

**AMENDMENT NO. 1
TO
INVITATION FOR BIDS
NO. EXC-8642
(January 24, 2001)**

A potential bidder, by means of facsimile message received at 11:56 a.m. on Monday, January 22, 2001, suggested a change to the text of the format letter of credit for bid which was part of the original Invitation for Bids No. EXC-8642 issued on December 13, 2000. Apart from wording, the suggestion involves a change in character from a straight letter of credit to a standby letter of credit.

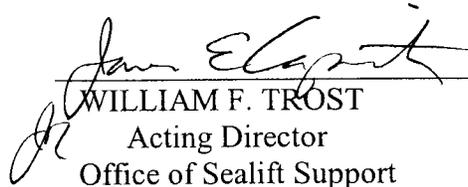
Invitation for Bids No. EXC-8642 specified that bids would be received until, and opened at, 2:30 p.m., Friday, January 26, 2001. The period between receipt of the suggestion and scheduled opening of bids is insufficient to determine whether the suggested change is in the public interest, *i.e.*, whether the pool of bidders would be increased or individual bids would be facilitated through adoption of the suggested change.

**Therefore, Invitation for Bids No. EXC-8642 is hereby
amended by this Amendment No. 1 as follows:**

*Bids will be received until 2:30 p.m., local time, February 15, 2001,
and public opening will be held at that time in the offices of the
Maritime Administration (MARAD), Department of Transportation,
400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, DC, 20590, in Room 7236.*

Otherwise, Invitation for Bids No. EXC-8642 remains in full force and effect as issued originally on December 13, 2000.

Date: January 24, 2001



WILLIAM F. TROST
Acting Director
Office of Sealift Support
Contracting Officer