

Department of Contracts
Notre Dame Ravelin
Floriana

To Ministries, Government Departments and
Entities

14 February 2024

**SUPPLY OF NATIONAL AND EUROPEAN UNION FLAGS TO ALL GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENTS AND ENTITIES WITH A REDUCED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

1. Ministries and Head of Departments and Entities are hereby informed that National Flags supplied and delivered to all Government Departments and Entities, are to be procured from:

Zaffarese Signs + Display Ltd
CCG Building
Triq 3 ta' Settembru 1798
Zone 3
Central Business District,
BIRKIRKARA CBD 3100

Tel: 2148 4305
Email: admin@zaffarese.com

at the rates shown hereunder. Prices are delivered, exclusive of VAT, but inclusive of Customs Import Duty, ECO Contribution (if any) and other charges as applicable.

Item No	Description	Rate per Flag €
1.1	Flags, National outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 275cm x 183cm	52.58
1.2	Flags, National outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 183cm x 122cm	34.54
1.3	Flags, National, outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 138cm x 92cm	28.49
2.1	Flags, European Union, outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 275cm x 183cm	50.22

Item No	Description	Rate per Flag €
2.2	Flags, European Union, outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 183cm x 122cm	28.62
2.3	Flags, European Union, outdoor type in accordance with the attached specifications. Approx Meas: 138cm x 92cm	20.73

2. This procurement shall be valid up to the 25 January 2026.
3. Payments are to be made directly to the Contractor.
4. The technical specifications are attached at Annex 1. User departments are to ensure that these conditions are strictly adhered to.
5. The 'General Conditions for Supply Contracts' shall also apply.

Adrian Dalli
Director General (Contracts)

ANNEX 1

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

National Maltese Flags

Item
1.1 - National Outdoor Flags Meas: 275cm x 183.3cm
1.2 - National Outdoor Flags Meas: 183cm x 122cm
1.3 - National Outdoor Flags Meas: 138cm x 92cm

- 1.1 The Maltese National Flag shall have dimensions of the hoist and the fly to within 5%. (refer to Figure 1, for dimensions A and B)
- 1.2 The Maltese National Flag shall have two equal white and red vertical stripes (stripes width dimensions shall be within 5%) with George Cross emblem on the white stripe, upper corner. The red colour shall conform to chip-reference Pantone 186C (previously referred as British Admiralty Colour Code No. T1144).
- 1.3 When compared to reference colour chip-standard Pantone 186C using the CIE L* a* b* system, the difference in colour for; ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* shall be less than 15 and the total colour difference ΔE^* shall be less than 20.
- 1.4 The white colour shall have a value L* greater than 80 and the magnitude of a* and b* shall not be greater than 5 (previously, referred as British Admiralty Colour Code No. T1145).
- 1.5 Flags shall be manufactured from bunting material of good quality texture being 100% woven polyester and weighing minimum 150grms per square metre. Tenderers must ensure that all selvages are securely hemmed.
- 1.6 The National Flags must bear the George Cross emblem in silver grey background with black letters, circles and St George. The emblem is to be edged in red. The proportion of Flag is A(2): B(3) and the George Cross emblem should have the following proportions as indicated in Fig 1.

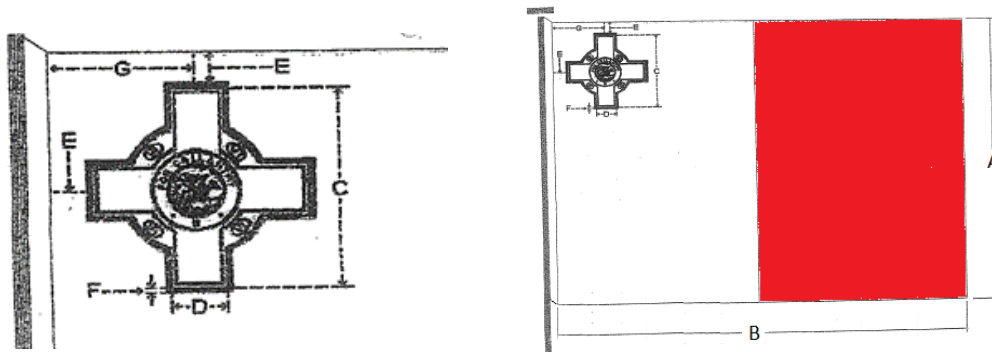


FIGURE 1

- C - $\frac{5}{18}$ of A (width)
- D - $\frac{2}{27}$ of A (width)
- E - $\frac{1}{27}$ of A (width)
- F - (Red Perimeter) - Approximately $\frac{1}{16}$ of D
- G - $\frac{1}{18}$ of B (length)
- H - (Inner Diameter) - Approximately equal to D
- I - (Outer Diameter) - Approximately the Diagonal of D

The dimensional values shall not vary by more than 15% for dimensions C, D, E & G. The specified dimension B being the reference dimension from which dimensions C, D, E & G are proportionally derived.

- 1.7 The flags are to be supplied complete with swivels attachments and head rope. The head rope and swivels are to be suitable for the flag. The swivels are to be of the 'Inglefield type' and made from a suitable stable metal to withstand weathering.

European Union Flags

Item
2.1 - European Union Outdoor Flags Approx Meas: 275cm x 183cm
2.2 - European Union Outdoor Flags Approx Meas: 183cm x 122cm
2.3 - European Union Outdoor Flags Approx Meas: 138cm x 92cm

- 1.1 The European flag and emblem is in the form of a blue rectangular flag of which the fly is one and a half times the length of the hoist. Twelve gold stars situated at equal intervals form an undefined circle, of which the centre is the point of intersection of the diagonals of the rectangle. The radius of the circle is equal to one third the height of the hoist. Each of the stars has five points, which are situated on the circumference of an undefined circle of which the radius is equal to 1/18 of the height of the hoist. All stars are upright - that is to say, with one point vertical, i.e. (pointing upwards), and two points in a straight line at right angles to the mast.
- 1.2 The EU flag shall be in the following colours:

The blue shall conform to reference **Pantone Reflex Blue C**. When compared to reference colour standard Pantone Reflex Blue C using the CIE L* a* b* system, the difference in colour for; ΔL^* , Δa^* and Δb^* shall be less than 6 and the total colour difference ΔE^* shall be less than 10.
- 1.3 The circle is arranged so that the stars are in an upright position and appear in the position of the hours on the face of a clock. Their number is invariable.
- 1.4 Flags shall be manufactured from bunting material of good quality texture being 100% woven polyester and weighing minimum 150grms per square metre. Tenderers must ensure that all selvages are securely hemmed.
- 1.5 The flags are to be supplied complete with swivels attachments and head rope. The head rope and swivels are to be suitable to the size of the flag. The swivels are to be of the 'Inglefield type' and made from a suitable stable metal to withstand weathering.

GREEN PUBLIC PROCUREMENT (GPP) REQUIREMENTS

Product longevity and warranty

(not relevant for lease contracts including maintenance)

Repair or replacement of the product shall be covered by the warranty terms for minimum five years. The tenderer shall further ensure that genuine or equivalent spare parts are available (direct or via other nominated agents) for at least five years from the date of purchase. This clause will not apply to unavoidable temporary situations beyond the manufacturer's control such as natural disasters.

Verification:

The tenderer shall provide a written declaration that the products supplied will be warrantied in conformity with the contract specifications. Spare parts holding a relevant Type 1 Eco-label fulfilling the listed requirements will be deemed to comply. Other appropriate means of proof will also be accepted, such as a self- declaration from the manufacturer stating that the above clause is met.

Declaration for REACH Candidate List substances

The tenderer must declare the presence of any REACH Candidate List substances at a concentration of greater than 0.1 % (weight by weight) in the finished product.

Verification:

The tenderer must provide a valid REACH Article 33(2) declaration upon delivery of the finished article(s). If Candidate List substances are declared as being present, they must be identified.

Substances to be tested for on the final product

The final supplied product must not contain the substances listed in Annex 1 at greater than the individual or sum total concentration limits. This must be demonstrated by laboratory testing of a sample of each product type supplied during execution of the contract. The contracting authority will reserve the right to also request a further random check.

Verification:

Each product sample must be analysed by a laboratory accredited to carry out the relevant tests according to ISO 17025 or by the accreditation body for a textile testing scheme that requires product testing. Certificate(s) demonstrating compliance must be provided upon delivery of the goods. Where the test methods are the same, test results from valid Type I ecolabels, including the EU Ecolabel, as well as third-party textile testing schemes, must be accepted.

Durability standards

The textile products must meet the relevant durability requirements identified in Annexes 2 and 3. In the case of functional workwear that can demonstrate inherent performance characteristics that negate the need for water, dirt or stain repellents and / or flame retardant treatments to be applied to the textile fabric, the product will be exempted from testing requirements 3.7 and / or 3.8 in Annex 3.

Verification:

The tenderer will, for each distinct product design or item of workwear to be supplied, provide upon delivery of the goods reports from tests carried out in accordance with the standards specified in Annex 3. The reports will verify that each product type or model meets the specified durability requirements.

Annex 1: Final product substance restrictions

Substance group	Restrictions that apply	Concentration limits	Test method
1.1 Azo dyes <i>Applicability:</i> Clothing containing acrylic, cotton, polyamide and wool	Azo dyes that may cleave to aromatic amines that are known to be carcinogenic must not be used (<i>see the list in Appendix 2 of the EU Ecolabel¹⁷</i>). A limit value for aryl amines will apply for the purpose of testing the final product.	30 mg/kg for each amine	EN 14362-1 and 3 or equivalent.
1.2 Formaldehyde <i>Applicability:</i> All clothing and interior textiles containing natural fibres	<p>The following limit values apply to residual formaldehyde on the finished product:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Products for babies and children under 3 years old - All other products <p><i>Improved performance for skin contact garments could additionally be requested as an award criterion.¹⁸</i></p> <p><i>The following requirement can be applied as a comprehensive criterion for interior textiles only:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Emissions from the final product 	<div>16 ppm</div> <div>75 ppm</div> <div>0.1 mg/m³</div>	<div>EN ISO 14184-1 or equivalent.</div> <div>EN 16516 and EN ISO 14184-1 or equivalent</div>

1.3 Auxiliaries <i>Applicability:</i> All products	The following substances must not be present on the final product: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nonylphenol - Octylphenol 	100 mg/kg sum total	Solvent extraction followed by HPLC/MS
	The following substances must not be present on the final product: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nonylphenol ethoxylates - Octylphenol ethoxylates 	100 mg/kg sum total	ISO 18254
1.4 Coatings, laminates and membranes <i>Applicability:</i> Where incorporated into textile structure	Coatings, plastisol printing, laminates, membranes and plastic accessories must not contain the following phthalates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DEHP (Bis-(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate) - BBP (Butylbenzylphthalate) - DBP (Dibutylphthalate) - DMEP (Bis(2-methoxyethyl)phthalate) - DIBP (Diisobutylphthalat) - DIHP (Di-C6- 8-branched alkylphthalates) - DHNUP (Di-C7- 11-branched alkylphthalates) - DHP (Di-n-hexylphthalate) 	Sum total 0.10 % w/w	EN ISO 14389 or equivalent.

¹⁷ European Commission, *EU Ecolabel textile product group*, <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/ecolabel/products-groups-and-criteria.html>.

¹⁸ There may be a trade-off in terms of the quality and durability of stay-press garments, particularly where garments are to be subject to high temperature washing.

Annex 2: Production process substance restrictions

Substance group	Restrictions that apply	Verification requirements
2.1 Dyes and pigments	<p>The following dyes and pigments must not be used in textile production:</p> <p>Acid Red 26, Direct Black 38, Disperse Blue 1, Basic Red 9, Direct Blue 6, Disperse Orange 11, Basic Violet 14, Direct Red 28, Disperse Yellow 3, Pigment Red 104, Pigment Yellow 34</p>	Site audit at which the dyes used are to be identified.
2.2 Auxiliaries	<p>The following substances must not be used in textile production:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - bis(hydrogenated tallow alkyl) dimethyl ammonium chloride (DTDMAC) - distearyl dimethyl ammonium chloride (DSDMAC) - di(hardened tallow) dimethyl ammonium chloride (DHTDMAC) - ethylene diamine tetra acetate (EDTA) - diethylene triamine penta acetate (DTPA) - 4-(1,1,3,3-tetramethylbutyl)phenol - 1-Methyl-2-pyrrolidone - Nitrilotriacetic acid (NTA) 	Site audit at which the chemical used as auxiliaries are to be identified.
2.3 Bleaching	Chlorine based bleaches must not be used for the bleaching of any yarns, fabrics or knitted panels.	Site audit at which the bleaches used are to be identified.
2.4 Water, stain and oil repellent treatments	<p><i>Core requirement:</i></p> <p>Long chain ($\geq C5$) perfluoroalkane sulfonic acids or sulfonates (PFSA) and ($\geq C7$) perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids or carboxylates (PFCA) substances must not be used.</p> <p><i>Comprehensive requirement:</i></p> <p>Fluorinated water, stain and oil repellent treatments must not be used, unless these functions are required in combination.</p> <p><i>In addition, for both core and comprehensive criteria the garment(s) must be tested for durability (see Criterion 3.1)</i></p>	Site audit at which the repellents used for the finishes are to be identified.
2.5 Waterproof membranes	Fluoropolymer membranes and laminates used for outdoor clothing must not be manufactured using perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or any longer chain fluorinated surfactants.	Site audit of the membrane/laminate supplier <i>or</i> documentation from a government regulatory body.

2.6 Flame retardants	<p><i>Core requirement:</i></p> <p>The following flame retardants must not be used:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HBCDD – Hexabromocyclododecane - DecaBDE – Decabromodiphenyl ether - TEPA – Tris(aziridiny) phosphin oxide - TRIS – Tris (2,3 dibromopropyl) phosphate - TCEP – Tris (2,chloroethyl)phosphate - Paraffin, C10-C13, chlorinated (SCCP) <p><i>Comprehensive requirement:</i></p> <p>Where fire protection is required the fabric must be tested to ensure it provides a high level of durability (see Criterion 3.1)</p>	Site audit at which the flame retardants used are to be identified.
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Annex 3: Durability tests

3.1 Indicative applicability of the textile durability performance requirements

Product type	Dimensional change	Washing colour fastness	Perspiration colour fastness	Wet rubbing colour fastness	Tensile strength	Seam strength	Water, dirt and stain repellency	Flame retardancy
Tests applying to all products	✓	✓						
Towels and bed linen	✓	✓			✓			
Uniforms and presentational workwear	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Heavy duty workwear and PPE for field operations	✓	✓			✓	✓		
Functional outerwear i.e. jackets, trousers, PPE	✓	✓					✓	✓

3.2 Performance benchmarks and test methods

Core performance		
Durability standard	Performance benchmarks	Test method(s)
3.1 Dimensional change	Woven fabrics - Cotton and cotton mix +/- 3.0 % - Wool mix +/- 2.0 % - Synthetic fibres +/- 2.0 % - Bed linen and towels +/-8.0 %	EN ISO 6330 (domestic washing) or equivalent, <i>or</i> ISO 15797 (industrial laundries) or equivalent in combination with EN ISO 5077 or equivalent after 3 washes.
3.2 Washing colour fastness	3-4 for colour change and staining	ISO 15797 or equivalent (where applicable) in combination with ISO 105 C06 or equivalent
3.3 Perspiration colour fastness	3-4 for colour change and staining, 4 for dark colours (standard depth > 1/1)	ISO 15797 or equivalent (where applicable) in combination with ISO 105 E04 (acid and alkaline comparison with multi-fibre fabric) or equivalent.
3.4 Wet rubbing colour fastness	Level 2-3	ISO 15797 or equivalent (where applicable) in combination with ISO 105 X12 or equivalent
3.5 Tensile strength	<50 % cotton N/(g/m ²) □ 2.0	EN ISO 13934 (Strip method)

	□ 50 % cotton N/(g/m ²) □ 1.8 <i>Minimum performance 400 N</i>	or equivalent
3.6 Seam strength	100 N at breakdown	EN ISO 13935 (Strip method) or equivalent.
<i>Comprehensive performance</i>		
Durability standard	Performance benchmarks	Test method(s)
3.7 Water, dirt and stain repellency	<p>The following retention of functionality after either 20 domestic cycles at 40°C or 10 industrial cycles at 75°C:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water repellency: 80 out of 90 - Oil repellency: 3.5 out of 4.0 - Stain repellency: 3.0 out of 5.0 <p>Industrial washing temperatures may be reduced to 60°C for garments with taped seams.</p>	<p>ISO 6330 (domestic) or equivalent <i>or</i> ISO 15797 (industrial) or equivalent in combination with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Water repellents: ISO 4920 or equivalent - Oil repellents: ISO 14419 or equivalent - Stain repellents: ISO 22958 or equivalent
3.8 Flame retardancy	<p>Washable products must retain their functionality after 50 wash cycles (Comprehensive criterion).</p> <p>Non-washable products must retain their functionality after a soak test.</p>	<p>ISO 6330 (domestic) or equivalent, or as relevant to the contract requirements EN ISO 10528 (industrial) or equivalent in combination with EN ISO 12138 or equivalent.</p> <p>Where the textile is non-washable and/or non-removable the test method described in BS 5651, Section 4 or equivalent must be used.¹⁹</p>

¹⁹ This test method is based on that described in British Standard 5651: *Method for cleansing and wetting procedures for use in the assessment of the effect of cleansing and wetting on the flammability of textile fabrics and fabric assemblies.*