

USM SSP 23_026 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of ARAMIS Optical Strain.

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

RFx: 3150004922

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 April 26, 2023.

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 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

bids@usm.edu

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 23_026"

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: 4/11, 4/18

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 23_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:

This optical system is designed for full-field optical capabilities of foil strain gages, extensometers, and most other mechanical deformation measurement tools. It measures material behaviors and dynamic structural response.

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

This optical system allows users to meet the testing requirements of advanced CAE models, FEA validation, material testing, and high-speed measurements with one system. Additionally, this instrument has the unique feature of CAD importation which is critical for monitoring the strain analysis of structural subcomponents under real-time test conditions. This conducted with built in software to understand deviations from original CAD 3D surfaces and ones under active strain or post permanent deformations from inelastic strain.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can

provide the required commodity: There is only one other manufacturer of a similar system but that system is not able to accomplish CAD support without 3rd party software which complicates the testing and evaluation process nor does it automate the generation of material properties such as Young's modulus, True stress vs. true strain, etc..

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

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There is only one other manufacturer of such a system and they have multiple deficiencies regarding appropriate equipment for a university setting such as 1) Automated materials property measurement, 2) Integration of import and export for complex modeling efforts such as CAD and FEA, Python Scripting friendly, 3) Template development to support specific programs, test specimens or prototype structures, 4) The capability to switch from load to displacement controlled test triggers and 5) Software that interfaces with the broader composite community.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: USM PI Wiggins and personnel have long-standing historical relations in the composites industry with global leaders. The Aramis optical strain technology is a core aerospace industry system used by the composite community and our direct customers. The advanced features of the model provide the ability to interface seamlessly with the sponsor's system at the quoted price based on all required features.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	4/12/2023
2nd scheduled	4/19/2023

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 by March 17, 2023, 8:00 AM CST, to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection 23_026"

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