Jacket 677-906

TITLE: Annual Anti-Harassment Mailing

		Advantage Mailing LLC Anaheim		Fisher Group		Las Vegas Color Graphics		Monarch Litho		RR Donnelley		Specialty Print Communications	
		040	040-02494 140-32851		270-50580		040-60078		130-28183; 340-25377		120-82022		
DESCRIPTION	BASIS OF AWARD	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST	UNIT RATE	COST
Jacket 677-906	1	1197979.9	\$1,197,979.90	622540	\$622,540.00	1255555	\$1,255,555.00	848848	\$848,848.00	719508	\$719,508.00	1171215	\$1,171,215.00
TOTAL BID PRICE			\$1,197,979.90		\$622,540.00		\$1,255,555.00		\$848,848.00		\$719,508.00		\$1,171,215.00
DISCOUNT		0.5%	\$ 5,989.90	1%		5%	\$ 62,777.75	2%	\$ 16,976.96	NET	\$ -	5%	\$ 58,560.75
DISCOUNTED TOTALS		20 days	\$1,191,990.00	15 days	\$622,540.00	20 days	\$1,192,777.25	20 days	\$831,871.04	30 days	\$719,508.00	21 days	\$1,112,654.25

AWARDED

Reviewed by	y :





November 29, 2022

This is Amendment No. 1 Revision 1. The specifications in our invitation for bids on Jacket 677-906, scheduled for opening at 2:00 p.m., prevailing Seattle, WA, on November 29, 2022, are amended as follows:

Revision one changes:

"Amended bid or acknowledgement must be submitted using the method(s) specified in the solicitation for bid submission. Telephone or email submission is not acceptable."

To:

"Amended bid or acknowledgement must be submitted using the method(s) specified in the solicitation for bid submission. Telephone submission is not acceptable."

And changes:

"If amendment is not acknowledged on bid, direct acknowledgement to:

U.S. Government Publishing Office Northwest Region APS Team bidsseattle@gpo.gov"

To:

"If amendment is not acknowledged on bid, direct acknowledgement to:

U.S. Government Publishing Office Northwest Region APS Team bidsseattle@gpo.gov or

bidsnorthwest@gpo.gov"

- 1. Change the bid opening date to 2:00 p.m., prevailing Seattle, WA time, on November 30, 2022.
- 2. Change the Schedule on page 8 from:

"SCHEDULE: Government Furnished Material and Purchase Order will be available for pickup on or before November 30, 2022.

Proofs will be withheld not more than 2 workdays from receipt by the Government.

Mail as follows:





Approximately 100,000 sets by December 16, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 23, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 30, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by January 7, 2023 Balance (approximately 2,400,000) by January 21, 2023"

To:

"SCHEDULE: Government Furnished Material and Purchase Order will be available for pickup on or before December 1, 2022.

Proofs will be withheld not more than 2 workdays from receipt by the Government.

Mail as follows:

Approximately 100,000 sets by December 16, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 23, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 30, 2022 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by January 7, 2023 Approximately 1,500,000 sets by January 14, 2023 Balance (approximately 2,400,000) by January 21, 2023"

3. Change on page 2 from:

"SUBCONTRACTING: Subcontracting will not be permitted."

To:

"SUBCONTRACTING: The predominant production function is printing. Bidder who must subcontract predominant production function will be declared non-responsible."

All other specifications remain the same.

If amendment is not acknowledged on bid, direct acknowledgement to:

U.S. Government Publishing Office Northwest Region APS Team bidsseattle@gpo.gov or bidsnorthwest@gpo.gov





Amended bid or acknowledgement must be submitted using the method(s) specified in the solicitation for bid submission. Telephone submission is not acceptable.

BIDDER MUST ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS AMENDMENT PRIOR TO BID OPENING. Failure to acknowledge receipt of amendment, by amendment number, prior to bid-opening time, may be reason for bid being declared nonresponsive.

Sincerely,

ROLAND D. WHITEHURST Contracting Officer

Jacket 677-906 Page 1 of 9

Specifications by FB Reviewed by RW

U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLISHING OFFICE

Seattle, Washington

GENERAL TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND SPECIFICATIONS

For the Procurement of

Annual Anti-Harassment Mailing

as requisitioned from the U.S. Government Publishing Office (GPO) by the

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Single Award

BID OPENING: Bids shall be opened at 2:00 P.M., prevailing Seattle, WA, on November 29, 2022 at the U.S. Government Publishing Office, Seattle. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, this will NOT be a public bid opening.

BID SUBMISSION: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the physical office will NOT be open. Based on this, bidders MUST submit email bids to bidsseattle@gpo.gov for this solicitation. No other method of bid submission will be accepted at this time.

The Jacket 677-906 and bid opening date must be specified in the subject line of the emailed bid submission. Bids received after 2:00 P.M., prevailing Seattle, WA time on the bid opening date specified above will not be considered for award.

ADDITIONAL EMAILED BID SUBMISSION PROVISIONS: The Government will not be responsible for any failure attributable to the transmission or receipt of the emailed bid including, but not limited to, the following –

- 1. Illegibility of bid.
- 2. Emails over 75 MB may not be received by GPO due to size limitations for receiving emails.
- 3. The bidder's email provider may have different size limitations for sending email; however, bidders are advised not to exceed GPO's stated limit.
- 4. When the email bid is received by GPO, it will remain unopened until the specified bid opening time. Government personnel will not validate receipt of the emailed bid prior to bid opening. GPO will use the prevailing time (specified as the local time zone) and the exact time that the email is received by GPO's email server as the official time stamp for bid receipt at the specified location.

For information regarding the solicitation requirements *prior to* award, email fbuchko@gpo.gov. For contract administration *after* award, contact Seattle Government Publishing Office at (206)764-3726; infoseattle@gpo.gov.

Jacket 677-906 Page 2 of 9

SECTION 1 - GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

GPO CONTRACT TERMS: Any contract which results from this Invitation for Bid will be subject to the applicable provisions, clauses, and supplemental specifications of GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2, effective December 1, 1987 (Rev. 01-18)) and GPO Contract Terms, Quality Assurance Through Attributes Program for Printing and Binding (GPO Publication 310.1, effective May 1979 (revised 9-19)).

GPO Contract Terms (GPO Publication 310.2) – https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/contractterms2018.pdf

GPO QATAP (GPO Publication 310.1) – https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/qatap-rev-09-19.pdf.

DISPUTES: GPO Publication 310.2, GPO Contract Terms, Contract Clause 5. Disputes, is hereby replaced with the June 2008 clause found at https://www.gpo.gov/docs/default-source/forms-and-standards-files-for-vendors/contractdisputes.pdf.

SUBCONTRACTING: Subcontracting will not be permitted.

QUALITY ASSURANCE LEVELS AND STANDARDS: The following levels and standards shall apply to these specifications:

Product Quality Levels:

- (a) Printing (page related) Attributes -- Level III.
- (b) Finishing (item related) Attributes -- Level III.

Inspection Levels (from ANSI/ASQC Z1.4):

- (a) Non-destructive Tests General Inspection Level I.
- (b) Destructive Tests Special Inspection Level S-2.

Specified Standards: The specified standards for the attributes requiring them shall be:

Attribute Specified Standard

P-7. Type Quality and Uniformity Approved Proof

P-9. Solid and Screen Tint Color Match Government furnished material

P-10. Process Color Match Approved Proof/Government furnished material

PREAWARD SURVEY: In order to determine the responsibility of the prime contractor or any subcontractor, the Government reserves the right to conduct an on-site preaward survey at the contractor's/subcontractor's facility or to require other evidence of technical, production, managerial, financial, and similar abilities to perform, prior to the award of a contract. As part of the financial determination, the contractor in line for award may be required to provide one or more of the following financial documents:

Jacket 677-906 Page 3 of 9

- 1) Most recent profit and loss statement
- 2) Most recent balance sheet
- 3) Statement of cash flows
- 4) Current official bank statement
- 5) Current lines of credit (with amounts available)
- 6) Letter of commitment from paper supplier(s)
- 7) Letter of commitment from any subcontractor

The documents will be reviewed to validate that adequate financial resources are available to perform the contract requirements. Documents submitted will be kept confidential and used only for the determination of responsibility by the Government. Failure to provide the requested information in the time specified by the Government may result in the Contracting Officer not having adequate information to reach an affirmative determination of responsibility.

PAYMENT: Submitting invoices for payment via the GPO fax gateway (if no samples are required) utilizing the GPO barcode coversheet program application is the most efficient method of invoicing. Instruction for using this method can be found at the following web address: http://winapps.access.gpo.gov/fms/vouchers/barcode/instructions.html.

Invoices may also be mailed to: U.S. Government Publishing Office, Office of Financial Management, Attn: Comptroller, Stop: FMCE, Washington, DC 20401.

For more information about the billing process refer to the General Information of the Office of Finance web page located at https://www.gpo.gov/how-to-work-with-us/vendors/how-to-get-paid.

SECURITY CONTROL PLAN: The contractor shall operate and maintain an effective security system whereby materials used to perform the contract are manufactured and/or stored (e.g. while awaiting distribution or disposal) so as to ensure against theft and/or the unauthorized possession of the materials. Contractor is cautioned that Government provided information shall not be used for non-government business. Specifically, Government information shall not be used for the benefit of a third party.

The Government retains the right to conduct on-site security reviews at any time during this contract.

- 1. The plan shall contain at a minimum how government files (data) will be secured to prevent disclosure to a third party prior to and after termination of contract;
- 2. Explain how all accountable materials will be handled throughout all phases of production;
- 3. How the disposal of waste materials will be handled; and,
- 4. How all applicable Government-mandated security/privacy/rules and regulations as cited in this contract shall be adhered to by the contractor and/or subcontractor(s).

Jacket 677-906 Page 4 of 9

SECTION 2.- SPECIFICATIONS

SCOPE: These specifications cover the production of mailing sets requiring such operations as printing and mailing sets including Letter; Envelope with addressing; and Brochure.

Warning: Proper control and handling must be maintained at all times to prevent any information or materials required to produce the product ordered under these specifications from falling into unauthorized hands. Unless otherwise indicated herein, all extra copies, materials, waste, etc., must be destroyed.

TITLE: Annual Anti-Harassment mailing

QUANTITY: 8,500,000 sets + sample sets

(1 set = 1 Letter + 1 Envelope with addressing + 1 Brochure)

TRIM SIZE:

Letter: approximately 7.5" x 11" up to 8.5" x 11" folded to approximately 3.66" x 7.5 up to 8.5" Brochure: approximately 7.5" x 11" up to 8.5" x 11" folded to 3.66" x 7.5 up to 8.5" Envelope: approximately 3-7/8" x 8" up to 4.125" (plus flap) x 9.5" (custom made envelopes are acceptable as long as the VA mail anywhere permit can be used).

GOVERNMENT TO FURNISH: PDF files + Mailing List (either a CSV file or a commadelimited .txt file will be provided) will be emailed or transferred via FTP site after award. Contractor to contact agency after award to arrange transmission of files.

See attached draft files for the letter and brochure (Attachment 1 and Attachment 2). Do not print from draft files. There may be changes to the draft files.

CONTRACTOR TO FURNISH: All materials and operations, other than those listed under "Government to Furnish," necessary to produce the products in accordance with these specifications.

Identification markings such as register marks, ring folios, rubber stamped jacket numbers, commercial identification marks of any kind, etc., including GPO imprint, form number, and revision date, carried on copy or film, must not print on finished product.

ELECTRONIC PREPRESS -- Prior to image processing, the contractor shall perform a basic preflight check of the furnished media and publishing files to assure correct output of the required reproduction image. If any errors, media damage, or data corruption that might interfere with proper file image processing are discovered during inspection by the contractor, work must be discontinued and further instructions should immediately be requested from the contract administrator, see below.

This preflight must identify any problem areas with digital file submission and must include but not be limited to missing or damaged fonts, damaged disks, missing bleeds, improper trim size, and improper color definition. The Contractor is also responsible for creating or altering any necessary trapping, setting proper screen angles and frequency (unless indicated otherwise by the Government), and defining proper file output selection for the imaging device being used. All furnished files must be imaged as necessary to meet the assigned Quality Assurance Through Attributes Program (QATAP) level.

Jacket 677-906 Page 5 of 9

Upon completion of each order, the contractor must furnish final production native application files (digital deliverables) with the furnished material. The digital deliverables must be an exact representation of the final printed product and shall be returned on the same type of storage media as was originally furnished. The Government will not accept, as digital deliverables, PostScript files, Adobe Acrobat Portable Document Format (PDF) files, or any proprietary file formats other than those supplied, unless specified by the Government.

RIGHTS ON DATA: The fonts provided are for use on this contract only. All fonts should be eliminated from contractor's archive immediately after completion of the production run.

PROOFS: Letters and Envelopes: One set of Blue-line Proofs + Brochures: One set of Inkjet Proofs

<u>LETTERS</u> and <u>ENVELOPES</u>: One set blue-line proofs. Proofs must be created using the same Raster Image Processor (RIP) that will be used to produce the product. Proofs shall be collated with all elements in proper position (not pasted up), imaged face and back, trimmed and folded to the finished size of the product, as applicable.

BROCHURES: One set(s) of inkjet proofs that are G7 profiled and use pigment-based inks. A proofing RIP that provides an option for high quality color matching (such as Device Links Technology and/or ICC Profiles Technology), and meets or exceeds industry tolerance to ISO 12647-7 Standard for Graphic Technology (as of 3/19/09, and future amendments) must be utilized plus GRACoL 2006 Coated #1 specifications (CGATS TR006) must be achieved. Output must be a minimum of 720 x 720 dpi on a GRACoL or SWOP certified proofing media. Proofs must contain the following color control strip to be evaluated for accuracy: IDEAlliance ISO 12647-7 Control Strip 2009 or 2013(i1).

Proofs must contain color control bars (such as Brunner, GATF, GRETAG, or RIT) for each color of ink on the sheet. Control bars must be placed parallel to the press's ink rollers and must show areas consisting of minimum 1/8 x 1/8" solid color patches; tint patches of 25, 50 and 75%; dot gain scale; and gray balance patches for process color (if applicable). These areas must be repeated consecutively across the sheet.

The make and model number of the proofing system utilized shall be furnished with the proofs. These proofs must contain all elements, be in press configuration, and indicate margins. Proofs will be used for color match on press.

STOCK/PAPER: The specifications of all paper furnished must be in accordance with those listed herein or listed for the corresponding JCP Code numbers in the "Government Paper Specification Standards No. 13" dated September 2019.

Color of paper furnished shall be of a uniform shade and a close match by visual inspection of the JCP and/or attached color sample(s). The Contracting Officer reserves the right to reject shipments of any order printed on paper the color of which, in his opinion, materially differs from that of the color sample(s).

Letter: White Uncoated Text, basis weight: 50 or 60 lbs. per 500 sheets, 25 x 38", equal to JCP Code A60.

Brochure: White No. 1 Silk/Dull-Coated Text, basis weight: 70 or 80 lbs. per 500 sheets, 25 x 38", equal to JCP Code A261.

Envelope: White Writing Envelope, basis weight: 20-24 lbs. per 500 sheets, 17 x 22", equal to JCP Code V20. Open side, side seams or suitable, with regular gummed flap. Inside security tint.

Jacket 677-906 Page 6 of 9

DESCRIPTION: At contractor's option, product may be produced via conventional offset or digital printing provided that Quality Level 3 standards are maintained. Final output must be a minimum of 150 line screen.

One set = 3 items (Letter + Brochure + Envelope)

- 1. Standard Letter with no personalization. Double-sided static letter, printed in a black ink on 60 lb white offset. Fold to 3.66" x 8.5" using 2-parallel wrap-around folds. Fold parallel to grain. Cracking on the folds will not be acceptable and may result in rejection.
- 2. Tri-fold Color Brochure. 2-page brochure, printed in full color, full-bleed, on 70 lb or 80 lb dull coated text. Fold to 3.66" x 8.5" using 2 parallel wrap-around folds with title panel out. Fold parallel to grain. Cracking on the folds will not be acceptable and may result in rejection.
- 3. Non-window Envelope imaged with the name and address of recipient. #10 non-window envelope with an inside security tint.

The name and address that is printed on the outside of the envelope is PII (Personally Identifiable Information).

Personalization in black on the envelope. Envelope also prints return address with VA Seal. The return address and permit pre-printed in the blue (Pantone 541). Must be imaged directly on the envelope using laser imaging or high quality ink jet imaging (minimum 240 x 240 dpi). Personalization approximately 3-4 lines and a barcode of variable data at the address section. Image must be clear and sharp, appropriate to space, and must be in compliance with all Postal Service regulations for address standardization and must meet the Postal Service regulations for clear areas and the tap test. Addresses must be in all caps without punctuation. Contractor is responsible for any file conversions to meet these requirements. Contractor must check this prior to any production of the pieces.

Assembly: Collate one of each item to create a set and mail. Place item 1: Letter and item 2: Brochure into item 3 Envelope; seal; and mail per mailing list file (either a CSV file or a comma-delimited .txt file will be provided). Outer envelopes must be securely sealed after items are inserted. Contractor must use a method of sealing such that envelopes are securely sealed at the time of sealing. Methods that rely on the pressure of the other envelopes to seal the bond are not acceptable. Envelopes must be securely sealed when entered into the mail stream and must not open until opened by the recipient.

Contractor to mail approximately 8,500,000 sets** using the agency's furnished mail anywhere permit no. 1090 for postage – First Class Pre-sort mail rate. Contractor must submit the postal receipt to the agency after dropping at the post office and must include the agency control number 018456 in the "Customer Reference ID" field".

**Quantity that actually mails will be predicated on the quantity remaining after the NCOA and CASS presorts.

All copies mailed must conform to the appropriate regulations in the U.S. Postal Service manuals for "Domestic Mail" or "International Mail" as applicable. The contractor is responsible for completing all forms required by the Postal Service for this type and class of mail and complying with all Postal Service regulations.

The contractor will be responsible to provide all materials and operations, including but not exclusive to addressing, sorting, bundling, packaging, and documentation forms necessary to comply with all U.S. Postal Service regulations to achieve the lowest Standard Mail rate. Addresses are not in Zip code sequence.

Jacket 677-906 Page 7 of 9

The contractor will be required to accurately complete all appropriate mailing statements required by the U.S. Postal Service.

The VA and GPO must be furnished with copies of all such completed forms stamped by the Post Office and signed copies of all shipping receipts within 1 workday of the completed mailing. Contact Brian Mano (<u>brian.mano@va.gov</u>; 202-461-5002) to arrange transmission.

Request USPS secure destroy (record of pieces destroyed). Must use USPS secure destroy service so the VA does not have to physically handle return mail.

Request list of failure of postal sort at beginning (as well as those returned after mailing).

Contractor to presort and run mail lists through all applicable postal software to achieve the lowest possible per piece postage rate. Return spreadsheet to the VA with any addresses deemed undeliverable.

Mail via first class via agency printed permit.

NOTE: Contractor must provide the agency (Brian Mano, <u>brian.mano@va.gov</u>, 202-461-5002) with the estimated postage amount as soon as possible (at least 5 business days before mailing) so the VA can request adequate funds for the mailing permit.

Mail drops to occur over a period of time, starting on or around December 16, 2022.

INK: Four Color Process + Black + Pantone 541 (blue)

MARGINS: Full bleeds on Brochure. Adequate gripper for the letters and envelopes.

DISTRIBUTION:

Mail f.o.b. contractor's city except for sample copies which must be delivered f.o.b. destination. See below.

Sample copies for the agency are included in the total quantities. All expenses incidental to picking up and returning materials, submitting and picking up proofs/priors, and furnishing sample copies must be borne by the contractor.

Deliver 2 sets (not personalized to): Contractor to contact agency, Brian Mano (202)461-5002 Brian.Mano@va.gov, to confirm the address.

Return any Government furnished material to: U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Washington, DC 20420

Contractor to contact agency, Brian Mano (202)461-5002 Brian.Mano@va.gov, to confirm the Washington DC Region address to return the Government furnished material to.

Deliver proof to:
US Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave
Room 858
ATTN: Assault and Harassment Prevention Office
Washington DC 20420

Jacket 677-906 Page 8 of 9

PACKING: Suitably.

SCHEDULE: Government Furnished Material and Purchase Order will be available for pickup on or before November 30, 2022.

Proofs will be withheld not more than 2 workdays from receipt by the Government.

Mail as follows:

Approximately 100,000 sets by December 16, 2022

Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 23, 2022

Approximately 1,500,000 sets by December 30, 2022

Approximately 1,500,000 sets by January 7, 2023

Balance (approximately 2,400,000) by January 21, 2023

TIME CRITICAL: Notify Brian Mano (<u>brian.mano@va.gov</u>, 202-461-5002) of the delivery status in the morning 2 days prior to the first shipment to meet the at destination delivery date.

This is a time-critical order. For the purpose of this contract, the provisions in GPO Contract Terms Pub. 310.2 (Rev. 6-01) for schedule extensions does not apply. No automatic extensions of schedules will be made. All interested contractors must commit to the original schedule. Shipments must be made by a carrier that will guarantee delivery at destination within the specified schedule. Carrier "targets" in lieu of "guaranteed" deliveries will not be acceptable.

Contractor must notify the ordering agency on the same day that the product ships/delivers via e-mail sent to brian.mano@va.gov and to infoseattle@gpo.gov. Call Brian Mano (202)461-5002 to confirm receipt of documentation. The subject line of this message shall be "Distribution Notice for Jacket 677-906". The notice must provide all applicable tracking numbers, shipping method, and Title. Contractor must be able to provide copies of all delivery, mailing, and shipping receipts upon agency request.

Prices must include the cost of all required materials and operations for the total quantity ordered in accordance with these specifications. In addition, a price must be submitted for each additional 1,000 copies per each item. The price for additional quantities must be based on a continuing run, exclusive of all basis or preliminary charges, (i.e., running rate not including makeready) and will not be a factor for determination of award.

Bids for each item listed in its respective format group, as defined in Section 2.- Specifications, must include the cost of all required materials and operations in accordance with these specifications.

Bidder must make an entry in each of the spaces provided. Bids submitted with any obliteration, revision, or alteration of the order and manner of submitting bids, may be declared nonresponsive.

An entry of NC (No Charge) shall be entered if bidder intends to furnish individual items at no charge to the Government.

Bids submitted with NB (No Bid) or blank spaces for an item may be declared nonresponsive.

LOCATION(S) OF POST OFFICE(S).	All mailing will be made from:
20011101 ((8) 01 1 081 011102(8)	

Post Office located at Street Address:			
City:	, State:	, Zip Code:	

Jacket 677-906 Page 9 of 9

TOTAL BID PRICE	Z: \$	ADDITIONAL RATE \$	AL RATE \$PER		
1,000 sets	PRICE	ADDED RATE/M			
Item (1) Letter:	\$	\$			
Item (2) Brochure:	\$	\$			
Item (3) Envelope:	\$	\$			
DISCOUNTS: Discoudays. See Article 12 "	ounts are offered for pa Discounts" of Solicitat	yment as follows: Percent, ion Provisions in GPO Contract Terms (l	calendar Publication 310.2).		
AMENDMENT(S):	Bidder hereby acknow	ledges amendment(s) number(ed)			
NOTE: Failure to pro BIDDER'S NAME A and submitting a bid required by the solicit out and return one initialing/signing who Uniform Electronic T by the company to sign	AND SIGNATURE: Use agrees with and acceptation and GPO Contraction and GPO Contraction of all pages in the indicated. Valid elements actions Act, §2. Elements actions actions act, §2.	tance period may result in expiration of to the following	the bidder, by signing nd representations as ponding by email, fill PRICES," including accordance with the the person authorized		
	(Contractor Name)	(GPO	Contractor's Code)		
		(Street Address)			
	(Cit	y – State – Zip Code)			
Ву					
(Printed Name,	Signature, and Title of	Person Authorized to Sign this Bid)	(Date)		
(Person to be	Contacted)	(Telephone Number)	(Email)		
	FO	R GPO USE ONLY			
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