 per occurrence; $10,000,000 aggregate
	12. Pollution Liability.	Purchase Order Value
X	13. VRE shall be named as **additional insured** on the General Liability Policy. This coverage is primary to all other coverage VRE may possess. **The language shall read as follows:** "Northern Virginia Transportation Commission and the Potomac and Rappahannock Transportation Commission, together known as Virginia Railway Express."	
X	14. Best's Guide Rating – A:VI or better or Equivalent	
X	15. The Certification must state the Request for Quotes Number and Title	
X	16. Umbrella Liability	$5,000,000

7. INVOICES

A. INVOICES

1. Invoices shall be submitted by the Contractor for goods ordered, delivered, and accepted by VRE.

2. The Contractor shall submit invoices by electronic mail to mechanicalinvoices@vre.org.

3. At a minimum, invoices shall contain the following information:

   a. Name, address and telephone number of the Contractor

   b. Remit to address

   c. VRE Purchase Order Number

   d. Invoice number

   e. Invoice date

   f. Item description, unit price, and quantity

   g. Total invoice amount

4. If invoices fail to meet all of the above requirements, they will not be processed for payment and will result in the invoice being returned to the Contractor for correction and resubmission. VRE may request additional substantiating documentation as necessary.

B. PAYMENT

Payment will be made upon receipt and acceptance of goods and services by VRE.

8. ATTACHMENTS

The following documents are incorporated in this Request for Quotes and the resulting Purchase Order by this reference.

A. Attachment 1 – Quote Form

B. Attachment 2 – VRE General Provisions