SouthWest Transit

RFB Title: SouthWest Transit Bus Wash
RFB Number: RFB# 26-0002
RFB Q&A #01
RFB Q&A Issue Date:05-20-2026

Q1: Standard frame construction material for the heavy-duty wash industry is either hot-dipped galvanized steel or aluminum. Specifying stainless steel construction for components other than the chemical arch and RO arch creates an uncompetitive bid condition for companies that build with galvanized steel. The cost of stainless steel and the specialty welding required make stainless steel construction expensive and uncompetitive with aluminum. Galvanized steel holds up very well in wash bays, and many of our galvanized steel wash systems are still in service after 20 years. Fabricating with standard materials provides you with a competitive bid with quality equipment built to last. Will the authority accept galvanized steel construction for non-chemical/RO arches in addition to aluminum and stainless?

A: The authority will not accept hot-dipped galvanized steel construction for non-chemical/RO arches in addition to aluminum and stainless.

Approved materials- Aluminum or Stainless Steel

Q2: The specs call for the final rinse arch manifold, which will be spraying RO water, to be galvanized sch 40 pipe. The industry standard is to use only stainless-steel manifolds for any RO rinse, as RO water will degrade and shorten their lifespan. Using galvanized manifolds will increase the amount of zinc in wastewater discharge, resulting in non-compliance with the wastewater treatment authority. We strongly recommend changing the spec to stainless steel for the RO final rinse manifold, supporting braces, and any other structural components of the RO rinse arch.

A: Stainless steel for the RO final rinse manifold, supporting braces, and any other structural components of the RO rinse arch.