Mississippi State University  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

178-39

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.

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

The CRAIC 508 PV Microscope Spectrophotometer. This is an ultraviolet-visible-NIR range microspectrophotometer that can be added to any microscope to take spectra and capture images. Capable of capturing transmittance, reflectance and fluorescence.

1. 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:

We currently have NIRS equipment that is used to image in the near infrared spectrum, but to further the research objectives outlined in the federal Biophotonics Initiative that funds this research, we need to image in spectra not available with our current equipment. The 508 PV can be used in conjunction with our current equipment and is the only item on the market that can provide the spectral range and multiple functions needed to analyze the samples in the manner required to further our published research that is available in one piece of equipment. The 508 PV is capable of multiple calibrated and reproducible sampling areas that must include an InGaAs array detector, 18nm spectral resolution, fast image acquisition, reflectance and fluorescence spectra emission acquisition between 900 and 1700nm for an area as small as 1x1 micron.

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

CRAIC Technologies is the sole manufacturer of the 508 PV that a seven position calibrated measurement aperture with six different calibrated and reproducible sampling areas and must include an InGaAs array detector, a spectral resolution of 18 nm, the ability to acquire spectra in as little as 15 milliseconds with a 16-bit dynamic range. Our research group requires these functions to align with previous and current research using our current NIRS equipment. The 508 PV is needed to continue research that has been previously published.

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

The cost of this equipment is $76,355.00. This cost is acceptable given the spectral range and benefit to current research projects. This is the only company that can provide the equipment in one piece, making it more cost effective than purchasing multiple separate pieces that might be cheaper on the front, but in total would be much more costly.

1. 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:

This company is the only one that provides the needed spectral range in one piece of equipment and can be used with the current microscopic equipment than we have in house. No other company provides the range needed in once piece of equipment and this is the most cost effective option to obtaining all of the needed specifications. No one else on campus has equipment that we can use that allows us to image the needed range.

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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