The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

The University of Southern Mississippi is requesting purchase of a Model 1716A Upper Neck Load Cell that provides upper neck force and bending movement data as required for the US Army Natick Contracting Division award pursuant with the “Warfighter Helmet Pneumatic Cushioning Project.”

1. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

This load cell will provide neck movement data from the Hybrid III 50th percentile head and neck assemblies currently being utilized for testing in the Accelerator Impact Lab. These Head forms were purchased from Humanetics via P1 approvals at the start of the “Warfighter Helmet Pneumatic Cushioning Project.”

1. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

Humanetics was the sole source provider for the Head forms and necks and to our knowledge the sole provider for load cells compatible with Humanetics Head forms and necks.

1. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

Quotes were requested and received.

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

The University was required to submit a proposed cost detail for the base and each option in the initial proposal and purchase.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Advertisement Schedule** | **Date** |
| **1st scheduled** | **January 14, 2016** |
| **2nd scheduled** | **January 21, 2016** |

**Objections**

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:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts 601-266-4131

[Steve.ballew@usm.edu](mailto:Steve.ballew@usm.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, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM 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 USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.