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Joint Action on Harmonised Products 2021 - GA n. JA2021-07

Circular Saws

Call for Tenders for the testing of circular saws

Date of publication of the Official Call: 02 February 2023.

Summary of questions received and answers provided (to date - 08.02.2023).

(Rounds of answers - 1st publish 03.02.2023; 2nd publish 08.02.2023)

Ref.	Date	Question	Answer
1	02.02.2023	Appendix 4 asks “A precise account of the tenderer’s experience of testing transportable pressure equipment during the last 5 years”. Maybe this should read “woodworking machinery”.	<u>Version 2</u> of the Appendix 4 - Checklist has been published on the PROSAFE website with the suggested amendment. The new file will also be circulated via email to all potential candidates.
2	02.02.2023	Appendix 3 - Price list will be hard to fill in. Calculations are not usually done by the subclause. Clauses will be lumped together, e.g., by dividing it in electrical safety (construction), electrical safety (tests), mechanical safety (also construction and tests), noise & vibration, functional safety. There is a lot of guesswork in it when the product is unknown. As per the complexity of the equipment, costs can be 100% higher or 50% lower.	Tenderers are asked to quote a price for a complete check against the specifications of the relevant harmonized standard. However, the final test programme may be limited to the most safety critical tests. That is why the call for tender requires tenderers to split the tests according to set of tested requirements and indicate a price for each. It is understood that such prices will be estimates and that when reaching the contractual phase, they might need to be rediscussed with the bidders that made the best value for money as long as the initial tender conditions are not altered. If bidders have difficulties in splitting these costs according to our set of test requirements, then they may propose alternative pricing presentation as long as this is well motivated and explained. If the price may vary significantly depending on the type of machinery, the range of variation may be indicated.
3	02.02.2023	Item 9 a) of the Call for Tenders states that 30% of the 70% weighting factor is about the relevance and quality of the proposed test programmes. However, we will use harmonized C-type EN standards, so there is no variation in testing programmes. What are you going to evaluate here?	While the basis of the test programme is indeed the same for all tenderers, the way it is presented in the tender is an indication of the tenderer’s mastery of the relevant harmonised standards and their understanding of the needs of the market surveillance authorities. Additionally, we evaluate the team composition in terms of qualifications and experience, the ability to secure the presented team’s availability during the test programme, the wealth of experience testing similar products in the past 5 years, the delivery time of the test programme which allows for

			economies of time in our EU-funded project.
4	06.02.2023	Do the test centres also receive the necessary documentation according to the Machinery Directive for testing the type?	The test laboratory will receive the manufacturer's instructions for the machinery (according to Section 7.4 of Annex I of the Machinery Directive) and the EC Declaration of conformity (according to Article 7.1 and Annex II.A of the Directive), since these documents must accompany the product. On the other hand, as a general rule, the test laboratory will not receive the technical file (according to Annex VII of the Machinery Directive), since the relevant elements of the technical are usually obtained by the market surveillance authorities only during the follow-up phase, after the completion of the testing.
5	06.02.2023	Is it possible to apply only to test Building site saws (EN ISO 19085-1 and EN ISO 19085-10)?	The call for tender is not split into lots and thus the laboratories that would qualify would be able to test all the three types of saws listed under Section 2.b.4.: mini handheld circular saws, transportable table saws, building saws. In terms of volume, the laboratories do not need have the capacity to test all units and we could contract more than one laboratory to undertake the testing - Section 1.