

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties

From: Jennifer Douglas
Administrative Director, Category Management and Procurement

Date: August 18, 2023

Re: Sole Source Certification Number **SS5802** for **monochrome camera and related accessories**

Contact Email Address: solesource@umc.edu

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding UMMC Sole Source Certification Number **SS5802** for monochrome camera and related accessories, please be advised that UMMC intends to award the purchase to Andor Technology Inc. as the sole source provider.

UMMC issues this notice in accordance with Mississippi state law, policy, and procedures for sole source procurements.

Sole Source Criteria

1. Where the compatibility of equipment, accessories, or replacement parts is the paramount consideration (and manufacturer is the sole supplier).
2. Where a sole supplier's item is needed for trial use or testing.
3. Where a sole supplier's item is to be required when no other item will service the needs of UMMC.

Schedule

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	August 24, 2023
Second Advertisement Date	August 31, 2023
Response Deadline from Objectors	September 8, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before September 15, 2023

1. Describe the commodity that the agency is seeking to procure:

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) seeks to procure a Hamamatsu LT3 monochrome camera for fluorescent microscopy imaging with the necessary components to interface with the currently owned and utilized StereoInvestigator Imaging Software.

2. An explanation of why the commodity is the only one that can meet the needs of UMMC.

UMMC currently owns a StereoInvestigator Imaging System; there are no other comparable cameras available that have the necessary software components, including drivers, that will integrate with that system. The addition of the camera will allow researchers to detect the far-red wavelength fluorescence channel while quantifying samples in order to follow the procedures defined in grant proposals.

3. Explain why the source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

MBF Biosciences is the only provider for StereoInvestigator, and therefore the only company that offers the complex software integration of the hardware components such as the camera with their software. See supporting letter from Andor Technology Inc., Attachment A.

4. Explain why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

The estimated annual amount to be expended for the purchase of the monochrome camera and related accessories is \$14,000.00. This amount is within the expected price range for these products.

5. Describe the efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

Pricing is compared against available market intelligence and identified discounts are pursued where applicable.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the monochrome camera and related accessories, (hereafter, “Products”) should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the Vendor Form for the State to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the sole source to MBF Biosciences. The Vendor Form may be found at <http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/Purchasing/documents/ObjectiontoSoleSourceDetermination.pdf>.

Objections must include the certification in Attachment B.

Comments will be accepted at any time prior to September 8, 2023, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to solesource@umc.edu. Responses may be delivered via email to solesource@umc.edu. UMMC WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach UMMC on time. Responses received after the deadline and responses that lack all required information will be rejected. UMMC reserves the right to inspect Interested Party’s commodity for comparison purposes.

If you have any questions concerning the information above or if we can be of further assistance, please contact solesource@umc.edu.

Attachment A: Vendor Correspondence

Attachment B: Objection Certification

Attachment A



MicroBrightField, Inc.

185 Allen Brook Lane, Suite 101, Williston, VT 05495 USA
info@mbfbioscience.com www.mbfbioscience.com
tel 802.288.9290 fax 802.288.9002

August 15th, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The NeuroLucida® system for performing brain mapping, neuron tracing, anatomical mapping, and morphometry is a unique product that performs functions that can not be found in any other system. MBF Bioscience, Inc. is the manufacturer and sole distributor in North America.

The Stereo Investigator® system for performing design-based stereology on isotropic or vertical (anisotropic) sections is a unique product that performs functions that can not be found in any other system. MBF Bioscience, Inc. is the manufacturer and sole distributor in North America.

The hardware quoted and associated with MBF Bioscience systems (with the exception of the Lucivid) is provided with MBF Bioscience acting as integrator/reseller and professional consultant. If the customer decides to purchase any quoted hardware through another party or source, circumstantial fees shall apply. This is to (1) offset the technically complex integration involved in configuring and matching third-party microscope and computer hardware to MBF Bioscience software and (2) offset the necessary financial burden imposed upon MBF Bioscience for related professional consultation and post-sale service and support.

- Computers: If said device is not purchased through MBF Bioscience, the customer is responsible for its shipment to and from MBF Bioscience (at the customer's expense) for software configuration and hardware compatibility testing. A standard PC configuration fee applies for this service plus an additional fee for any unforeseen complications due to using non-standard, MBF Bioscience supplied PC
- Motorized stage systems and Video Cameras: MBF Bioscience provides specific custom software drivers with every device that we provide. If said device is not provided by MBF Bioscience, then these software drivers must be purchased separately with a cost between \$2,500 and \$4,000 per device

MBF Bioscience reserves the right to waive any of the above fees. MBF Bioscience warrants that no other products are available for purchase that would provide the same functionality and there is only one price for the above-named products because of exclusive distribution and marketing rights in the North America. MBF Bioscience certifies that its prices bid, quoted or charged to any customer do not exceed those billed to any of its favored customers, whether they be governmental agencies, institutions, or the general public for the same items in like or comparable quantity, quality or specifications, within the same time frame.

NeuroLucida, NeuroLucida 360, Stereo Investigator, Vesselucida 360, BrainMaker, NeuroInfo and Wormlab Feature Summaries are available on request which characterize the functionality of the systems to which these software packages are applied.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack R. Glaser".

Jack R. Glaser
President

Attachment B

**SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO
Sole Source Certification No. SS5802
Accepted until September 8, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.**

I certify that the information contained in this objection is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that UMMC will investigate all statements made in this objection and that any false or misleading information provided may result in adverse action.

Objector Name
Objector's title

Date