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Contractor prequalification is essential in most roadway construction projects. Its objective is to help owners avoid constructor failure by ensuring that constructors participating in the bidding process have adequate experience and expertise to perform the work. This research aimed to identify criteria used for considering during prequalification process in Tianjin Roadway Administration Bureau (TRAB), China. Two organization types participated in this study were the owner (Tianjin Roadway Administration Bureau, China) and the contractor.

The study results revealed that both the owner and the contractor perceived the same 4 of 5 most important decision parameters in contractor prequalification. It was legal entity status and business profile, construction experience, management capability and financial capability. However, the hypothesis testing showed that there are significant differences of point of views towards plant and equipment criteria and key personnel of project team proposed criteria. In addition, factor analysis was employed to group the criteria. The results revealed that the prequalification criteria could be grouped into four factors, which were called as corporate credibility of contractor, reliability of contractor, technical competency of contractor and resources of contractor. Finally, a prioritized list of group of criteria and sub-criteria to be considered in prequalifying contractors was developed, which include legal entity status and business profile, construction experience, management capability, financial capability, construction capacity, key personnel of project team proposed, past performance and reputation, plant and equipment, safety performance, litigation history and public relationship.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature

Date