

Engineer Claims Facebook Stole Data-Center System Design

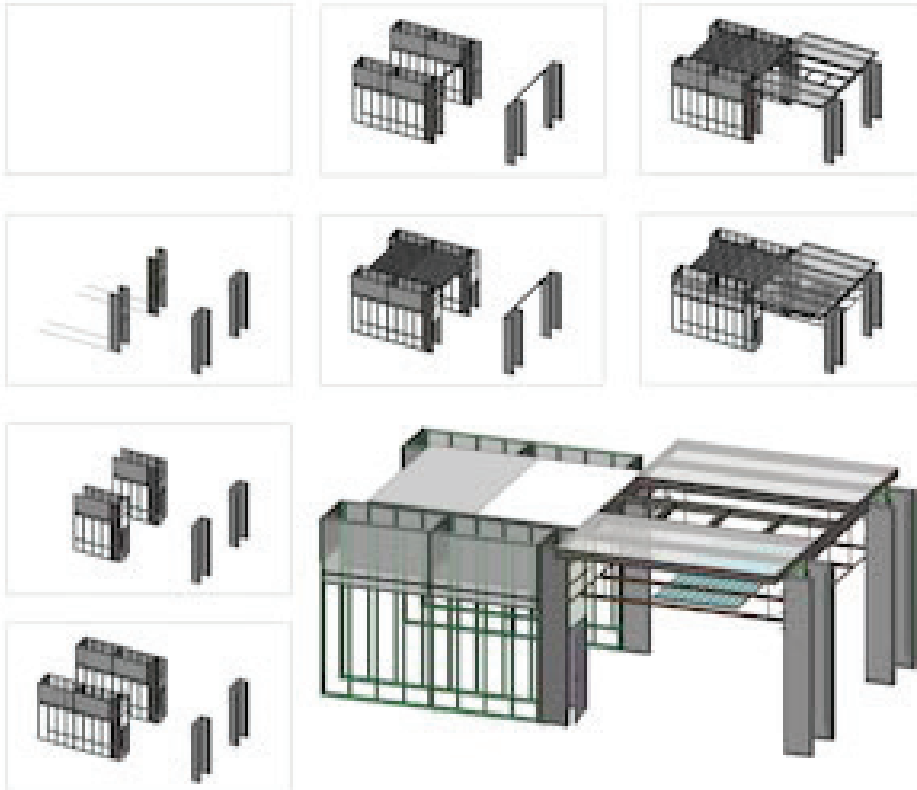


Image Credit: opencompute.org

This image on OpenCompute.org may show part of a data-center plan that is part of a lawsuit against Facebook.

By Richard Korman

An engineering firm that provides data centers has filed a lawsuit against Facebook that accuses the social-media giant of stealing a design and installation method for efficient data centers as well as making those ideas publicly available.

Facebook opened a new data center, the second of two, last year in Lulea, Sweden. The lawsuit implies that Facebook used the company's design and system for that new data center and that Facebook portrayed the innovations to the public as its own.

The heavily redacted complaint, filed in federal district court in San Jose, Calif., on March 23, does not make clear under what terms, if any, the plaintiff, Bladeroom Group Ltd., made the designs and construction methods available to Facebook.

It also doesn't say if Bladeroom Group was compensated in any way.

Most standard-form contracts in the construction industry provide for architects and engineers to retain ownership of their designs.

For example, the 2008 version of the Engineers Joint Contract Document Committee's E-500 Agreement, which is a contract between an owner and engineer for professional services, provides the engineer with "ownership and property interest" of all documents and materials prepared by the engineer.

In addition, architectural works are provided copyright protection by federal law adopted by Congress in 1990.

Standard contracts can be rewritten, however, to provide clients with ownership of the designs and documents.

Partnership in U.S. Venture

Based in Cheltenham, England, Bladeroom Group also has a U.S. venture, Chicago-based Bladeroom USA LLC, which is a partnership with

a subsidiary of California-based Rosendin Holdings Inc., the largest private U.S. electrical contractor. A website for the venture states that the two companies deliver "large-scale turnkey modular data center projects."

Officials at Facebook could not be reached for comment. Calls made shortly before the Easter holiday weekend to Bladeroom Group's office, to its attorney in San Francisco and to Rosendin Holdings, also were not returned.

The complaint against Facebook is by the Bladeroom Group parent company and another English firm, Bripco, which is described as the legal owner of Bladeroom Group's intellectual property.

The complaint claims that Bladeroom Group had developed a unique methodology and innovative pre-fabrication process for construction, shipping and installation of modular data centers. Some of the meth-

Continued on page 4

SMALL BUSINESS EXCHANGE

SBE OUTREACH SERVICES

With 1.5 million businesses in our database, SBE is California's #1 source for diversity outreach.

Advertisements

Placed in the Small Business Exchange newspaper, SBE Today newsletter, and online at www.sbeinc.com

Faxed and Eblast Solicitations

Targeted mailings sent to businesses per your criteria.

Telemarketing

Telephone follow-up calls that follow a script of 5 questions you create.

Computer Generated Reports

Will fit right into your proposal, along with a list of interested firms to contact.

Contact Info:

703 Market Street, Suite 1000

San Francisco, CA 94103

Email: sbe@sbeinc.com

Website: www.sbeinc.com

Phone: (415) 778-6250, (800) 800-8534

Fax: (415) 778-6255

Publisher of
Small Business Exchange
weekly newspaper

California Sub-Bid Request Ads



Is requesting quotes from qualified DBE Subcontractors, Suppliers, and Service Providers for the following (but not limited to) work:

Traffic Control, SWPPP, Hazardous Waste Haul/Trucking, Fencing, Paving, Potholing, Pipeline Testing, Shoring, PVC & CMLC Pipe, Ready Mix Concrete & Aggregates, Striping, Pipe Jacking

**Chino Desalter Phase 3 Expansion
Chino Creek Well Fields 1 and II
Raw Water Intertie Pipeline Project**

Located in Eastvale and Ontario, CA

Chino Basin Desalter Authority
Specification No. CDAEXP3-12-06

BID DATE April 22, 2015 @ 2:00 p.m.

Sub & Vendor Bids Due Prior

Sukut Construction, LLC

4010 W. Chandler Avenue, Santa Ana, CA 92704

Contact: Robbie Zwick

Phone: (714) 540-5351 • Fax: (714) 545-2003 • Email: estimating@sukut.com

Plans/specs are available for viewing at our office by appointment, or may be obtained from Owner. Subcontractors must be prepared to furnish 100% performance and payment bonds and possess current insurance and workers' comp coverage. Sukut Construction will assist Qualified Subcontractors in obtaining bonds, insurance, and/or lines of credit. Please contact Sukut Construction for assistance in responding to this solicitation. Subcontractors/Vendors will be required to sign Sukut's Standard Subcontract/Purchase Order. Copies are available for examination.

Sukut Construction's listing of a Subcontractor in its bid to the agency is not to be construed as an acceptance of all of the Subcontractor's conditions or exceptions included with Subcontractor's price quotes. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by Owner for contract award.

Sukut Construction, LLC
An Equal Opportunity Employer

RGW Construction Inc. is seeking all qualified Minority Owned Business and Women Owned Business Enterprises (MBE/WBE's) for the following project bidding to Alameda County:

**Floodwall Improvements Along Line D, Phase II,
Between Huntwood Avenue and BART, In Hayward
Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District**

Goals: MBE 15% / WBE 5%

150 calendar days

Bid Date: 4/14/15 @ 2:00pm

Requesting Sub-quotes for (including but not limited to): Construction Area Signs, Traffic Control, Demolition/Bridge Removal, Clear & Grub, Structure Excavation/backfill, Landscaping, Hydroseeding, Erosion Control, CIDH Piles, Structural Concrete, Concrete Block & Masonry Retaining Wall, Reinforcing Steel, Signs Roadside, Fencing, MBGR, Metal Railing, Painted Traffic Stripe & Marking, Water Truck, Sweeper, Trucker & Painting Structures.

Scope of Work: Preparing and implementing water pollution control plan, constructing reinforced concrete cast in drilled hole piles & pile caps, reinforced concrete spread footings, furnish & construct masonry block floodwalls, anti-graffiti coating, constructing concrete pipe outfall structures, automated drainage gates, furnish & place Class 2 AB & AC, guard rails, fencing & gates & planting.

RGW is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage MBE/WBE participation. Contact us for a specific item list.

Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or online at www.ipdservices.com/clients/eastbay?ALCO or contact Central Blue Print 510-276-3375. Contact Andy Eldridge 925-606-2400 for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, insurance, equipment or material suppliers. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation.

RGW Construction, Inc.

Contractors License A/B 591940

550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550 • Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925

An Equal Opportunity Employer

GALEB PAVING, INC.

REQUEST FOR SUBCONTRACTOR BIDS

PROJECT: Skyline HS Turf Field Replacement

OWNER: Oakland Unified School District

BIDS: April 8, 2015 @ 2:00 PM

Galeb Paving, Inc. is bidding on the above-captioned project as a prime bidder and is requesting MBE/DBE/WBE/DVBE/Oakland LBE and SLBE sub-bids for the following trades:

Concrete, Fencing, Synthetic Turf, Polyurethane Track Surfacing, Trucking, Materials, Survey, Fencing and Striping.

Please fax your bids to

(408) 253-4753 Attn: Lee Pellicciotti

Galeb Paving, Inc.

12340 Saratoga-Sunnyvale Road

Saratoga, Ca 95070

Phone: (408) 253-4747 • Fax: (408) 253-4753

Galeb Paving, Inc.

is an Equal Opportunity Employer

DeSilva Gates Construction, L.P. is soliciting for LBEs for the following project:

**CANDLESTICK POINT REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT,
Project No. CP-02-03-04**

OWNER: CP Dev Co c/o Lennar Urban 1 Sansome Street, Suite 3200 San Francisco, CA 94104

BID DATE: April 9, 2015 @ 2:00 P.M.

We hereby encourage responsible participation of Local Small Business Enterprises, and solicit their subcontractor or materials and/or suppliers quotation for the following types of work including but not limited to: **Clearing and Grubbing, Survey/Staking, Trucking, Water Trucks, Street Sweeping, Equipment Rental, Wick Drains.**

100% Performance and Payment Bonds may be required for full amounts of the subcontract price. Surety company will have to be approved by DeSilva Gates Construction. DeSilva Gates Construction will pay bond premium up to 2%. Subcontractors must possess current insurance and worker's compensation coverage meeting DeSilva Gates Construction's requirements. Please call if you need assistance in obtaining bonding, insurance, equipment, materials and/or supplies. Plans and specifications are available for review at our Dublin office..

DeSilva Gates Construction

11555 Dublin Boulevard

P.O. Box 2909

Dublin, CA 94568-2909

(925) 829-9220 / FAX (925) 803-4263

Estimator: Garry Day

Website: www.desilvagates.com

An Equal Opportunity Employer



California Sub-Bid Request Ads

SKANSKA

Sub-Bids Requested From Qualified D/S/LBE Subcontractors & Suppliers

Transbay Transit Center – Tenant Improvements

Transbay Joint Powers Authority/ Webcor Obayashi Joint Venture

Contract No.: Bid Build – 08-04-CMGC-000, pkg. no. TG16.0

DBE/SBE/LBE Goal: 19%

Subcontractor Quote Due Date: April 15, 2015 - 12:00PM

Skanska is interested in soliciting in Good Faith all subcontractors as well as certified D/L/SBE companies for this project. All interested subcontractors, please indicate all lower tier D/L/SBE participation offered on your quotation as it will be evaluated with your price. Please call if we can assist you in obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, necessary equipment, materials and/or supplies. Skanska will also review breaking out scope packages and adjusting schedules to help permit maximum participation.

Quotes requested for contractors, suppliers and service providers include, but are not limited to:

Subcontracting: Concrete masonry units, metal framing, drywall, building insulation, penetration fire-stopping, toilet accessories, miscellaneous metals for own work, bird deterrent, ballistic resistant panels, acoustic ceiling tiles, acoustic wall treatments, tile, tile carpeting, resilient base, painting, site paints, high performance coatings, doors, frames, hardware, low voltage wiring for own scope of work, interior architectural woodwork, countertops, prefabricated buildings, photo-luminescent exit accessories (PLEA), and final cleaning on complex projects.

Instructions for bidders: For information on plans and specs and/or receive an Invitation to Bid, please submit your information to lindsay.corotis@skanska.com. Plans and Specs are also available at several locations throughout California. For project documents, visit <http://transbaycenter.org/rfp/interiorsfinishes>. For any questions, contact Skanska at (510) 285-1885 or email to lindsay.corotis@skanska.com

Subcontracting Requirements:

Skanska's insurance requirements are Commercial General Liability (GL): \$1M ea. occ., \$1M personal injury, \$2M products & completed operations agg. and general agg.; \$1M Auto Liability; \$5M Excess/Umbrella and \$1M Workers Comp. Endorsements and waivers required are the Additional Insured End., Primary Wording End., and a Waiver of Subrogation (GL & WC). Other insurance requirements may be necessary per scope. Subcontractors may be required to furnish performance and payment bonds in the full amount of their subcontract by an admitted surety and subject to approval by Skanska. Skanska will pay bond premium up to 1%. Quotations must be valid for the same duration as specified by the Owner for contract award. Conditions or exceptions in Subcontractor's quote are expressly rejected unless accepted in writing.

There is a PLA agreement for this job. It can be found at:

<http://transbaycenter.org/tjpa/doing-business-with-the-tjpa/project-labor-agreement>. Skanska is signatory to the Laborers and Carpenters Unions. Subcontractors must provide weekly, one original and one copy of all certified payrolls, including non-performance and fringe benefit statements if required by law or by the Prime Contract. Subcontractor scope (including any conditions or exceptions) is required 24 hours prior to bid deadline to allow proper evaluation.

Skanska is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Skanska Ph: (510) 285-1885; Fax: (510) 285-1801
Email: lindsay.corotis@skanska.com

Sub Bids Requested From Qualified MBE, WBE, DBE Subcontractors & Suppliers for

City of Pleasanton

Recycled Water Infrastructure Expansion Phase 1A

Project No. 1141026

Location: Pleasanton, CA

Bid Date: May 7, 2015 @ 2:00 PM

McGuire and Hester is seeking qualified subcontractors in the following trades: cathodic protection; saw-cutting; striping; trucking; electrical; signals/loops; SWPPP; reinforcing steel; painting; grinding; and traffic control.

We will pay up to and including one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) of your bonding cost. Certification assistance is available, as well as viewing plans and specs.

McGuire and Hester
 9009 Railroad Avenue • Oakland, CA 94603
 Phone: (510) 632-7676 • Fax: (510) 562-5209
Contact: Duane Schulze
 An Equal Opportunity Employer

RGW Construction Inc. is seeking all qualified DBE (Disadvantaged Business Enterprises) for the following project:

Alhambra Valley Road Safety Improvements
East of Bear Creek Road
Contra Costa County Project No. 0662-6R4101
Federal Aid Project No. HRRRL 5928(098),
HSIPL 5928(098)
Engineer Estimate: \$1,340,000
75 Working Days
Goal: DBE 20.68%
Bids: April 14, 2015 @ 2:00pm

RGW is requesting quotes for (including but not limited to): Fabric & Oils, Traffic Control, Cold Plane, Roadway Excavation, Hydroseeding, Erosion Control, Aggregate Base, Asphalt Paving, Rebar-6"x6"x10 WWM, Signs Roadside, Rock Slope Protection, Fencing, MBGR, Thermoplastic Traffic Stripe & Marking, Pavement Marking, SWPPP Planning, Water Truck, Sweeper, Storm Drain & Trucker.

Scope of Work: Shoulder widening along Alhambra Valley Road, including curve realignment, slope buttressing, cut & fill, roadside sign modifications, culvert replacement, concrete driveway conforms and ditches, traffic striping and tree planting.

RGW is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE participation. Contact us for a specific item list.

Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or the Contra Costa Public Works Online Planroom at www.cccounty.us/pwprojects. Contact Andy Eldridge andrew.eldridge@rgwconstruction.com, 925-606-2400 for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance or equipment or material suppliers. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation. For bonding and other assistance, please call.

RGW Construction, Inc.

Contractors License A/B 591940
 550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550
 Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Pioneer Contractors, Inc. is seeking quotes from qualified DVBE business and invites your bid or quotes on the following project:

Sherman Elementary School • Project No: 11682
Location: San Francisco, CA
Bid Date: April 15th, 2015 @ 2:00 PM
Approx. Value: \$160,000.00

Trades included but not limited to:
 Demolition Subcontractors and Suppliers.

Plans, specifications and requirements for the project are available to be picked up from your local plan room or viewed at our office.

Please note that performance bond and payment bond may be required. For assistance and any questions, please contact Art at (415) 671-1070 x 110, Fax: (415) 671-0448.

Pioneer Contractors, Inc.

1485 Armstrong Avenue • San Francisco, CA 94124
 CA Lic# 777064

An Equal Employment Opportunity Employer

California Sub-Bid Request Ads

Shimmick Construction Company, Inc.
DBE Subcontractor/Supplier Bids Requested For:
San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District
Traction Power Substation Replacement RRY Installation
Contract No. 15EK-125
Bid Date: April 28, 2015 @ 2:00PM
Fax all quotes to 510-777-5099

Requesting certified DBE Subcontractor and Supplier Quotes on Fencing, Concrete Structure, Minor Concrete Structure, Concrete Surface Finish, Railroad Work, Rail Vehicle/Railroad Quality Assurance Inspection, Railroad Track Inspection, Jacked Welded Steel Pipe, Demolition, Medium Voltage Splicing & Cables, Low Voltage Systems, Fiber Optic Cable & Terminations, Low Voltage Cabling, PABX & ETEL Telephone Systems, Access Control, Electric Testing

Contract Documents may be purchased from the District Secretary's Office, San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District, in person on the 23rd Floor at 300 Lakeside Drive, Oakland, CA 94612 or by mail at P.O. Box 12688, Oakland, CA 94604-2688 or are available for viewing by appointment only at Shimmick Construction's Office: 8201 Edgewater Drive, Suite 202, Oakland, CA 94621.

Subcontractors and Suppliers interested in this project may contact Greg Adams by phone at (510) 777-5040.

100% Performance and Payment bonds with a surety company subject to approval of Shimmick Construction Company, Inc. are required of subcontractors for this project. Shimmick Construction will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. Subcontractors will be required to abide by terms and conditions of the AGC Master Labor Agreements and to execute an agreement utilizing the latest SCCI Long Form Standard Subcontract incorporating prime contract terms and conditions, including payment provisions. Shimmick Construction's listing of a Subcontractor is not to be construed as an acceptance of all of the Subcontractor's conditions or exceptions included with the Subcontractor's price quote. Shimmick Construction requires that Subcontractors and Suppliers price quotes be provided at a reasonable time prior to the bid deadline to enable a complete evaluation. For assistance with bonding, insurance or lines of credit contact Scott Fairgrieve at (510) 777-5000.

Shimmick Construction Company Inc.
8201 Edgewater Drive, Suite 202 • Oakland, CA 94621
Phone (510) 777-5000 • Fax (510) 777-5099

An Equal Opportunity Employer

REQUEST FOR DBE SUBCONTRACTORS AND SUPPLIERS FOR:

Richmond Transit Village Phase 2
Nevin Avenue Improvements, BART – 19th Street
City of Richmond
BID DATE: April 16, 2015 @ 3:00 PM

We are soliciting quotes for (including but not limited to): Trucking, Construction Staking, Traffic Control, Temp. Pedestrian Access and Signs, Stormwater Pollution Control, Clearing & Grubbing, Concrete, Tree Removal, Electrical, Geotextile Fabric, Retaining Wall, Elevator, Elevators Tower Structure & Enclosure, Fire Alarm, HVAC, Fire Protection System, CCTV Systems, Shelter Structure, Signs, Traffic Control Signs, Underground, Minor Concrete, Detectable Warning Surface, Striping & Marking, Handrail, Guardrail, Planting & Irrigation, Bike Rack, Trash Receptacle, Pedestrian Pavers, Fencing, Site Security, and Construction Materials

O.C. Jones & Sons, Inc.
1520 Fourth Street • Berkeley, CA 94710 • Phone: 510-526-3424 • FAX: 510-526-0990
Contact: Donat Galicz
An Equal Opportunity Employer

100% Performance & Payment Bonds may be required. Worker's Compensation Waiver of Subrogation required. Please call OCJ for assistance with bonding, insurance, necessary equipment, material and/or supplies. OCJ is willing to breakout any portion of work to encourage DBE Participation. Plans & Specs are available for viewing at our office.

AECOM is seeking qualified LBE Subcontractors/Suppliers firms for:
Contract No. 10511.41:
Program Management Support for Airport Security Infrastructure Program
Location: San Francisco International Airport
Bid Date Extended to: April 30, 2015

Trades seeking:

- PS058 Estimator
- PS058 Scheduler
- PS058 Document control
- PS058 Office engineer
- PS058 Code compliance/Safety
- AE006 Electrical engineer (low voltage)
- AE006 Electrical engineer (communications)
- PS019 Admin support staff

AECOM

2325 E. Camelback Rd., Suite 200,
Phoenix, AZ 85016
Phone: 602-522-9727 • Fax: 602-337-2620
Email: christer.wilkinson@aecom.com
Contact: Christer Wilkinson
AECOM is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Bid Requests from Certified SBE Subcontractors and Suppliers for the following ALL TRADES EXCEPT: Mass Excavation, Shoring, Infrastructure

Hunters View Phase 2 Block 10 (Vertical Construction)

This is a OCII project with construction workforce and prevailing wage requirements.

Hunters View - Phase 2 Block 10
146 West Point Road
San Francisco, CA 94124
Bid Date: 4/14/15 @ 2 PM

Voluntary Pre-bid Meeting & Job Walk on 3/31/15 at 10:00 AM at jobsite trailer (on east side of Middle Point Road).

CAHILL/NIBBI (CNJV)
Contact: Julie Park at estimating@cahill-sf.com, (415) 986-0600.

Engineer Claims Facebook Stole Data-Center System Design

Continued from page 1

ods are publicly known, while others remain trade secrets, says the company's complaint.

Contact Initiated in 2011

According to the complaint, Bladeroom Group and Bripco initiated contact with Facebook in 2011 but "never imagined that Facebook would end up stealing the BRG Methodology" and partnering with another firm to construct its data centers.

A year ago, Facebook announced that it had awarded the other company a contract to work on a new modular data center at an existing Facebook facility, in Sweden.

According to Datacenter Design, an industry publication, Facebook's data center in Sweden uses modular "flat pack" building techniques.

In January, 2014, Facebook managers spoke at the OpenCompute Project with the goal of giving the public access to the specifications used in Face-

book data centers in order to spark collaborative dialogue. From that meeting and a subsequent blog post by Facebook, Bladeroom Group's complaint says, media outlets "picked up the story," including Bladeroom Group's confidential information, and "broadcast it around the world."

Source: <http://enr.construction.com>