

USM SSP 24_016 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of JEM-1400 Transmission Electron Microscope.

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

RFx: 3150005426

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 January 26, 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

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 24_016"

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: 1/9, 1/16

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 24_016

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:

The University of Southern Mississippi is requesting purchase of a Jeol JEM-1400Flash (HR) Transmission Electron Microscope. The automated system consists of a TEM microscope stand with Gatan 16 megapixel ClearView Camera, premium Clearview workstation and comprehensive software suite, Scanning Image Observation Device and DigiScan 3 system, Leica Cryo Grid plunger, Gatan Turbo-pumping station, TMP Vacuum pump system with air cooled water chiller, AztecEnergy advanced Ultim Max specimen analysis system with 80mm 127eV detector, and Gatan ultra-low profile Elsa Cryo-Transfer holder among other accessories. The system includes two years of extended warranty service agreement. The Jeol JEM-1400 system will be housed in the Microscopy Cluster in the Thames Polymer Science Research Center at USM.

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

USM faculty and investigators have varied needs for their research projects, including high resolution cryogenic electron microscopy. The Jeol JEM-1400Flash has several unique features only available in this system which can satisfy the needs of the multi-user facility in which it will reside. The system must have the automation, flexibility, and efficiency to satisfy a range of different research needs while also allowing for rapid user turnover. The automated JEM-1400Flash is configured for individual user log ins and personalized work environments which allow settings based on user expertise levels. The touchscreen displays TEM conditions and TEM/EDS data, and the microscope allows for simple selection of modes using switches on the GUI or knobsets. The instrument includes in-system training which helps beginners familiarize themselves with microscope operation and assists experienced users to explore advanced functions. These features make the instrument accessible to facility users of varying experience levels. The instrument comes with a viewing chamber that supports the use of binoculars and fluorescent viewing screens. The system's specimen rod has a double o-ring to prevent vacuum leaks through the goniometer, which allows vacuum to recover within 15 seconds of specimen insertion. It also has exchangeable polepieces which makes it possible to change polepieces in the field with no major realignments required. These features will help with efficiency and speed of-use, allowing more samples to be run by a greater number of users. The Jeol-1400Flash has a cantilever-style micro-active goniometer with motor driven 5-axis control and +/-80 degrees, which is essential for automated operation such as tomography and digital montaging. It also contains a side-entry quick-change specimen holder and multiple-tip accommodating specimen rod, requiring only a tweezer to exchange samples. The system has an anti-contaminator and cryo-shield completely surrounding the specimen that achieves an ice contamination rate of less than 0.5 nm/hour. All these features provide flexibility and automation which will allow analysis of the diverse sample types expected. The Jeol-1400Flash imaging capabilities are needed for ongoing and future research projects and are only available from this vendor.

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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 +/-90 degrees (15-degree increments) image orientation system which allows image size to remain constant, no-realignment exchangeable polepieces, and cantilever-style micro-active goniometer with +/- 80 degrees required for sample analysis flexibility are only available through Jeol. The double o-ring specimen rod with vacuum recovery less than 15 seconds, quick-change side-loaded specimen holder with multiple size tip accommodation, TMP allowing for specimen exchange without turning off emission/beam, and the surrounding anti-contaminator and cryo-shield needed for speed and efficiency are available only from this vendor. The system's three mode Minimum Dose System, built-in training modes, automated touchscreen data and condition status display, and experience-based personalized work environments provide the automation and support necessary for a range of users to benefit from the instrument and are also only available from this vendor.

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

The cost of this instrument and all of the included components is comparable to other cryogenic transmission electron microscopy systems.

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

A 28% discount on the instrument package was negotiated from the vendor.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	1/9/24
2nd scheduled	1/16/24

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Jacob Cochran

Interim Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

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