

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 16-001

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 is requesting a vendor to design, develop and supply prototype quantities of four generation advancements of USM Pneumatic Cushions for helmet applications in compliance with the US Army Natick Contracting Division award pursuant with the “Warfighter Helmet Pneumatic Cushioning Project.”

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

The stated pneumatic cushioning is defined in accordance with The University of Southern Mississippi’s proposal entitled “Warfighter Helmet Pneumatic Cushioning” dated June 9, 2014, which was submitted against the U.S.A. Soldier Research, Development and Engineering Center (NSRDEC) Broad Agency Announcement solicitation number W911QY-13-R-0032. The research will determine the effect of various pressurizations, thickness and shape designs of Pneumatic Cushioning liner systems upon energy mitigation for the Advanced Combat Helmet.

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

Rawlings Sporting Goods is the only vendor who has demonstrated commercial success in designing, developing, and producing pneumatic helmet cushions capable

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of maintaining inflation pressures of 5 to 25 psi for a minimum of five years after inflation. This complies with the technical components of said proposal. A research project agreement currently exists between the University of Southern Mississippi and Rawlings Sporting Goods that provides Rawlings with an exclusive worldwide license of intellectual property developed pursuant to the research project, and grants them a 20 year royalty license, therefore, no other supplier is allowed to produce, modify, or sell this product developed by USM

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

Quotes were submitted and agreed upon in the initial proposal to the US Army.

5. 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.

Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	September 3, 2015
2nd scheduled	September 10, 2015

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
Steve.ballew@usm.edu

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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.