

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 20_026

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure: **PORTUS-MK3, Carbon Fiber Mounting Pole for over-the-side Norbit multibeam sonar operations.**
2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency: **The Hydrographic Science Research Center requires a light weight, hydrodynamic, stable, easily transportable, and corrosion resistant mounting pole for over-the-side sonar operations from small vessels to conduct research operations. The primary sonar to be attached to the pole is HSRC's Norbit multibeam sonar; this pole mount is specifically designed for this sonar, but can also be used for other sonars and oceanographic sensors at HSRC.**
3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: **Seahorse Geomatics is the sole supplier of a mounting pole that meets HSRC requirements for a Norbit multibeam sonar. Their product is a made from carbon fiber, giving it much more stability than traditional metal pole mounts. In addition, it is molded to be dynamically efficient in the water, further reducing pole movement that adversely affects sonar performance. Carbon fiber is much lighter than traditional metal pole mounts and the whole system is easily transportable in a unique hard-sided case.**
4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: **The price is considered very reasonable for a carbon fiber pole mount that will provide**

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better performance and greater longevity than traditional metal pole mounts. This pole mount will also improve efficiency of research operations by reducing the amount of down time required to build, repair, or adjust traditional pole mounts.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: **HSRC conducted a thorough search for comparable products via internet and trade publications. No other manufacturer of a carbon fiber pole mount was identified.**

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	3/16/20
2nd scheduled	3/23/20

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts
steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

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If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.