**Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source**

**To:** Interested Parties

**From: Ellen Swoger**

 Associate CIO

**Date:** February 15, 2019

**Re:** Sole Source Certification Number **SS9148** for VirtaMed

**Contact Email Address:** solesource@umc.edu

**Sole Source Certification Award Details**

Regarding UMMC Sole Source Certification Number **SS9148** for VirtaMed, please be advised that UMMC intends to award the purchase of the VirtaMedto VirtaMed as the sole source provider of VirtaMed.

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 | February 20, 2019 |
| Second Advertisement Date | February 27, 2019 |
| Response Deadline from Objectors | March 6, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time |
| Notice of Award/No Award Posted | Not before March 6, 2019 |

**Project Details**

1. **Describe the commodity/service that the agency/institution is seeking to procure:**

The VirtaMed virtual reality simulator is a system, which would allow training physicians to learn and practice endoscopic procedures of the knee, hip, shoulder joints, uterus and urinary bladder and prostate. It is designed to train physicians in endoscopic procedures where this surgical instruments with fiber-optic cameras are inserted in the patients allow the physician to perform diagnostic and therapeutic procedures with or without minimal incisions to the skin.

1. **Explain why the commodity/service is the only one (1) that can meet the needs of the agency/institution:**

Several studies in the literature indicates that virtual reality based training in operative skills decreases training time in the operating room, allowing quicker turnover and saving precious operating room time. Simulation-based training provides a unique opportunity for residents to learn in a safe, stress-free environment where they can make mistakes and learn how to avoid them. They can learn and practice at their own pace and spend as much time as it takes each individual to master a skill.

1. **Explain why the source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity/service:**

The VirtaMed Simulator uses a combination of a physical model and computer-generated virtual reality to provide the trainees with realistic visual and tactile feedback about manipulation of endoscopic instruments similar to those in a live patient. “Mixed reality” allows the VirtaMed system to have a unique, lighter modular design. One mobile frame, with a computer and display can be fitted with a choice of four different realistic body parts such as the knee, shoulder, hip and female pelvis and male urogenital organs. The simulators frame can potentially accommodate future platforms developed by VirtaMed. It also features an expert-validated original software curriculum in instruction and evaluation for each procedure. The service contract provides full coverage that includes regular soft-ware updates.

They are not available from any other distributor. See supporting letter from VirtaMed, Attachment A.

1. **Explain why the amount to be expended for the commodity/service is reasonable:**

The estimated amount to be expended is for the purchase of the VirtaMed is $103,200.00. This amount is within the expected price range for these products.

1. **Describe the efforts that the agency/institution went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity/service:**

Through market intelligence, UMMC was able to negotiate best pricing for these products. All applicable discounts were explored and applied.

**Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties**

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the VirtaMed**,**  (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 VirtaMed. 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 Thursday, March 6, 2019, 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 B

**SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO**

**Sole Source Certification No. SS9148**

**Accepted until Wednesday, March 6, 2019, 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