5 tips for conducting vendor due diligence

	Information to share	Examples
1	Customers and markets	 Summary of sales by client (at least the top 10-20) over past 2 years Summary of sales by major product line over past 2 years Include margin earned on each product line Work pipeline with quotes, orders and WIP
2	Inventory and suppliers	 Report of inventory levels for major products versus sales levels Schedule of top 5 suppliers and specific payment and supply terms Up-to-date stock listing
3	People and processes	 Organisational chart documenting roles and responsibilities Payroll schedule Last two years' workers comp claims Summary of key processes and procedures
4	Contracts, licences, registrations and agreements	 Schedule of all key agreements e.g. supplier or key customer agreements, leases, licensing agreements etc Legal ownership and entity chart Documents showing legal status of business name, trademarks, IP etc
5	Business and financial performance	 Up-to-date financial and management accounts for past 2-3 years Reasons for any variances in accounts List of aged debtors and creditors Schedule of tax and BAS liability reconciliation
6	Other legal information	 Group structure diagram Schedule of all permits, licences or authorities held by each entity within the group structure Legal schedule detailing any current, pending or threatened litigation against any group entity

