

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 21_002

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: VHX Digital Microscope with high dynamic range, XYZ image stitching, dual cameras, wide magnification range, advanced measurement, shadow effect mode, contamination and grain size analysis.
2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:
The instrument and software can perform contamination analysis, compliant with ISO 16232 and VDA 19. The instrument and software can perform shadow effect mode, which allows for a more 3 dimensional image. This mode shows craters, crevices and artifacts that cannot be seen with other type of microscopes. This technology is protected by U.S. patent (0297597)
3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: Keyence is the manufacturer and only distributor of this equipment.
4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: This equipment is being purchased for a large project, of great benefit to the university. In addition, this equipment greatly expands the imaging, microscopy, measurement and reporting capabilities of MPI leading to more work and financial return.
5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:
Other vendors and products were researched but none met the needs of the university.

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Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	7/11/2020
2nd scheduled	7/18/2020

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.

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.