

MEPNN Supplier Scouting Opportunity Synopsis

Section 1: General Information

Scouting Number	2026-170
Item to be Scouted	BABA: Manual Roller Shades
Days to be scouted	14
Response Due By	05/13/2026
Description	Manual roller shades are fabric window coverings that roll up and down around a cylindrical tube. The user operates them with a continuous loop chain, spring-assist mechanism, or pull-down tab. They provide clean lines, excellent light

Section 2: Technical Information

Type of supplier being sought	Manufacturer
Reason	BABA

<p>Describe the manufacturing processes (elaborate to provide as much detail as possible)</p>	<p>1-Prepare and Inspect Shade Fabric Ensure the fabric meets optical, mechanical, and dimensional requirements before cutting. -Unroll fabric on inspection table -Check for defects: weave flaws, coating streaks, color variation -Verify openness factor (for solar screens) and blackout coating integrity -Condition fabric to room humidity to prevent curling</p> <p>2-Cut Fabric to Size Fabric is precision-cut to match the ordered width and drop. -Use automated cutting table or ultrasonic cutter -Add allowances for top attachment and bottom hem bar -Maintain square edges to prevent telescoping during rolling</p> <p>3-Prepare the Roller Tube Cut and prepare the aluminum tube that will carry the fabric. -Cut aluminum tube (1–3 inch diameter) to exact width -Deburr tube ends to prevent damage to clutch or idler -Apply double-sided adhesive tape or spline channel for fabric attachment</p> <p>4-Attach Fabric to Tube Secure the fabric to the roller tube so it rolls evenly and without telescoping. -Align fabric edge perfectly straight along tube -Apply pressure to activate adhesive bond -For spline systems: insert spline into groove to lock fabric</p> <p>5-Install Bottom Rail / Hem Bar Add weight to ensure smooth rolling and fabric tension. -Insert aluminum or steel hem bar into sewn pocket or wrap fabric around bar -Add end caps to prevent fraying -Verify bar weight matches fabric type (blackout vs. solar)</p> <p>6-Assemble Operating Mechanism Install the clutch, chain, or spring mechanism that controls movement. -Insert clutch mechanism into drive end of tube -Install idler plug on opposite end -Attach continuous loop chain (metal or plastic) -For spring shades: preload spring to correct tension</p> <p>7-Install Mounting Brackets Prepare the hardware that will hold the shade in place. -Attach control-side bracket and idler-side bracket -Verify bracket alignment and fit with tube components -Add optional fascia or cassette components if required</p>
<p>Provide dimensions / size / tolerances / performance specifications for the item</p>	<p>See Attached Specifications</p>
<p>List required materials needed to make the product, including materials of product components</p>	<p>1. Shade Fabric (Primary Material) The fabric determines light control, durability, and performance.</p> <p>A. Fabric Types -Blackout fabric (multi-layer, foam-backed or opaque weave) -Light-filtering fabric (woven polyester, linen-look, decorative) -Solar screen fabric (1–10% openness, PVC/polyester blend) -Sheer fabrics (decorative, low opacity)</p> <p>B. Fabric Properties -UV-resistant coatings -Fire-retardant treatment (NFPA 701) -Anti-microbial or stain-resistant coatings -Colorfast dyes -Dimensional stability treatments</p> <p>2. Roller Tube Materials</p> <p>A. Aluminum Roller Tube -Extruded aluminum -Diameters: 1", 1.5", 2", 3"</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Wall thickness: 0.030–0.065 in -Straightness tolerance is critical to prevent fabric telescoping <p>B. Tube Accessories</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Tube adapters -Drive inserts -Idler plugs <p>3. Operating Mechanism Materials</p> <p>A. Chain-Operated System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Continuous loop chain (plastic or stainless steel) -Clutch mechanism (nylon, steel, or zinc components) -Chain tensioner (child-safety requirement) -Idler end (bearing or friction-fit) <p>B. Spring-Assist System</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Internal spring motor -Friction brake -Pull-down tab or handle <p>4. Bottom Rail / Hem Bar Materials</p> <p>A. Hem Bar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Extruded aluminum (most common) -Steel (for heavy blackout fabrics) -Plastic end caps -Optional fabric-wrapped cover <p>B. Hem Bar Inserts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Steel weight strip -PVC insert -Rubber or silicone edge seal (optional) <p>5. Mounting & Hardware Components</p> <p>A. Brackets</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Steel or aluminum -Inside-mount, outside-mount, or ceiling-mount -Powder-coated or plated <p>B. Fasteners</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Screws (zinc-plated or stainless) -Anchors (for drywall) <p>C. Optional Fascia / Cassette</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Aluminum fascia cover -End caps -Snap-on mounting clips <p>6. Adhesives & Attachment Materials</p> <p>A. Fabric-to-Tube Attachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -High-bond double-sided adhesive tape -Hot-melt adhesive (less common) -Mechanical spline (for some commercial systems) <p>B. Hem Bar Attachment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Double-sided tape -Fabric pocket (sewn or heat-sealed) -Plastic or metal end caps
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. See Attached Specification.

Section 4: Business Information

Estimated potential business volume	Estimated 250 Blinds.
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Estimated target price / unit cost information (if unavailable explain)	\$21,250.00
When is it needed by?	July 2027
Describe packaging requirements	Manual roller shades require packaging that protects against tube bending, fabric creasing, clutch damage, and moisture exposure. The most critical elements are end-cap reinforcement, fabric protection, and rigid carton support, especially for wide shades.
Where will this item be shipped?	Blaine Minnesota

Additional Comments

Is there other information you would like to include?	See Attached Specification.
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