

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**National Institute of Corrections****Solicitation for a Cooperative Agreement**

SUMMARY: The Department of Justice (DOJ), National Institute of Corrections (NIC), announces the availability of funds in FY 1999 for a cooperative agreement to fund the "Development of Management Information Systems to Support Prison Classification" project.

A cooperative agreement is a form of assistance relationship where the National Institute of Corrections is substantially involved during the performance of the award. An award is made to an organization that will, in concert with the Institute, provide assistance to correctional agencies making enhancements in their management information systems to provide data for analysis and improve the operation of the classification systems. No funds are transferred to state or local governments.

The Institute's Prisons Division will provide financial assistance in the form of a cooperative agreement to facilitate the development of a resource manual that will provide information for state correctional agencies to use in assessing their management information systems related to the essential and desirable elements that will enhance the analysis and operation of the classification system; provide descriptive information on MIS systems in 8 to 12 states that have developed leading classification and MIS systems, including advancements toward integrated justice information systems; tools, such as checklists, for agencies to use in conducting self-assessments; and resources that are available for funding produced in compliance with publication guidelines included in the application packet.

Assistance will be provided under this cooperative agreement to 6 to 8 agencies requesting technical assistance in assessing their management information systems pertaining to classification decision-making and in the operation of their classification systems. The recipient of the cooperative agreement will conduct onsite assessments of the information management and classification systems at participating agencies; provide assistance and oversight in revising the management information system and, as necessary, the classification instruments and operations; and provide technical assistance and training during implementation. Prison systems selected for participation will have the

resources necessary to make management information system enhancements to provide data for classification system analysis and ensure the capacity to measure outcomes and impacts of the classifications systems implemented. A steering committee will be appointed by each agency to coordinate activities related to the project.

Background

Most state corrections systems use objective classification to assign inmates to appropriate prisons, and some have internal classification systems to guide housing, work, and program assignments. However, many systems lack the reliable data needed to fully assess and redesign their classification systems to adapt to increased demands and a changing environment. Management of offender data is a critical issue for every correctional agency's overall operations. With advances in the use of automated computer systems to manage data, management information system (MIS systems) have become a necessary component for prison management.

Classification systems need to become an integral part of the department's MIS system and the hub for the information system design. Data generated through the automated classification system can provide correctional managers with accurate, timely, and relevant information to plan and manage the offender population; better utilize resources; and assess risks and needs. Automation will reduce errors in scoring offenders for custody or security level and improve the system's ability to monitor the housing of offenders according to the classification system. It will also allow evaluations to be conducted on a regular basis to increase the system's performance.

Classification systems should to be monitored and periodically evaluated. This is done to ensure the system is working as designated. Classification systems should also be validated to determine what impact the system has had on inmate operations and overall performance. Automation of the classification system is required to conduct evaluations efficiently. Furthermore, there are operational issues in the daily management of offenders and the classification process that also depend on automation of classification data. These issues include: transfers and bed space management, housing decisions within facilities, disciplinary actions, scheduling and documenting classification reviews, calculating release and eligibility dates, and much more.

Planning for automation is an on-going process that should incorporate incremental improvements to increase the system's utility through innovative technological changes. These improvements should include integration of information within the agency to operate more effectively and eliminate redundancy. Improvements must also anticipate the need to plan for the automation to involve the integration of criminal justice information with other agencies.

Currently, the NIC Prisons Division through the NIC Information Center is conducting a survey of prison MIS systems to assess the MIS capabilities in correctional agencies. Survey questions are directed to issues that relate to prison classification systems. The results of the survey will be published later this year. This survey will provide information to guide the work under this project by identifying correctional agencies that have developed MIS systems that enhance the classification process, as well as correctional agencies that have the potential to benefit from technical assistance and/or resource material developed through this funding.

NIC has announced the availability of technical assistance through the annual Program Plan and will send letters to agency directors advising them that their agencies can apply for assistance through this project. A selection of states will be made by MIC and the cooperative agreement awardee. The selections will be based on criteria that will be established to find correctional agencies with the interest, need and resources for this type of assistance.

Purpose

The National Institute of Corrections is seeking applications for a cooperative agreement to do the project management to assist correctional agencies making enhancements in their management information systems to provide data for analysis of classification systems and improving the operation of the classification system; develop a resource manual that will guide agencies through planning and assessment of their MIS systems; and produce advancements in the development of comprehensive classification systems.

Authority: Public Law 93-415.

Funds Available

The award will be limited to a maximum total of \$75,000 (direct and indirect costs) and project activity must be completed within 12 months of the date of the award. Funds may only be used for the activities that are linked to the desired outcomes of the project.

This project will be a collaborative venture with the NIC Prisons Division.

All products from this funding effort will be in public domain and available to interested agencies through the National Institute of Corrections.

Deadline for Receipt of Applications

Applications must be postmarked by Friday July 30, 1999. They should be addressed to: National Institute of Corrections, 320 First Street, N.W., Room 5007, Washington, D.C. 20534, Attention: Administrative Officer. Hand delivered applications can be brought to 500 First Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20534. The front desk will call Bobbi Tinsley at (202) 307-3106, extension 0 for pickup.

ADDRESSES AND FURTHER INFORMATION: Requests for the application kit, which will include the survey form, should be directed to Judy Evens, Cooperative Agreement Control Office, National Institute of Corrections, 320 First Street, N.W., Room 5007, Washington, D.C. 20534 or by calling (800) 995-6423, extension 159 or (202) 307-3106, extension 159. She can also be contacted by E-mail via jevans@bop.gov. All technical and/or programmatic questions concerning this announcement should be directed to Sammie D. Brown at the above address or by calling (800) 995-6423, or (202) 307-3106, extension 126, or by E-mail via sbrown@bop.gov. Information may also be obtained through the NIC website: <http://www.nicic.org>.

Eligible Applicants: An eligible applicant is any private or non-profit organization, institution, or individual.

Review Considerations: Applications received under this announcement will be subjected to an NIC three to five member Peer Review Process.

Number of Awards: One (1).

NIC Applications Number: 99P10. This number should appear as a reference line in the cover letter and also in box 11 of Standard Form 424.

Executive Order 12372

This program is subject to the provisions of Executive Order 12372. Executive Order 12372 allows States the option of setting up a system for reviewing applications from within their States for assistance under certain Federal programs. Applicants (other than Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments) should contact their State Single Point of Contact (SPOC), a list of which is included in the application kit, along with further instructions on proposed projects serving more than one State.

The Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number is: 16.603.

Morris L. Thigpen,

Director, National Institute of Corrections.

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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

[TA-W-34,634A]

Gould Electronics, Inc. Now Known as Ga-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc. Circuit Protection Group El Paso, TX; Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2273) the U.S. Department of Labor issued an Amended Certification of Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on September 17, 1998 applicable to all workers of Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on September 28, 1998 (63 FR 51607).

At the request of the State agency, the Department reviewed the amended certification for workers of the subject firm. The workers are engaged in the production of electrical fuses. New information shows that Ga-Tek, Inc. is the parent firm of Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas and is "now known as GA-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group", El Paso, Texas. The company reports that some workers separated from employment at Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group had their wages reported under a separate unemployment insurance (UI) tax account for Ga-Tek, Inc., now known as Ga-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas.

Accordingly, the Department is amending the certification determination to correctly identify the new title name to read "Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, now known as Ga-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, now known as Ga-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas who were adversely affected by increased imports of electrical fuses.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-34,634A is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, now known as Ga-Tek, Inc./Gould Electronics, Inc., Circuit Protection Group, El Paso, Texas who became totally or partially separated from employment on or after June 12, 1997 through July 7, 2000 are eligible to apply for adjustment assistance under Section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974.

Signed at Washington, DC this 3rd day of June, 1999.

Grant D. Beale,

Acting Director, Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance.

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BILLING CODE 4510-30-M

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Ithaca Industries, Incorporated; TA-W-35,525B, Vidalia, Georgia; TA-W-35,525C, Swainsboro, GA Amended Certification Regarding Eligibility To Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance

In accordance with section 223 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 USC 2273) the Department of Labor issued a Certification of Eligibility to Apply for Worker Adjustment Assistance on April 12, 1999, applicable to workers of Ithaca Industries, Inc., Vidalia, Georgia. The notice was published in the **Federal Register** on May 21, 1999 (64 FR 27811).

At the request of a company official, the Department reviewed the certification for workers of the subject firm. The workers are engaged in the production of ladies and men's undergarments, and provides raw materials, distribution center and apparel management center. New information shows that worker separations will occur at Ithaca's Swainsboro, Georgia facility when it closes in July, 1999. The workers are engaged in the production of men's and boys' undergarments. Based on these new findings, the Department is amending the certification to cover workers at the Swainsboro, Georgia facility.

The intent of the Department's certification is to include all workers of Ithaca Industries, Inc. adversely affected by increased imports.

The amended notice applicable to TA-W-35,525 is hereby issued as follows:

All workers of Ithaca Industries, Inc., Vidalia, Georgia (TA-W-35,525B), and Swainsboro, Georgia (TA-W-35,525C) who