

MEPNN Supplier Scouting Opportunity Synopsis

Section 1: General Information

Scouting Number	2026-166
Item to be Scouted	BABA: Laminate Shelving
Days to be scouted	14
Response Due By	05/13/2026
Description	Laminate shelving is a wood-based shelf core—usually particleboard or MDF—covered with a durable decorative laminate surface. The laminate layer gives the shelf its color, texture, and scratch resistance, while the core provides

Section 2: Technical Information

Type of supplier being sought	Manufacturer
Reason	BABA
Describe the manufacturing processes (elaborate to provide as much detail as possible)	<p>1-Prepare and Condition the Substrate The particleboard or MDF core must be stable, clean, and ready for lamination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Select substrate thickness (typically 5/8 in, 3/4 in, or 1 in) -Inspect for moisture, warping, or surface defects -Condition panels to factory humidity to prevent later bowing <p>2-Cut Panels to Size Panels are cut to final shelf dimensions before lamination.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use CNC saws or panel saws for accurate sizing -Maintain tight tolerances (±0.5 mm typical) -Label pieces for tracking through production <p>3-Apply Laminate or Melamine Surface The decorative and protective surface is bonded to the substrate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -For TFL (thermally fused laminate): press melamine-impregnated paper onto substrate using heat + pressure -For HPL (high-pressure laminate): apply adhesive, then press laminate sheet onto panel -Ensure uniform pressure to avoid bubbles or weak adhesion <p>4-Trim and Square Edges Excess laminate is removed and edges are cleaned.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Use edge trimmers or CNC routers -Remove overhang cleanly without chipping -Inspect for laminate cracks or voids <p>5-Apply Edge Banding Edges are sealed to protect the core and improve durability.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Apply melamine, PVC, or wood-veneer edge banding -Use hot-melt adhesive or laser-edge technology -Trim and buff edges for a smooth finish <p>6-Drill and Machine Hardware Features Shelves may require holes or grooves for installation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Drill peg holes for adjustable shelving -Cut notches for closet rods or brackets -Rout grooves if part of a modular system
Provide dimensions / size / tolerances / performance specifications for the item	See Attached Specifications and Details on last page.
List required materials needed to make the product, including materials of product components	<p>1. Core Structural Materials (Substrate) These form the internal body of the shelf.</p> <p>A. Particleboard (most common)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Density: 38–48 lb/ft³

- Thickness: 5/8", 3/4", or 1"
- Standard for closets, pantries, and built-ins.
- B. MDF (medium-density fiberboard)
- Denser and smoother than particleboard
- Used for premium shelving or painted edges
- Thickness: 3/4" or 1"
- C. Plywood (optional, higher-end)
- Veneer-core or MDF-core plywood
- Used when strength or moisture resistance is critical

2. Laminate Surface Materials

This is the decorative and protective outer layer.

- A. Melamine-Impregnated Paper (TFL)
- Most common for mass-produced shelving
- Fused directly to the board under heat and pressure
- Available in white, solid colors, and woodgrains
- B. High-Pressure Laminate (HPL)
- Multi-layer kraft paper + resin
- Extremely durable
- Used for heavy-duty or commercial shelving
- C. Decorative Paper Layers
- Printed patterns (woodgrain, solid colors, textures)
- Overlay paper for wear resistance

3. Edge Materials (Edge Banding)

Edges must be sealed to protect the substrate and improve durability.

- A. Melamine Edge Tape
- Cost-effective
- Matches TFL surfaces
- Applied with hot-melt adhesive
- B. PVC Edge Banding
- 0.018"–2 mm thick
- More durable and impact-resistant
- Used for premium shelving
- C. Wood Veneer Edge Banding
- Used for high-end or custom shelving
- Stainable and sandable

4. Adhesives & Bonding Materials

- A. Hot-Melt Adhesive (EVA or PUR)
- Used for edge banding
- PUR offers superior moisture resistance
- B. Contact Adhesive (for HPL)
- Solvent-based or water-based
- Used when laminating HPL to substrate
- C. PVA Wood Glue
- Used for reinforcement blocks or structural joints

5. Hardware & Support Components

- A. Shelf Supports
- Metal pins
- Plastic pins
- Track-and-standard systems
- Cam-lock or dowel connectors (for modular systems)
- B. Fasteners
- Confirmat screws
- Wood screws
- Brackets (L-brackets, angle supports)
- C. Hanging Rod Components (Closet Systems)
- Steel rods
- Rod cups
- Rod brackets

6. Finishing & Surface Protection Materials

- A. Protective Film
- Applied to finished surfaces to prevent scratches during transport

	B. Sealants (optional) -Edge sealers for moisture-prone environments -Clear lacquer for exposed MDF edges
Are there applicable certification requirements?	No
Are there applicable regulations?	No
Are there any other standards, requirements, etc.?	No
Additional Technical Comments	This is for a three story 48 Unit Multifamily apartment over a one-story parking garage.

Section 4: Business Information

Estimated potential business volume	30' linear feet.
Estimated target price / unit cost information (if unavailable explain)	\$1,000.00
When is it needed by?	July 2027
Describe packaging requirements	Laminate shelving requires packaging that protects against edge chipping, surface scratching, moisture intrusion, and bending. The most critical elements are edge protection, interlayer padding, and rigid carton support for long shelves.
Where will this item be shipped?	Blaine Minnesota

Additional Comments

Is there other information you would like to include?	See Attached Specifications & Details on last page.
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