

Odd Tender Canceled

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The Health and Social Development Ministry canceled on Tuesday a tender offering 55 million rubles (\$1.8 million) to create a web site in just two weeks, but said it acted only to end a media frenzy, Interfax reported.

The tender to develop a social networking site for doctors was aborted because of "the incorrect assessment by the media" and will be rescheduled for an unspecified later date after "a public explanation of its main points," a ministry representative said.

The tender caused a fuss in the blogosphere, with bloggers claiming that it is impossible to fulfill the assignment in two weeks and suggesting that the tender was rigged.

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