

UAT MS555 Assignment 6

Zombie-Proof Silo

Project Vendor Plan

Vendor Selection

US Appliance

Providing: Appliances and Electronics

WBS Items: 1.1.1.1.1, 1.1.3.2.3

Justification: This vendor has a high BBB rating and a very wide selection of kitchen appliances available both in package deals and as single items, making it very easy for us to find the items we need and at a reasonable price. This vendor also offers free freight shipping on orders of a minimum size.

National Hospitality Supply

Providing: Kitchen, Bathroom, and Bedroom Supplies

WBS Items: 1.1.1.4.1 – 1.1.1.4.5, 1.1.2.4.1 – 1.1.2.4.2, 1.1.3.2.1 – 1.1.3.2.2, 1.1.4.2.1 – 1.1.4.2.2

Justification: This vendor is a leading supplier for hotels and restaurants with a huge selection of everything ranging from furniture to textiles to flatware. Their prices are extremely reasonable, as is their shipping and return policy. Using a single supplier with a vast selection should make finding the supplies we need a very straightforward process. They also have a very high BBB rating and many positive reviews.

Electric Generators Direct

Providing: Diesel Backup Generators

WBS Items: 3.3.1

Justification: This vendor offers a wide variety of electric generators ranging from small once in a while generators to full-system industrial backup generators. They have a great BBB rating and also offer bulk order discounts and free shipping to most addresses.

Wholesale Solar

Providing: Solar Panels and Accessories

WBS Items: 3.3.1

Justification: This vendor offers everything required to create a fully-functional solar power system of any size, all from one location. They have a fairly good BBB rating, and their site offers a full range of products and many tools, such as for calculating the required surface area of a solar power system, battery backup system size, etc.

Tilapia Depot

Providing: Live Fish and Fish Food

WBS Items: 3.5.3

Justification: This vendor offers exclusively offers a variety of tilapia and tilapia-related products, making them a great source for what we need. They also offer a warranty on fish lost during transit, sending extra fish on the assumption that there will be some loss and offering money back in the case that the total number of fish is less than the ordered amount.

Global Aquaculture Supply

Providing: Aquaculture System Supplies

WBS Items: 3.5.1

Justification: This vendor offers everything needed to set up a full, self-sustaining aquaculture system from tanks to pumps to filters. Having a vendor that knows all the required components of a full aquaculture system will ensure that we don't miss something necessary to keep our tilapia self-sustaining.

Hydrobuilder

Providing: Hydroponic System Supplies

WBS Items: 3.4.1

Justification: This vendor offers everything needed to set up a full hydroponics system, including the plumbing required, liquid nutrients, and UV grow lights. They also offer commercial accounts with wholesale pricing, volume discounts, and system design assistance, so we can both save money and avoid common pitfalls.

Gro 'n Sell

Providing: Hydroponic System Plants

WBS Items: 3.4.3

Justification: This vendor offers a large variety of vegetable and herb starter plants and is focused on delivering bulk plants to commercial growers.

US Air Purifiers

Providing: Air Filtration System

WBS Items: 3.2.1

Justification: This vendor offers a large selection of both personal and industrial use air purifiers, air scrubbers, and fume extractors. This vendor also offers free shipping on all commercial orders as well as a strong guarantee on all products.

The Wholesale Cabinet Supply Company

Providing: Kitchen and Bathroom Cabinetry

WBS Items: 1.1.1.2.1, 1.1.2.1.1, 1.1.2.2.1

Justification: This vendor offers many types and finishes of cabinetry, both custom and prefabricated. They also offer a professional support service that provides special discounts, design assistance, and extended service and warranties to purchases.

American Carpet Wholesalers

Providing: Flooring Materials

WBS Items: 1.1.1.3.1, 1.1.2.3.1, 1.1.3.1.1, 1.1.4.1.1

Justification: This vendor offers a wide variety of carpet, laminate, and wood flooring and could supply any of the flooring materials we need for this project.

Amazon

Providing: Miscellaneous Bug-Out Bag Supplies

WBS Items: 2.1.1 – 2.1.4, 2.1.6

Justification: Amazon has almost everything, and none of the items in our bug-out bags are especially abnormal enough that they wouldn't be available from the largest online retailer.

Rugged Maps

Providing: Custom Per-Customer Maps

WBS Items: 2.1.5

Justification: This vendor provides custom-made, fabric maps that are waterproof and tear resistant. There are few other suppliers of ruggedized topographical maps, and this one is seemingly the least shady.

Vendor Plan

The primary aspect of this vendor plan is to find a reliable building contractor local to the area that the silo is located so that we can use their existing industry connections to find reliable plumbers, electricians, flooring installers, and other professionals. This main contractor will be fundamentally engaged with our project plan from the very start, and will be both contractually and monetarily incentivized to hire the appropriate quality and quantity of subcontractors to complete the project on time. The main contractor's contract will necessarily lay forth the budget considerations and limits, and enumerate tiered rewards and consequences for project completion inside or outside of the allotted budget. The contract will also lay out schedule limitations and rewards/consequences similar in a fashion to the those of the budget. Hopefully this contract will ensure that our main building contractor does their best to hire and manage quality subcontractors to keep the project on track.

In preparation for the case that the project budget or schedule begins to slip, a clear and straightforward agreement will be put in place between the project team, main building contractor, and all subcontractors whether they be individuals or companies. This written agreement will detail the weekly correspondence from the project management team that will be sent to the representative of all involved parties, which will include a current snapshot of the schedule and budget as well as select notes on upcoming work, including any dependencies on current work. This agreement will also detail how, if the budget or schedule begin to slip, the relevant representatives from all appropriate parties will be gathered (either via live meeting or conference call) to hash out a solution to rectify the slippage.

The second aspect of this vendor plan is to rely on quality wholesale or commercial suppliers for building materials and supplies for our project. Suppliers specializing in wholesale and commercial sales should have processes in place to easily source and deliver product in the quantity and timeframe that we need for this project, and will likely have industry standard warranty and return policies. Using these suppliers should also reduce the overall project cost by allowing us to secure bulk discounts and savings on freight delivery from a single location.

References

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