
REQUEST FOR BID
5,000 LB Diesel Straight Mast Forklift
South Dakota Science and Technology Authority
SDSTA Purchase Agreement# 29856
March 26,2026

The South Dakota Science and Technology Authority (SDSTA) is seeking bids for one 5,000-pound lift capacity, diesel straight mast warehouse forklift to be used at the Sanford Underground Research Facility (SURF). **This announcement is open to all businesses regardless of size.** Quotes from small businesses are strongly encouraged. Documents included in this Request for Bid include:

- A. This Request for Bid
- B. Draft Purchase Order Agreement

1.0 Background

SDSTA is a quasi-governmental agency established by the State of South Dakota to operate and manage SURF at the former Homestake Gold mine in Lead, SD. This facility has been rehabilitated and developed to support a variety of scientific experiments, including physics, biology, geology, and others.

SDSTA is seeking proposals for one new 5,000 LB diesel straight mast forklift. They will be used primarily on smooth concrete on the surface and underground. The general equipment specifications are as follows.

2.0 Equipment Specifications

- 2.1 Rated Operating Capacity: 5,000 LBS
- 2.2 Fuel Type: Diesel
- 2.3 Engine: Tier 4 FINAL
- 2.4 Transmission: Automatic
- 2.5 Steering: Load Sensing with Adjustable Column
- 2.6 Brakes: Oil Cooled Disc Brakes
- 2.7 Tires: Non-marking Solid Pneumatic
- 2.8 Operating Specifics:
 - 2.8.1 Mast: 3-stage with Full Free Lift
 - 2.8.2 Maximum Fork Lift Height: 189 Inches
 - 2.8.3 Tilt: 6 Degrees Forward and Backwards
 - 2.8.4 Carriage: 40" ITA Hook Type with 48" High Load Backrest
 - 2.8.5 Tines: 48 Inches Class II
 - 2.8.6 Inching Pedal
- 2.9 Overall Maximum Machine Width: 54 Inches
- 2.10 Overall Maximum Machine Height: 150 Inches
- 2.11 Safety:
 - 2.11.1 Seatbelt
 - 2.11.2 Operator Sensing System (Neutral Start Safety Switch)
 - 2.11.3 Seat: Adjustable Full Suspension

- 2.11.4 Beacon
- 2.11.5 Mast Interlock: Lift, Lower and Tilt
- 2.11.6 Mirrors: Rearview, Left and Right Side
- 2.11.7 Back Up Alarm
- 2.11.8 LED Lights
- 2.12 Standard Warranty

3.0 SDSTA Additional Requirements

- 3.1 PDF Manuals: Operation, Service and Parts
- 3.2 Inbound Freight to SURF Lead, SD 57754 by May 15, 2026.

4.0 Schedule

The product specifications outlined in the Scope section are to be met upon award of the purchase order agreement. The delivery schedule for the product is negotiable and flexible to accommodate the vendor's availability. The proposed timeline for bidding process is as follows:

RFB PostedMarch 26, 2026
RFB Responses Due 2pm MTApril 8, 2026
Purchase Order Agreement Issued (Estimate)April 15, 2026

5.0 Bid Elements

The bid in response to this RFB must contain the following:

- 5.1 Proposal referencing RFB# 29856 for one new 5,000 LB straight mast forklift.
- 5.2 Include machine make and model (s), and verify they conform to the scope or document any deviations.

6.0 Bid Requirements

- 6.1 Proposers should submit an electronic copy of the bid in PDF format to Eva M. Omdahl at eomdahl@sanfordlab.org.
- 6.2 Questions must be sent in writing by email to Eva M. Omdahl eomdahl@sanfordlab.org. Answers will be emailed to all prospective proposers and posted to the sanfordlab.org website.
- 6.3 The bid period may be extended at the discretion of the SDSTA. Any notices of extension of time to respond will be distributed to all prospective proposers.
- 6.4 All communications regarding this procurement between RFB release and purchase order agreement award shall be directed to Eva M. Omdahl. Communications with other SDSTA staff regarding this procurement in advance of the award are not allowed.

7.0 Selection Process

The SDSTA will review all submitted bids for adherence to this request's requirements and capabilities and select the firm providing, Lowest Cost – Technically Acceptable bid.