# Mississippi State University Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

# 223-53

Mississippi State University anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

## Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

Ultium EMG Sensor with accessories

## Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

This equipment has been selected specifically for use through a National Science Foundation Major Research Instrumentation grant. The equipment purchased with this system is designed to be compatible with the instrumented treadmill system that we are purchasing, which requires the included sensors to be able to synchronize with the main system to capture data together in real-time. Noraxon offers a modular sensor design so that EMG along with other sensors including pressure insoles, electrogoniometer, and IMU can be used. The included software also enables quick, automated analysis without the need for custom scripting.

Further, this equipment can only be purchased directly from Noraxon USA in North America and no other manufacturer uses the patented Noraxon technology or software.

## Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

Noraxon USA. This is the only possible source that has the specific combination of sensors needed for gold-standard wearables research and validation while also requiring software that can easily be synchronized across multiple systems.

## Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

$32,000

This amount was already outlined and justified in our NSF MRI application. This amount would cover equipment needs to a variety of validation experiments to be conducted within our lab. The use of a modular system also means that we don’t have to purchase individual sensors from multiple vendors and risk implementing systems that are not compatible with each other based on their software stacks.

## Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

The research team did an in-depth investigation to see if any other companies sold anything similar to this. There was no other system like this one that meets the requirements of the grant.

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:

Don Buffum, CPPO  
Director of Procurement & Contracts  
[dbuffum@procurement.msstate.edu](mailto:dbuffum@procurement.msstate.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, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU 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 MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

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