

### Question and answers

Date Received	Question	Date Answered	Answer
10.01.2025	<p>1) Are you able to accept two separate bids from a supplier?</p> <p>(Submission A) and a bid of the ex-demo system (Submission B) so that you can consider both options?</p> <p>2) Secondly, how fixed is your 'deliver not later than – 28<sup>th</sup> February'? Typical lead times for ED-XRF systems is 10 -12 from PO at best, therefore delivery before end-Feb may be an issue.</p>	15.01.25	<p>1) We would be happy to accept a bid for an ex demo model and a bid for a new model</p> <p>2) We now understand that delivery is not going to be possible for 28<sup>th</sup> February as lead times are 10-12 weeks. As close to this date as possible would be required.</p>
16.01.25	<p><b>Point 3.1.7. "The desirables items are Polarised ED"</b></p> <p><b>Could you please clarify if this question will be considered as fail if we do not provide it?</b></p>	23.01.25	<p><b><u>Revised answer 23.01.25</u></b></p> <p>Apologies for any confusion, we had originally written the tender for Polarised and reverted this, leading to some crossed wires when this question was answered"</p> <p><b>Please only refer to the following updated response:</b> As we have specified, Polarised ED has been selected as desirable, and not essential. Therefore, this will not be issued as a pass/fail answer and will be marked accordingly to its perceived benefits for our upcoming applications. While it</p>

	<p>"A complete pellet press sample prep kit"</p> <p><b>Could you please clarify what should be included in this pellet press sample prep kit?</b></p> <p>We assume a manual press, pellet cups and binder, but please clarify if there is a particular type of binder that must be supplied</p> <p><b>Point 3.1.8.</b> While a carousel functionality with a minimum of 10 sample spaces is available within Bruker, is the tender open to recommended alternatives? due to the mixed requirement of powders, pellets, liquids or bulk materials, this sample handler is typically not recommended. An XY autochanger with 22 positions would allow uninterrupted sample handling and loading of various sample types, without the risk of loose powder or liquid samples being placed under vacuum, as there is with carousel systems.</p>	16.01.25	<p>is not immediately essential for us to operate with polarised excitation, we have identified that the flexibility and extra sensitivity gained for certain elements will likely be beneficial to us in future projects. Thank you for sharing your spectra. As we appreciate all instruments will have differing functionality between comparable excitation routes, any additional accompanying spectra to identify differences in resolution between the two techniques, detection limit data, and details of optimised matrices correction is welcomed in bids, so we can draw specific instrument comparisons, in place of resolutely requesting polarised.</p> <p><b><u>Answer dated 16.01.25 replaced with the response above</u></b></p> <p><i>Yes, we need polarised and NOT Direct for our complicated matrices and mining applications due to the below:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Polarised ED-XRF optics result in minimal backgrounds and higher sensitivity.</i></li> <li><i>Polarised optics improves scatter correction algorithm to optimise the matrix correction for samples containing unmeasurable elements (i.e., H,O,N,C; well suited to geological materials)</i></li> </ul>
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	<p><b>Point 3.1.9.</b> Are there any specific norms that are required to be met? Are these ED-XRF compliant norms such as ASTM D7751 or D4294? or are they referring to radiation regulation compliance?</p>	<p><i>We would like to leave this to the technical specialists' recommendations and send us a list of binders with the general use, so we can be more specific.</i></p> <p>Please explain further on why the sample handler is not typically recommended. As other suppliers' specification documents and calls we have detailed ability to cover these mixed requirements.</p> <p>It seems we should have listed it just as an autosampler and not a carousel - however, if you can only offer a 22-position sampler for our sample types, then in my eyes this still meets requirements and this is what they should bid with.</p> <p>We have been informed of radiation regulation compliance but left this intentionally ambiguous to cover differing instruments. Do you use technical specialists to ensure that any necessary requirements are met regarding their instrument and safety/compliance for use?</p> <p>The two listed are not appropriate for our application.</p>
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