

# COMMENT AND REVIEW to the REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) #091423 Entitled

## Furniture Solutions with Related Accessories and Services

The following advertisement was placed July 27, 2023 in USA Today, in South Carolina's The State, and on the Sourcewell website <u>www.sourcewell-mn.gov</u>, Sourcewell Procurement Portal <u>https://proportal.sourcewell-mn.gov</u>, Biddingo, Merx, The New York State Contract Reporter <u>www.nyscr.ny.gov</u>, July 28, 2023 in Oregon's Daily Journal of Commerce, and July 27 and August 3, 2023 in The Oklahoman:

Sourcewell, a State of Minnesota local government unit and service cooperative, is requesting proposals for Furniture Solutions with Related Accessories and Services to result in a contracting solution for use by its Participating Entities. Sourcewell Participating Entities include thousands of governmental, higher education, K-12 education, nonprofit, tribal government, and other public agencies located in the United States and Canada. A full copy of the Request for Proposals can be found on the Sourcewell Procurement Portal [https://proportal.sourcewell-mn.gov]. Only proposals submitted through the Sourcewell Procurement Portal will be considered. Proposals are due no later than September 14, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. Central Time, and late proposals will not be considered.

The solicitation process was conducted through the Sourcewell Procurement Portal. The following parties expressed interest in the solicitation by registering for this opportunity within the portal:

| 9to5 Seating, LLC                          | Lesro Industries, Inc.                   |
|--|--|
| Academia Furniture Industries              | Lunar Contracting                        |
| Affordable Interior Systems, Inc.          | MeTEOR Education, LLC                    |
| Agati, Inc.                                | MiEN Company, Inc.                       |
| ALLSEATING CORPORATION                     | MillerKnoll, Inc.                        |
| AmTab Manufacturing Corporation            | National Business Furniture, LLC         |
| Appalachian University Systems dba Smarter | NDI Office Furniture, LLC                |
| Furnishings                                |  |
| Arconas Corporation                        | NDI Office Furniture, LLC dba WorkSimpli |
| Artopex, Inc.                              | Nightingale Corp.                        |
| Atmosphere Commercial Interiors            | Norix Group, Inc.                        |
| B&L Distributors, Inc.                     | NPS Public Furniture Corp. dba National  |
|  | Public Seating                           |

| Campio Furniture, Ltd.                                | OFS Brands, Inc.                   |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Capitol Seating                                       | Orbus, LLC dba Orbus Holdco        |
| Catalyst Group Consulting                             | Palmer Hamilton, LLC               |
| Central Indiana Educational Service Center            | Paragon Furniture, Inc.            |
| Claflin Service Company                               | Parameters                         |
| Claridge Products and Equipment, Inc.                 | Performance Health Supply, Inc.    |
| Commercial Furniture Group, Inc.                      | Periscope Holdings, Inc.           |
| CORT Business Services Corporation                    | Pineapple Contracts, Inc.          |
| Dakota Properties, Ltd.                               | Primeway, Inc.                     |
| Demco, Inc.   | PRO3 Designs, LLC                  |
| DSI Industries, Inc. dba OFGO STUDIO                  | PWXPress                           |
| Earlychildhood, LLC                                   | Real Time Networks, Inc.           |
| Ecologic Industries, LLC                              | Really Good Stuff, LLC             |
| Educan Institutional Furniture, Ltd.                  | Regina Construction Association    |
| Elite Workspace Solutions                             | Rifz Textiles, Inc.                |
| Evans Consoles, Incorporated                          | Rising Ventures Group, LLC         |
| Everest Expedition, LLC, dba The Worden Company       | Sauder Manufacturing Co.           |
| Evosite, Inc.   | Scandinavian Spaces                |
| Exemplis, LLC   | School Outfitters, LLC             |
| Fellowes, Inc.  | School Specialty, LLC              |
| Forms and Surfaces, Inc.                              | School's In, LLC                   |
| Global Equipment Company, Inc.                        | Secured Site Services              |
| Global Industries, Inc.                               | Sedia Systems, Inc.                |
| Global Total Office                                   | Senator International, Inc.        |
| Gressco, LTD  | SICO America, Inc.                 |
| Hackney Home Furnishings, Inc. dba: Hackney Furniture | Smiota, Inc.                       |
| Haskell Office, LLC                                   | Spacesaver Corporation             |
| Haworth, Inc.   | Special-T, LLC                     |
| Hertz Furniture Systems, LLC                          | Specseats International Corp.      |
| Humanscale Corporation                                | Stance Healthcare, Inc.            |
| iTAD Solutions  | Staples Contract & Commercial, LLC |
| JB-Global Canada, Inc.                                | Steelcase, Inc.                    |
| John Savoy & Son, Inc.                                | Stevens Industries, Inc.           |
| Kimball International Brands, Inc.                    | Teknion, LLC                       |
| Krueger International, Inc.                           | Transformations by Wieland, Inc.   |
| Lakeshore Learning Materials                          | VARI Sales Corporation             |
| LaserCAM Fabrication                                  | Whitney Bros. Co., LLC             |
| Learning Environments, LLC                            | Workrite Ergonomics, LLC           |

All Proposals remained sealed within the Sourcewell Procurement Portal until the scheduled due date and time. Proposals were electronically opened, and the list of all Proposers was made publicly available on the Sourcewell Procurement Portal, on September 14, 2023, at 4:32:52 pm CT. Proposals were received from the following:

9to5 Seating, LLC Agati, Inc.

ALLSEATING CORPORATION AmTab Manufacturing Corporation Appalachian University Systems dba Smarter Furnishings Arconas Corporation Artopex, Inc. **Capitol Seating** Commercial Furniture Group, Inc. **CORT Business Services Corporation** Demco, Inc. DSI Industries, Inc. dba OFGO STUDIO Ecologic Industries, LLC Evans Consoles, Incorporated Fellowes, Inc. Forms and Surfaces, Inc. Global Industries, Inc. Haworth, Inc. Hertz Furniture Systems, LLC Humanscale Corporation Krueger International, Inc. Lakeshore Learning Materials Learning Environments, LLC Lesro Industries, Inc. **MeTEOR Education, LLC** National Business Furniture, LLC NDI Office Furniture, LLC dba WorkSimpli Norix Group, Inc. NPS Public Furniture Corp. dba National Public Seating OFS Brands, Inc. Orbus, LLC dba Orbus Holdco Palmer Hamilton, LLC Paragon Furniture, Inc. Pineapple Contracts, Inc. Primeway, Inc. School's In, LLC Sedia Systems, Inc. SICO America, Inc. Smiota, Inc. Staples Contract & Commercial, LLC Steelcase, Inc. Teknion, LLC Transformations by Wieland, Inc.

VARI Sales Corporation

Proposals were reviewed by the Proposal Evaluation Committee:

Greg Grunig, MS, Procurement Lead Analyst Ginger Line, MPA, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, Procurement Analyst Carol Jackson, Procurement Analyst

#### Craig West, Procurement Analyst

#### The findings of the Proposal Evaluation Committee are summarized as follows:

The Proposal Evaluation Committee applied the Sourcewell RFP evaluation criteria and determined that the products and services offered in the proposal response from Simota, Inc., fall outside of the Requested Equipment, Products, or Services of the RFP. All other proposals were found to meet the scope and mandatory submittal requirements and were evaluated.

AmTab Manufacturing Corporation offers a solid mix of furniture styles and options. Their sales force and certified dealers cover all the United States and Canada. AmTab is a certified minority owned small business. They offer Sourcewell participating entities a competitive discount off standard pricing, which includes delivery and installation.

CORT Business Services Corporation provides furniture rental solutions in both the workplace and residential space along with project management to assist space requirements, design, installation and other services. They have over one-hundred offices, showrooms, and clearance centers that will allow them to provide quality sales and service to Sourcewell participating entities located in the United States. Their robust e-procurement system allows the customer to easily order the rental furniture they need. CORT Business Services Corporation offers a competitive discount on their entire product offering.

Fellowes, Inc. provides modular walls, panel systems, desks, storage, tables, ergonomic solutions, seating, air purifiers, and workspace accessories. Their sales representatives and dealers will provide sales and service to all Sourcewell participating entities in the United States and Canada. Fellowes, Inc. is offering a strong discount off their list price.

Haworth, Inc. is offering seating, tables, workstations, systems, desking, lounge furniture, lighting, accessories, and technology tools. Their Organic Workspace approach is designed to embrace changes and allows them to furnish virtually every area of a facility, including outdoor areas. Haworth also manufactures modular walls to provide an architectural element that integrates with other Haworth products. Their extensive network of dealers covers the United States and Canada. Haworth offers competitive pricing and a strong warranty to Sourcewell participating entities.

Krueger International, Inc. provides furniture for schools, workplace, healthcare, and government facilities. They offer a product line that includes seating, tables, architectural walls, pods, workspace systems, files, storage, and casegoods. Their robust dealer network, sales personnel, service representatives, nine showrooms, and six manufacturing locations allow them to provide products to all Sourcewell participating entities in the United States and Canada. Krueger International, Inc. is offering a solid discount off their list pricing.

Lakeshore Learning Materials offers a large mix of elementary school furniture and products. Lakeshore offers complimentary 3-D classroom layouts for complete classroom orders. With their sales force and authorized dealers, they cover the entire United States and Canada. They offer a competitive discount off MSRP pricing to Sourcewell participating entities.

OFS Brands Inc., a designer and manufacturer of furniture, brings the brands OFS and Carolina. They're a familyowned, community-driven company providing a large breadth of socially responsible furniture and logistics solutions. Their sales representatives cover the entire United States and Canada along with a large, overlapping

dealer network. OFS pricing includes a substantial discount to Sourcewell participating entities, and they provide a strong warranty.

Palmer Hamilton, LLC focuses on innovative furniture products and services in the educational and dining environments. Partnering with RESPAWN, they also offer solutions for e-sports teams and clubs in K-12 and higher education. Their sales representatives cover the United States along with a large dealer network across the United States and Canada. Palmer Hamilton provides the best possible pricing to Sourcewell participating entities, including freight and a strong discount. Their comprehensive warranty covers all products, parts, and labor.

SICO America, Inc. provides long-lasting mobile folding products such as, seating, cafeteria tables, folding tables, classroom tables, and banquet tables. The SICO Strut eliminates the heavy lifting required to fold tables and is warranted for the lifetime of their tables. Their sales and service employees, and authorized dealers will provide their products to all Sourcewell participating entities in the United States and Canada. SICO America, Inc. is providing a significant discount off their list pricing.

Staples Contract & Commercial, LLC is a national distributor and reseller offering over 735,000 furniture items that are stocked and ready for quick ship. They have over 550 account managers to serve Sourcewell participating entities throughout the United States. Staples also offers next-day delivery in over 98% of the United States. They are offering a solid discount off list pricing.

Steelcase Inc. offers a comprehensive portfolio of products and services including furniture systems, seating, storage, fixed and height-adjustable desks, benches, tables, and complimentary accessories. They also have 770 locations throughout North America to serve the needs of Sourcewell participating entities. They are offering a competitive discount by product category.

Teknion, LLC offers a complete catalog of furniture products, including desks, tables, panels, storage, casegoods, and ergonomic furniture. Their salespeople and dealers service and sell to all of Canada and the United States. Teknion, LLC offers a strong warranty to Sourcewell participating entities and a competitive discount off standard pricing.

For these reasons, the Sourcewell Proposal Evaluation Committee recommends award of Sourcewell Contract #091423 to:

| AmTab Manufacturing Corporation    | #091423-AMTAB |
|------------------------------------|---------------|
| CORT Business Services Corporation | #091423-COR   |
| Fellowes, Inc.                     | #091423-FELL  |
| Haworth, Inc.                      | #091423-HAWRT |
| Krueger International, Inc.        | #091423-KII   |
| Lakeshore Learning Materials       | #091423-LSH   |
| OFS Brands, Inc.                   | #091423-OFS   |
| Palmer Hamilton, LLC               | #091423-PHL   |
| SICO America, Inc.                 | #091423-SICO  |
| Staples Contract & Commercial, LLC | #091423-SCC   |
| Steelcase, Inc.                    | #091423-STI   |
| Teknion, LLC                       | #091423-TKN   |

The preceding recommendations were approved on November 14, 2023.

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Greg Grunig, MS, Procurement Lead Analyst

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Ginger Line 851994C8DEB1414...

Ginger Line, MPA, NIGP-CPP, CPPB, Procurement Analyst

DocuSigned by: Carol Jackson 6EE63AEDED5F46E...

Carol Jackson, Procurement Analyst

DocuSigned by Craig West 7F41572C858B4BA...

Craig West, Procurement Analyst

#### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

As Chief Procurement Officer for Sourcewell, I have reviewed the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee and the accompanying support materials documenting the process followed for **RFP #091423** for **Furniture Solutions with Related Accessories and Services**.

The committee accepted, deemed responsive, evaluated, and recommended proposals for award. Under authority granted to the Chief Procurement Officer in Sourcewell's bylaws, the recommendations set forth above are approved.

I hereby certify:

1. Sourcewell is a government agency, created and authorized by Minnesota law to provide cooperative procurement contracts.

2. The procurement process and resulting contracts have been awarded in compliance with the laws of the State of Minnesota (Minnesota Statutes Chapter 471 and Minnesota Statutes Section 123A.21), and in conformity to Sourcewell's Procurement Policy.

DocuSigned by: Jeremy Schwartz C0FD2A139D06489...

Jeremy Schwartz, CSSBB, CPPO, NIGP-CPP Sourcewell Chief Procurement Officer