

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

SS 314

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):

J55 Prime 3D Printer manufactured by Stratasys

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:

Stratasys is the only vendor who can offer the resolution, available color pallets, and durability of finished parts needed for our classroom environment. Speed of print was also a factor for us as student labs sometimes require a prototype print to complete during the lab. The labs run in time from 50 minutes to 120 minutes. Stratasys, and their PolyJet™ technology are the only manufacturer to meet these requirements. The FDM® technology in the J55 Prime package uses production grade thermoplastic building materials that feature surface resolution, chemical and heat resistance, color, and mechanical properties necessary for production of functional prototypes and parts. Their 3D inkjet-based printing technology is differentiated from other technologies in its ability to scale and deliver high-resolution and multi-material printing, in color.

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

Technical Training Aids 2076 Valleydale Terrace Birmingham, AL 35244-1726. Technical Training Aids is the only Stratasys Partner authorized to represent the Stratasys systems and materials to our programs within the University of Mississippi and in our region.

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

The purchase price is reasonable if looking at the "Historical Pricing" of a similar product and same technology the CME purchased from Stratasys in the past. When comparing costs to historical pricing, we accounted for inflation by using the inflation calculator from the Bureau of Labor and Statistics website: https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm. Since the time the previous printer was purchased in May of 2015, inflation has risen by 27%. The current price is well below the inflation-adjusted cost of the previous purchase.

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

We spoke with TTA on several occasions during the quoting process to secure the lowest possible price. The CME manufacturing facility manager began with budgetary numbers from TTA and spoke with TTA on several occasions during the quoting process to secure the lowest possible price.

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 Frank Kemp at fbkemp@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 Frank Kemp 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.