

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

SS 108

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

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

Lab Products, Inc. Super Mouse 750 cages and accessories

The need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

At any point on any day in a laboratory animal facility caging/feeders, etc. are in use and housing animals, are set up waiting to be changed out, are being changed out, or are being processed through cage wash. These cages, feeders, water bottles and water bottle baskets, are being ordered to help streamline our cage change operation for the Super Mouse 750 IVC racks we acquired earlier in the year. They will help ensure that there are ample caging supplies on hand for scheduled (and unscheduled) cage changes as well as if cage wash equipment breaks down or in the event of an emergency. They will also help meet any immediate investigator research needs such as creating new groupings of animals, setting up new breeder pairs, etc. Caging also has a short shelf life before it has to be disposed of due to breakage or clouding, cracking, warping, etc. These cages and caging supplies are specifically manufactured to fit our existing SuperMouse 750 IVC racks and will be used solely with this equipment. Other manufacturers' products are not compatible with our existing racks.

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

Lab Products, Inc. does not sell its equipment or supplies through other vendors or scientific suppliers. We contacted other manufacturers to see if they had caging/supplies that would be compatible with Lab Product's racks, and the answer was no.

Why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

The pricing is comparable to similar (but not compatible) supplies for static housed animals.

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

We monitored second hand sources, e.g. LabEx and a couple of industry-specific listservs, for surplus caging and supplies.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties:

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the item(s) above should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for UM to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source purchase.

1.1 Interested Party Information

1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number, Address and email address

1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable

1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification

1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.

1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.

1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Friday, October 12, 2018 at 10:00 am (Central Time) to Katherine Jones at kajones4@olemiss.edu (with Cc: to purchase@olemiss.edu) at The University of Mississippi Procurement Services Department, 164 Jeanette Phillips Drive, PO Box 1848, University, Mississippi 38677. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, or e-mail. The envelope or email should reference the sole source number. UM WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach UM on time. Interested Parties may contact Katherine Jones to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, UM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then UM will withdraw the sole source certification and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If UM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then UM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board for approval to purchase.