Mississippi State University  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

156-50

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.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item #** | **Make** | **Model** | **Description** |
| 1 | GUNT 2E range | HM 142 | Sedimentation Tank |
| 2 | GUNT 2E range | HM 141 | Hydrograph After Precipitation (Rain) |
| 3 | GUNT 2E range | HM 111 | Pipe Network Bench |
| 4 | GUNT 2E range | HM 140 | Open-Channel Sediment Transport |

1. Explanation of 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:

The selected equipment will support educational and research efforts at the undergraduate and graduate level on the Environmental and Water Resources areas for the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department.

The instruments described in numeral 1, will be a valuable support for the development of different topics in the following courses: Engineering Hydrology (CE 4513/6513), Environmental Hydrology (CE 8593), Stream Reconnaissance (CE 4583/6583), Open Channel Hydraulics (CE 4523/6523), and Water Resources Engineering (CE 3503) and its laboratory (CE3501).

Selection of the equipment was based on the needs for the classes and the opinion of the professors expert on the topics (water resources and environmental) ensuring the selection of the best option.

The equipment chosen will provide the opportunity to develop undergraduate and graduate academic/research activities related to:

* Soil/liquid separation in a sedimentation tank,
* Visualization of flow conditions,
* Effects of precipitation in soils,
* Recording of hydrograph,
* Influence or rainwater retention basin on the hydrograph,
* Precipitation time and lag time,
* Flow in an inclinable flume with and without bed-load transport,
* Subcritical and supercritical flow,
* visualization of flow with contrast medium,
* Structure of various pipe networks,
* Pressure losses at various piping elements and pipe networks,
* Closed water circuit with tank and pump.

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

All items described in numeral 1 will be purchased from USDidactic, which is the Exclusive Representative and Sole Source Supplier for Equipment from G.U.N.T. Gerätebau GmbH in the USA (Please see attached letter from the company)

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

Please find attached a quotation that describe in detail the cost of the equipment.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Item #** | **Make** | **Model** | **Description** | **Cost**  **US$** |
| 1 | GUNT 2E range | HM 142 | Sedimentation Tank | 38,265.10 |
| 2 | GUNT 2E range | HM 141 | Hydrograph After Precipitation (Rain) | 42,928.50 |
| 3 | GUNT 2E range | HM 111 | Pipe Network Bench | 33,570.69 |
| 4 | GUNT 2E range | HM 140 | Open-Channel Sediment Transport | 34,313.14 |

The selected equipment can be used for academic and research purposes, to support the fundamental concepts taught by the instructors in a regular lecture class. The equipment will be used for different laboratory practices on each individual subject. A significant number of students will be beneficiated considering the equipment will be used in courses with students enrollment ranging from 40 to 90 students in average per semester, distributed in different sections or groups to make an equitable access to the equipment and option for practice for the students

As can be seen on the quote attached, the US Didactic Company has provided good discounts and has worked with the Civil and Environmental Engineering Staff and Faculty to provide prices that ensure a maximized use of the available funding.

1. 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:

Please find below the list of key words used to find companies that supplies teaching equipment for engineering:

* Educational equipment for engineering
* Educational products and training systems
* Engineering Education Teaching Equipment companies
* Engineering Education lab equipment
* Science education lab equipment
* Educational lab equipment suppliers
* Educational equipment for hydrology class
* Educational equipment for environmental class

In addition to the company chosen to buy the equipment (USDidactic), the companies found online that retail educational equipment are:

* hft education (<http://www.hft-education.com/index.php>)
* Hanpden Engineering (<http://www.hampden.com/index.php>).
* Armfield (<http://discoverarmfield.com/en>)
* Edibon (<http://www.edibon.com/>).

However, the companies mentioned above, did not sell the equipment with the characteristics required for the laboratory practices, and for most of the companies the equipment are manufactured out of the USA territory and some of the companies do not have a representative seller in the USA.

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.