

USM SSP 22\_010 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

RFx: 3150004109:

USB System (1)  
Auxiliary Sound Output Channels (1)  
EP DSP Hardware (1)  
EP – 4 Channel Amplifier (1)  
SmartEP Software (1)  
SmartEP - Chained Stimulus Option (1)  
SmartEP -Advanced Aud. Research (1)  
SmartEP - Notched Masking Option (1)  
SmartEP – CLAD Acquisition Option (1)  
ER2 High Frequency Insert Earphones (1)  
USB Booster Cable without HP Filter (1)  
Linked Electrode Adaptor (2)

[http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract\\_bid\\_search/Bid](http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid)

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

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 written notice, by 8:00 AM CST, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

to:

Steve Ballew  
Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406  
[bids@usm.edu](mailto:bids@usm.edu)  
Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection – USM SSP 22\_010"

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.

**Run Dates:**

**02.17.22**

**02.24.22**

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 22\_010**

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:**

*Make: Intelligent Hearing System, 4 channel Advanced Research Module to record Auditory Evoked Responses. Items that make up the system listed below.*

*USB System (1)  
Auxiliary Sound Output Channels (1)  
EP DSP Hardware (1)  
EP – 4 Channel Amplifier (1)  
SmartEP Software (1)  
SmartEP - Chained Stimulus Option (1)  
SmartEP -Advanced Aud. Research (1)  
SmartEP - Notched Masking Option (1)  
SmartEP – CLAD Acquisition Option (1)  
ER2 High Frequency Insert Earphones (1)  
USB Booster Cable without HP Filter (1)  
Linked Electrode Adaptor (2)*

**2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:**

*Only company in the USA that makes 2 or more channel Auditory Evoked Potential system that can be used for both research and clinical purposes (FDA approved). The Advanced Research Module has the option to load external sound stimuli, to record Auditory Evoked Responses to Chained Stimulus, Continuous Loop Averaging Deconvolution (CLAD) acquisition module, notched masking. The Intelligent Hearing System provides ER-2 High-frequency Insert earphones which can be used to record auditory evoked responses to high-frequency stimuli. The Intelligent Hearing System allows recording simultaneously responses from both ears. This system provides the option advanced option to analyze recorded (spectral) data and the ability to export.*

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**3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:**

*The Intelligent Hearing System is the only company in the USA that makes 2 or 4 or 8 channel Auditory Evoked Potential system for both research and clinical purposes (FDA approved).*

**4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:**

*The estimated cost of the Intelligent Hearing System is \$25477.80. The Intelligent Hearing System is the only company in the USA that makes both research and clinical (FDA approved) auditory evoked potential systems. The Intelligent Hearing System can be used for both research and clinical purposes (any age). The Intelligent Hearing system has an advanced research module option that can be used for various auditory research purposes. In this system, an external sound stimulus (e.g., speech) can be loaded and auditory evoked responses can be recorded simultaneously from the different levels of the auditory system. The auditory evoked activity can be recorded from 4 different places on the scalp. The Advanced Research module also has other advanced research protocols such as chained stimulus presentation, Continuous Loop Averaging Deconvolution (CLAD) acquisition module, and notched masking option which is not available in other clinical auditory evoked potential systems. This system provides the option advanced option to analyze recorded (spectral) data and the ability to export it.*

*Whereas the clinical auditory evoked potential system (FDA approved) is equipped to record auditory evoked responses only from 1 or 2 places on the scalp. The clinical system is used to estimate hearing and for neuro-diagnostic purposes (any age). Clinical systems will not have the option to load any external stimuli or advanced research module and costs around \$20,000-25,000 per equipment.*

**5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

*There are not many companies that manufacture audiology equipment in the USA. Only the Intelligent Hearing System company meets the requirements (4 channel, clinical module, and advanced research module) and this system can be used for both research and clinical purposes. Also, the Intelligent Hearing System is special University discount.*

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<b>Advertisement Schedule</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>2.17.22</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>2.24.22</b>

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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