

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI
Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

#SS 312

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):

Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell manufactured by Instron

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:

The Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell is a force transducer that allows the Instron Frame to record and monitor force as materials are being tested. The Instron 2580-5KN has a maximum loading capacity of 5,000 Newtons with a precision of 0.05% and this new load cell will allow testing of a wide range of materials for the execution of polymeric and composite materials research at the Center for Graphene Research and Innovation (CGRI). The Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell by Instron is the only commercially available cell that complies with the compatibility requirements of the Frame in terms of geometry, design and functional features. The combination of frame and load cell will allow CGRI researchers to perform testing of materials with the 5982 Floor Model Universal Testing System. The Instron 2580-5KN static load cell will enable the execution of materials characterization for research that requires tensile, compression and flexural static testing.

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

The Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell is manufactured by Instron. Contact Name: David Johnson Instron, a division of ITW, Inc. 825 University Avenue Norwood, MA 02062-2343, davis_johnson@instron.com. The Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell is an accessory for the existing Instron Frame 5982 Floor Model Universal Testing System. The Instron 2580-5KN Static Load Cell is designed and made by Instron for our existing Instron Frame 5982 Floor Model Universal Testing System. It cannot be purchased from another vendor or manufacturer to ensure full compatibility.

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

The current and quoted price for the Instron 2580-5KN load cell (0.05% accuracy) is reasonable compared to other 5kN load cells in the market with less accuracy (0.1%).

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

An education discount was negotiated.

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 Monday, May 22, 2023 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.