

USM SSP 23\_011 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchases of the following:

Discovery Refrigerated Cooling System – RCS90

RFx: 3150004575

[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 October 5<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, October 5th, 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 23\_011"

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:**

**09.21.22**

**09.28.22**

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 23\_011**

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:**

Discovery Refrigeration cooling system RCS90 is a two-stage cascade vapor compression refrigeration system that permits convenient programmed or ballistic cooling in DSC/MDSC ® operation over the temperature range from -90 °C to 550 °C.

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

This cooling unit is custom-made to fit around the measurement cell of the Q series Differential Scanning Calorimeter (DSC).

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

TA Instruments does not sell this equipment through distributors.

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

The DSC is currently unusable in sub-ambient conditions and this equipment is needed to restore it to normal working order. This unit provides cooling of the DSC sample chamber from 550°C to -90°C. In addition to cooling below ambient conditions, it also allows for precise temperature control needed for DSC experiments. Failure to purchase would severely limit the use of the equipment and the reliability of the data. TA Instruments is the only vendor of this custom unit and the only price of \$13,078.

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
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**5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

TA Instruments is the only vendor of this custom unit and does not sell this equipment through distributors. The unit is specifically made to fit around the measurement cell of the Q series DSC.

| <b>Advertisement Schedule</b>   | <b>Date</b>     |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> scheduled</b> | <b>09.21.22</b> |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled</b> | <b>09.28.22</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 – USM SSP 23\_011"**

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