

# Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

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**To:** Interested Parties

**From:** Stacy Baldwin  
Agency Procurement Officer

**Date:** December 29, 2016

**Re:** Sole Source Certification Number **SS5069** for **NIHem-USB Noninvasive Hemodynamic Workstation**

**Contact Email Address:** [solesource@umc.edu](mailto:solesource@umc.edu)

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## Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding UMMC Sole Source Certification Number SS5069 for NIHem-USB Noninvasive Hemodynamic Workstation (hereafter NIHem), please be advised that UMMC intends to award the purchase of the NIHem to Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc as the sole source provider of the NIHem.

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	December 29, 2016
Second Advertisement Date	January 5, 2017
Response Deadline from Objectors	January 13, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before January 17, 2017

## **Project Details**

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

The University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) seeks to purchase NIHem-USB Noninvasive Hemodynamic Workstation for use in the Jackson Heart Study. This system plays an integral role in a new research project that will start in January. This system was designed and produced by Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc., in Norwood, MA, and is entirely unique. No other system has the data acquisition and analysis capabilities that are built into the NIHem system. This system is capable of acquiring ECG, tonometry, and Doppler flow and performing sophisticated analyses to derive various measures of aortic structure and function. The system can also import flow data from a conventional MR machine and perform complex analyses of relations between pressure and flow in the aorta and brain. Without the NIHem device, we will be unable to perform complex hemodynamic studies that have already been funded by the National Institutes of Health and that are due to commence in January.

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

The NIHem device is protected by copyright and patents and is only available directly from Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc. It was built specifically to meet the needs of an upcoming research study. Without the NIHem device, we will be unable to perform complex hemodynamic studies that have already been funded by the National Institutes of Health and that are due to commence in January.

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

Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc manufactures the NIHem system. They are the sole manufacturer and supplier of the NIHem system. This system is not available from any other distributor. See supporting letter from Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc, Attachment A.

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

The estimated amount to be expended is for the purchase of the NIHem is \$34,500. 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:**

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 NI Hem (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 Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc. 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 Friday, January 13, 2017, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to [solesource@umc.edu](mailto:solesource@umc.edu). Responses may be delivered via email to [solesource@umc.edu](mailto: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](mailto:solesource@umc.edu).

Attachment A: Vendor Correspondence

Attachment B: Objection Certification

Attachment A  
**Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc.**  
*1 Edgewater Drive, Suite 201  
Norwood, MA 02062*

December 20, 2016

Department of Finance  
University of Mississippi Medical Center  
2500 North State Street  
Jackson, MS 39216

RE: Vendor sole source letter for NIHem-USB Noninvasive Hemodynamic Workstation

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Jackson Heart Study Center request to purchase a NIHem-USB Noninvasive Hemodynamic Workstation for use in the Jackson Heart Study. The NIHem-USB system was designed and produced by Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc., in Norwood, MA, in order to perform highly specialized hemodynamic research. The system allows users to acquire data from various imaging modalities and perform sophisticated and unique hemodynamic analyses. The NIHem device is protected by copyright and patents and is only available directly from Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc.

A quotation for the system is attached and is valid for 60 days. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary F. Mitchell".

Gary F. Mitchell, MD  
President  
Cardiovascular Engineering, Inc.

Attachment B

**SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO  
Sole Source Certification No. SS5069  
Accepted until Friday January 13, 2017, 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