# Mississippi State University Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

# 223-50

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):

3- indoor use drones- (XLR model from Orion with ancillary equipment)

1- outdoor use drones- (XLR model from Orion with ancillary equipment)

2- outdoor use drones (XL model from Orion with ancillary equipment)

2- tethered drones- (H18T Tethered model from Orion)

2- High endurance drones- (high endurance VTOL model from Orion)

15-days of onsite training and support

## 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:

These systems are test articles whose performance in mission specific testing scenarios is of interest to the project sponsor. These specific items are not intended to provide a capability, they are merely meant to be evaluated for suitability. The testing results are intended to help the sponsor make informed decisions regarding future acquisitions and or product development. The sponsor has specifically requested these models and quantities in order to accomplish the goals of the program.

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

This system is exclusively sold by the manufacturer- Orion Technology Group, 1201 North Orange Street Suite 723 Wilmington, DE 19801-1186

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

Per sales quote 20221115-1, dated 11/15/2022, the cost of the above systems including ancillary equipment is $830,994.64. The quoted cost is considered reasonable as Orion is designated as the sole distributors of the systems and no comparable quotes could be obtained. Sponsor has also reviewed quoted pricing and given approval for purchase.

## 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:

Raspet has spoken with the manufacturer’s representative who has stated they do not have any authorized vendors.

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.