**National Army Museum**

**Brief for the Procurement of Temporary Showcases**

**Overview**

Founded in 1960 by Royal Charter, the National Army Museum was established for the purpose of collecting, preserving, and exhibiting objects and records relating to the history of the Land Forces of the Crown. The Museum is a Executive Non-Departmental Public Body (ENDPB) run by a board of up to 12 Trustees known as the Council of the National Army Museum. The Museum is a Registered Charity and Accredited Museum.

NAM has developed the *Building for the Future (BFTF)* project to act as the principal agent to deliver this new approach to working and its strategic plan.

Set to cost £23.75m, the project is part funded by a Heritage Lottery Fund grant of £11.5m, with the remainder covered by fundraising carried out by the Museum.

The project will see a radical transformation of the Museum’s offer for onsite, audiences.

**NAM’s new offer created through *Building for the Future***

This new proposition will see NAM engaging with audiences onsite, offsite and online. Dynamic public programmes, innovative learning programmes and challenging outreach work will complement a series of innovative thematic new galleries.

**Requirement**

Concurrent with this refurbishment the Museum will be installing a temporary flexible exhibition gallery.

The Museum wishes to purchase 8 demountable showcases for their Temporary Exhibition Gallery.

In all instances, it is essential that the Collection (which is of international significance) is displayed sensitively and aesthetically, and that the showcases must provide the visitor with excellent visual access to the displayed content.

The cases will display a broad range of artefacts, including uniforms, medals, textiles, manuscripts, ethnographic objects, fine and decorative art and military kit. Display cases may contain both organic and non-organic materials, and special attention is drawn to the inclusion of non-deactivated Section Five firearms that will require Home Office approved security.

**Case Specification**

* 8 @ modular demountable showcases approximate 900mm wide x 900mm deep x 2100mm deep;
* Minimum 11.5mm thick, laminated Optiwhite or similar approved non reflective anti-bandit glass;
* Hinged door fitted with two Abloy high security CL291 locks;
* Option to fit contact alarms which should be supplied and fitted to the showcase frame by the showcase manufacturer. Final hardwire connection and subsequent commissioning will be by Clients alarm engineer;
* 18mm ZF-MDF base plinth finished and sealed with 5 coats of minimum Dacrylate (or similar approved) paint. 3mm Dibond panel adhered to front face;
* Fitted with facilities tray for Pro-sorb or similar, accessed through drop down panel in sealed case volume which must be sealable once the tray has been loaded and closed. No access to facilities through main case door. (Note: access provided to display case plinths must not weaken the security of the case);
* Removable glass shelving system with 2 shelves per case;
* DMX Dimmable fibre optic lighting to top with LED projector. The light source should be DMX controllable allowing for external setting from the lighting control system with full 0–100% dimmer control with no colour shift. This external lighting programming will enable the light source to be turned on/off remotely from the lighting controller time clock and also be linked to the track mounted motion detector sensors controlling the light levels according to occupancy of the gallery;
* Power and DMX cable to be brought from FO projectors as required;
* Each case module should have the ability to connect with another like for like to form a larger case or different configurations without internal divisions;
* The provision of connecting rails should be included:

Connecting Rails to join 2 x 900mm square x 2100mm high cases Connecting Rails to join 3 cases 900mm square x 2100mm high

Connecting Rails to join 4 x 900mm square x 2100mm high cases;

* Travel crate/transport system for each case to enable safe movement during transit and storage.

Suppliers are requested to provide in Excel format the following information:

* Proposed equipment prices including any delivery costs
* Expected delivery date
* Warrantee periods
* Warrantee start dates

The schedule must be emailed to the address provided by the tender closing date in order to be considered in the submission assessment process.

On successful appointment, the supplier will be requested to make delivery of the equipment to one of four locations:

* The Museum’s main site at Chelsea
* The Museum’s outstation at Stevenage

Delivery addresses will be confirmed on ordering.

**Tender Returns**

All tenders submissions are to be sent to:

jfoster@nam.ac.uk by 1600hrs 28 February 2016

Subject: TEMPORARY GALLERY SHOWCASE TENDER RETURN

**Marking Criteria**

Tenders will be assessed against the following criteria:

* Price (60%)
* Warrantee period (20%)
* Date of delivery (20%)

Additional consideration will be given to suppliers that are able to secure extended manufacturer warrantee periods or warrantee start dates that coincide with the Museum’s re-opening.