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*In order to compete, is it necessary to be pre-registered on the qualified suppliers list?*

In accordance with Canada's international obligations, once at the beginning of each year Supply and Services Canada publishes a list of the product categories for which only pre-qualified suppliers will be invited to participate. This list is very short and is limited to those products for which the supply process includes elements of complexity in qualification or security. For purchases covered by the GATT Code and free trade, all requests for bids would be the subject of a Notice of Proposed Procurement. In the vast majority of these cases, lists would not be used and all interested suppliers could submit a bid. In order to be aware of the contracts that fall under the GATT Agreement on Government Procurement or under the Free Trade Agreement, suppliers must check *Government Business Opportunities*.

*What will happen to sole sources?*

The GATT Code provides for conditions under which sole source tendering can be considered, so long as it can be demonstrated that such actions are not used to avoid the rules regarding competition or in a manner that would constitute a means of discrimination against foreign suppliers.

These provisions will also apply under the Government Procurement Chapter. They relate to situations such as the protection of proprietary rights, urgent requirements or additional deliveries such as parts replacements. Such contracts will not be the subject of a Notice of Proposed Procurement but their award will be announced within 60 days following the award. The announcement will specify the reason for award as a sole source.

*Will Supply and Services Canada still be able to use source lists and to pre-qualify suppliers?*

The GATT Code and, by extension, the Government Procurement Chapter do not preclude pre-qualification of suppliers. To the extent that such mechanisms are used, however, this must be done in such a way as to avoid discrimination between foreign and domestic suppliers.

*Would U.S. suppliers be subject to the same terms and conditions as Canadian suppliers?*

In accordance with the principle of national treatment, U.S. suppliers of eligible goods covered by the chapter will not be treated any less favourably than Canadian suppliers.