

USM SSP 24\_029 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of MAHI Software.

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

RFx: 3150005673

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 June 28, 2024.

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:

Jacob Cochran

Interim 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 24\_029"

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: 6/11, 6/18

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 24\_029**

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:**

- (1) A MAHI Controller Sensor hardware upgrade, and
- (2) A MAHI Controller software upgrade and license renewal.

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

Under a previous Project, MAHI was a USM Research Partner on the development of a fully autonomous surface vessel to study physical processes in the north Gulf of Mexico. MAHI research was the development of the Controller, Sense hardware and software autonomy package. We currently want to upgrade our hardware and software with renewed licensing. This package has been incorporated into USM Maritime Uncrewed System training program and curriculum and has been fully documented for both classroom and online training.

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

MAHI Sense is an autonomous components company that provides hardware and software to customers to install on various types of vessels. USM currently possesses a MAHI Sense system tailored to our usage in the Ocean Cube and documented to meet our USM training program and curriculum. MAHI has proprietary software specific to their system and is the only company that can update our system both hardware and software.

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

We are buying an upgrade to an existing system with associated licensing similar to what is currently in place with the same company.

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

Best price was looked at when we choose MAHI as our research partner. Currently want to upgrade USM existing system with the latest hardware, software, and license.

Estimated to be cheaper in pricing, integration, and time than getting a new system.

<b>Advertisement Schedule</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>6/11/24</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>6/18/24</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 by June 28, 2024, 8:00 AM CST, to:

Jacob Cochran

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

**Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection 24\_029"**

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.

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 24\_029**

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