

Digital Plan Delivery Through Bid Express

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Why Offer Plan Sets on Bid Express?

- **SHA's need to increase efficiency and reduce costs**
 - Cut printing, mailing and storage costs
 - Provide faster service to vendors and contractors
- **Contractors have been requesting it for years**
 - Current process is inefficient and slow
 - Can obtain digital plan sets faster than paper plan sets
 - Low monthly cost for unlimited use
 - Have high-speed Internet and high-quality printers available to them

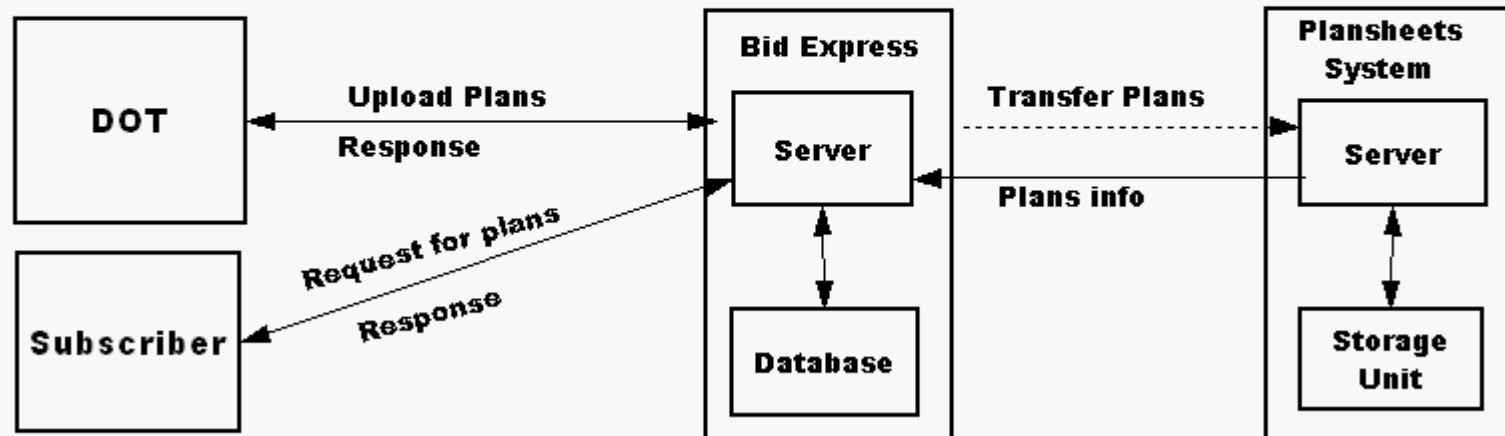
Infrastructure Requirements

- Stand-alone system, scalable to support multiple users
- High end, redundant servers with large storage capacity and extremely high processing speeds
- Dedicated, redundant bandwidth (at least 10 times T-1 speed) preferably 30 times (DS3)
- Round-the-clock system administrator
- Business hours customer support

Plan Sheets Basic Service on Bid Express

- Dedicated hardware, separate from Bid Express system (as defined in previous slide)
- Plan sheets storage for 2 months
- Significantly expanded bandwidth
- Administrative page enhancements:
 - File upload utility
 - Activity log

Bid Express Plansheets Diagram



PDF is Preferred File Type

- Smaller than TIFF and other file types
 - 15% to 65% in some cases
- Excellent printing functionality
- Can be made into “intelligent” files that:
 - Retain vector resolution
 - Contain hyper-links, embedded attribute data, searchable content
 - Maintain scalability
- Acrobat Reader free and readily available

Bandwidth Considerations for 100-sheet plan set (example)

- TIFF file would be approx. 700 KB per sheet (70 MB entire set)
- PDF file would be approx. 90 KB per sheet (9 MB entire set)
- Best possible download times (approximate)

| <u>Connection</u> | <u>TIFF file</u> | <u>PDF file</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| T-1 | 7 minutes | 1 minute |
| ISDN | 90 minutes | 12 minutes |
| 56K modem | 4 hours | 30 minutes |
| 24K modem | 9 hours | 65 minutes |

- Cable and DSL may be faster than T-1, but upstream speeds may prevent them from delivering better throughput
- High speed connection highly recommended

PDF Conversion Tools Available

- Can start with different file type then convert to PDF:
 - TIFF to PDF (various tools available)
 - Digital I-Plot to PDF (Bentley tool scheduled for release Jan/Feb '04)
 - AutoCAD and MicroStation files to PDF (Layton Graphics tool currently available)

Implementation Process

- Fill out and return Bid Express plan sheets questionnaire
- Determine special requirements over basic service (if any)
- Beta testing and support
- Implementation time frame:
 - 3-5 months for basic service
 - Longer if customizations or special services required

Implementation Costs

- **Basic Service**
 - Approx. 1.0 Service Unit (one-time fee)
 - Could be higher based on required services and support
- **Customization Fees**
 - to be determined based on any special requirements
- **Monthly File Conversion Services (if needed)**
 - price to be determined based on type of conversion and number of sheets per month

Contractor Fees

- Plan Sheets is an optional fee-based service of Bid Express
- \$95 per month additional subscription fee over Bid Express monthly fee
 - Provides unlimited file downloads from all participating states (not just home state)

More Information?

Contact

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