#### OSCE Conference

# Best practice in public tendering, a view from the private sector





Thomas Fritz, 05th November 2009

# The ILF Group

General Presentation



#### ■ About the speaker

- · Name: Thomas FRITZ
- Education: Master of Arts in Business Administration
- · Company: ILF Consulting Engineers, Innsbruck (Austria)
- Position in firm: Business Development and Marketing Director
- Years of experience: 10
- Key Expertise:
  - Tender strategies for international infrastructure projects
  - International procurement and financing
  - Procurement rules and conditions of contracts
  - Marketing and communications
- Contact: thomas.fritz@ilf.com



**General Presentation** 



#### ■ About the company

- · Founded by Mr. P. Lässer in 1967 in Innsbruck, Austria
- In 1969 Mr. A. Feizlmayr joined the company, which became "Ingenieurgemeinschaft Lässer-Feizlmayr" (ILF), second office in Munich, Germany
- Initially, design and supervision services for oil & gas pipelines
- Scope of activities and expertise gradually broadened; expansion into new markets abroad (Saudi Arabia, Nigeria...)
- Today, ILF is a leading international, multidisciplinary engineering and consulting firm (100% privately owned)
- 1,600 employees: Head offices in Innsbruck (Austria) and Munich (Germany), and more than 30 branch offices and subsidiaries worldwide; turnover 2008: EUR 166 millions
- Provision of interdisciplinary engineering and management services for complex industrial and infrastructure projects





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General Presentation

#### ■ Clients and partners

- Private organizations such as major oil and gas companies, project developers, EPC contractors, construction companies
- Public administrations and bodies on a multinational, national, provincial and community level
- International / multilateral financial institutions such as World Bank, ADB, EBRD, EIB, KfW, EU, etc.







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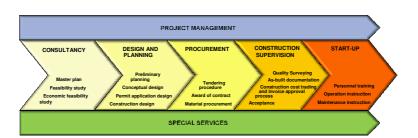


**General Presentation** 



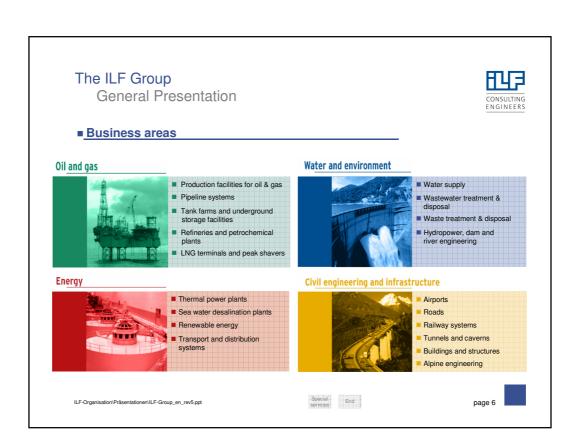
#### ■ Services

- Consultancy
- · Design and planning
- Procurement
- · Construction supervision
- Start-up
- Project management
- · Special services



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Best Practice in Public Tendering



#### ■ Recent international traffic infrastructure projects

- · Irmak-Karabük-Zonguldak Railway Line, Turkey
- · Vidin Sofia Railway Line, Bulgaria
- · Kalambaka Ioannina Railway Line, Greece
- · Havelian Khunjrab Railway Link, Pakistan
- · Georgia Armenia Iran Rail Link, Feasibility Study
- · Pan-European Corridor X and regional roads in Macedonia
- D1-3 Motorway Hricovske Podhradie Dubna Skala, Slovak Republic
- PPP Motorway Moscow St. Petersburg and Moscow Minsk, Bussia
- · Metro Warsaw Line II, Poland
- · London Underground The Crossrail Project, UK
- ...

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# CONSULTING

#### ■ ILF's different roles in public tendering procedures

- Preparation of procurement strategies for public and private clients as well as IFIs (International Financial Institutions)
- Preparation of tender documents for works and services for public and private clients as well as IFIs
- Evaluation of offers for works and services for public and private clients as well as IFIs
- Independent evaluation for tender procedures for IFIs and local "Project Implementation Units"
- Evaluation of tender procedures for lenders (banks, insurances, etc.)
- · Active participation in service tender procedures
- · Active participation in EPC tenders as member of EPC consortia





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#### ■ Basic principles for public tendering

- Transparency and integrity during the tendering, evaluation and award process
- Fairness towards and equal treatment of participating companies
- Competitive bidding selection of "best" offer
- Best value for money
- · Logical framework of procurement process
- Feedback to participating companies
- · Preparation of high quality tender documents





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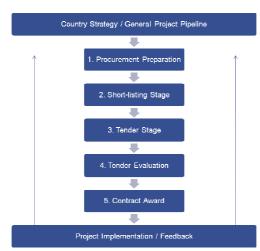
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## ■ Standard procurement process



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## Best Practice in Public Tendering



#### ■ 1. Procurement Preparation

**Action:** Preparation of procurement strategy

- · Definition of procurement lots/packages (works, services, etc.)
- · Definition of main procurement goals (quality vs. quantity) and time frame
- Selection of procurement methods (open vs. restricted procedures)
- Definition of "bidders" (internat. vs. local, small vs. big consortia)
- Information strategy (national vs. international gazettes)
- · Definition of evaluation and award procedures
- · Maybe: Publication of a General Procurement Notice, Contract Forecast

Outcome: Procurement strategy incl. all documents

- ✓ In accordance with local procurement laws / regulations
- ✓ External experts may assist in procurement preparation
- ✓ Contact between tendering agency and companies is possible





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#### ■ 2. Short-listing Stage (for restricted procedures)

Action: Call for "Expression of interest"

- · Clear definition of project scope and budget (if possible)
- Definition and publication of "short-listing" criteria (easy to verify, YES/NO)
- Definition of "knock-out criteria" and "selection criteria" (challenging but not unreachable, i.e. no restriction to competition)
- Use of standard forms/templates (EC, World Bank, etc.)
- · Clear definition of planned procurement schedule
- Evaluation of "Expressions of interest" and publication of short-list

#### Outcome: Short-list of companies

- ✓ Feedback to non-successful companies
- ✓ Enough time to prepare "Expression of interest" (min. 20-30 days)
- ✓ Strict confidentiality during evaluation of "Expressions of interest"
- ✓ No informal contact between tendering agency and companies

CONSULTING
ENGINEERS

Procurement Preparation
 Short-Islang Stage
 Tender Stage

Tender Evaluation
 S. Contract Award

Project Implementation / Feedback

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#### ■ 3. Tender Stage

Action: Invitation of short-listed bidders to submit offers

- Clear definition and publication of award criteria (technical and financial)
- Important award criteria should be methodology and key staff (technical)
- · Ask for references and proofs (but achievable for bidders)
- · Questions from bidders (incl. deadlines)
- · Site-visit / information meeting
- · Use of "two envelope" system (technical & financial)

Outcome: Receipt of bids / tenders

- ✓ External partners should assist in preparation of tender documents
- ✓ Enough time for offer preparation (depending on type of work)
- ✓ No informal contact between tendering agency and bidders
- ✓ Bidders should include bid bonds to ensure their bid validity



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#### ■ 4. Tender Evaluation

**Action:** Evaluation of bids

- · Evaluation of submitted offers using defined criteria
- Use of expert committee with various members (from agency)
- · Use of independent evaluators (from external partners)
- · Presentations and interviews with key staff
- · Detailed evaluation of technical bids (quality) and evaluation report
- · Use of pre-defined evaluation grid

**Outcome:** Selection of preferred bidder

- ✓ Detailed feedback to non-successful bidders
- ✓ Financial offer only to be opened after technical evaluation is finished
- ✓ Strict confidentiality during evaluation of tenders
- ✓ No contact between tendering agency and bidders





Evaluator A 100 Evaluator B 100	55	88	
Evaluator B 100			84
	60	84	82
Evaluator C 100	59	82	90
Tetal 3(0)	174	254	256
Average score (nucleonatical average)	1747 = 58.00	2543 = <b>\$4.6</b> 7	2563 = 85
Technical score (actual final score/highest final score)	Eliminated*	84.67/85.33 x 100 = 99.22	100.04



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#### ■ 5. Contract Award

#### Action: Contract negotiations

- Contract draft should already be included in tender documents
- · Use of standard contracts (FIDIC, etc.)
- Negotiation meetings with preferred bidder to sign contract
- If change in contract is necessary, issue amendments (keep original contract untouched)

#### **Outcome:** Signed contract

- ✓ Price changes only in combination with changes in scope
- After contract signature: publication of award of the contract
- √ The evaluation reports are for internal use only and are not to be handed out to bidders or third parties





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# ■ Main problems during public tender procedures

- Missing definitions of evaluation and award procedures and of "bidders" in Stage 1 lead to wrong expectations of potential bidders and/or to pre-selection of bidders
- Requirements for companies and/or key staff too excessive; lead to unnecessary limitation of potential bidders and exclusion of qualified competitors
- Missing definition of detailed project scope, budget, requirements for foreign bidders as well as unclear criteria in Stage 2 lead to application of unqualified / uninterested firms
- Low quality of tender documents in Stage 3 lead to non-comparable offers
- Unspecific responses to technical inquiries in Stage 3 cause lack of accuracy
- Unspecific award criteria in Stage 3 lead to non-transparent and subjective evaluation processes which can be appealed by non-successful bidders
- Long evaluation procedures in Stage 4 lead to unavailability of key staff and
- Missing detailed feedback after Stage 2+4 leads to frustration which might influence potential bidders to not participate in future tenders







Best Practice in Public Tendering



#### ■ Additional information / sources

· European Commission: Practical Guide to contract procedures for EC external actions

work/procedures/implementation/practical\_guide/index\_en.htm

· EBRD: Procurement policies and rules

- · KfW: Guidelines for the Cooperation with Developing Countries
- · World Bank: Guidelines Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits

http://go.worldbank.org/RPHUY0RFI0

· ADB: Procurement Guidelines

· EIB: EIB Guide for Procurement http://www.eib.org/attachments/thematic/guide procurement services en.pdf















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# The ILF Group Thank you for your attention!

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