

**Washington Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority  
Board Action/Information Summary**

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Action <input type="checkbox"/> Information	MEAD Number: 99927	Resolution: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
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**PURPOSE**

To obtain the Board's approval to initiate and award a sole-source contract to Knorr for the purchase of ten oil-less air compressors for the 2000/3000 series railcars.

**DESCRIPTION**

Contract Number FK0154 was awarded to ALSTOM Transportation of Hornel, NY in December 2000 for the rehabilitation of the 2000/3000 series railcars, which were originally manufactured by Breda. As part of the rehabilitation, ALSTOM replaced the existing brake air compressors with an updated WABCO D4AS air compressor.

WMATA experienced an unacceptably high rate of failure with the WABCO D4AS air compressors, which impacted the reliability of the rehabilitated 2000/3000 series railcars. As a result of the high failure rate with these compressors, a sole-source Determination & Findings was approved in November 2006 to purchase three Knorr air compressors for testing as potential replacements. Two of these compressors were the standard VV120 oil-lubricated compressors. The third was the VV120-2 oil-less compressor, which requires less maintenance and avoids oil contamination of the air supply.

The three Knorr air compressors were purchased in January 2007 and installed on 2000 series railcars in February 2007 for testing. As a result of the success of the initial testing of the VV120-2 oil-less air compressor, it is recommended that the Board approve the expansion of the testing to include ten additional VV120-2 compressors to provide a better basis for a decision to replace the air compressors on the entire 2000/3000-series railcar fleet.

Knorr is the only known supplier of oil-less air compressors with service experience. Further, Knorr will provide training, course material, maintenance manuals, and spare parts to operate and maintain this equipment. It is recommended that ten VV120-2 oil-less air compressors be purchased as a sole-source procurement from Knorr.

## **FUNDING IMPACT**

Budget: Capital Improvement Program

Project: Breda 2000/3000-Series Mid-Life Rehabilitation

Budget:	\$ 18,814,000
Prior Obligations:	3,014,000
This Action:	<u>401,000</u>
Remaining Budget:	\$ 15,399,000

**NOTE:** The total cost for this action is \$401,000. The action is programmed within the approved budget for the 2000/3000 Railcar Rehabilitation Project. Sufficient budget authority is available to fund the estimated expenses. As such, this action requires no additional budget authorization.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board approve this action to initiate and award a sole-source contract, in the amount of \$401,000, to Knorr for the purchase of ten oil-less air compressors, including training, manuals, and spare parts for further testing on the 2000/3000-series railcars.