# Mississippi State University Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

# 223-52

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):

Birns, 3K-1C-CP-A00300D (QTY 6), 3K-1C-CP Terminated LMR-240-DB coaxial cable of 3 m len.

Birns, 3K-1C-FR-H00046U (QTY 12), 3K-1C-FR to SMA adapter of 46 cm len.

## 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:

How these items are unique

Only company that provides low loss (less than 5 dB/ 10 meters), submarine quality cables at 915 MHz and S-band frequencies.

Because the water proof ends of the cables are proprietary, any bulkhead adapter cables must be ordered through the same company.

How these items are the only ones that can meet the specific needs of the department:

NRL, the government authority in this research, has already designed the overall system to interface with the Birns cables and standards listed in question 1.

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

Bins Inc. is the sole manufacturer of these items.

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

Estimated Cost: $26,643.00. This includes the cost of parts and labor to make 6 cables and 12 adapters with specialized water/submersion proof shielding and RF connectors.

## 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:

The PI and Co-PI have reached out to NRL researchers to determine with which technology MSU needs to integrate. We have a written confirmation that NRL has decided to go with the Birns cables and we must be able to integrate with Birns proprietary coaxial connectors.

The PI and Co-PI have reached out to Birns and Birns approved distributors and have only been able to receive quotes directly from Birns.

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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