

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties

From: Ellen Swoger
Associate CIO

Date: April 3, 2019

Re: Sole Source Certification Number **SS9157** for Neurolucida 360 Studio

Contact Email Address: solesource@umc.edu

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding UMMC Sole Source Certification Number **SS9157** for Neurolucida 360 Studio, please be advised that UMMC intends to award the purchase of the Neurolucida 360 Studio to **MBF Bioscience**, as the sole source provider of Neurolucida 360 Studio.

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	April 8, 2019
Second Advertisement Date	April 15, 2019
Response Deadline from Objectors	April 22, 2019, at 3:00 p.m. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before April 22, 2019

Project Details

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

Neurolucida 360 is uniquely designed to automatically model, classify and quantify dendritic spines in 3D. Spines are automatically classified by type (i.e., mushroom, filipodia, stubby, thin as described in the scientific literature). It is also designed to model and quantify somas, varicosities, and synapses. Developed with support from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), it is specifically conceived for the neuroscience community by neuroscientists.

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

MBF Bioscience warrants that no other products are available for purchase that would provide the same functionality and there is only one price for the above-named products because of exclusive distribution and marketing rights in the North America. MBF Bioscience certifies that its prices bid, quoted or charged to any customer do not exceed those billed to any of its favored customers, whether they be governmental agencies, institutions, or the general public for the same items in like or comparable quantity, quality or specifications, within the same time frame.

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

Neurolucida 360 contains a patented, innovative tracing algorithm, developed over a period of 10 years, that quickly explores an entire 3D image volume in seconds, and in an unbiased manner, identifies neuronal processes and somas, traces the processes, outlines soma volume at each image plane, and connects the process to form a reconstructed set of trees. This product is essential to our ability to conduct the studies proposed in our recently funded NIMH R21 grant, as this product will allow us to perform unbiased, reliable state of the art 3 dimensional quantification of dendritic spines at specific segments of dendritic branches. This is essential as our data thus far, as well as data from other labs, demonstrates that spine changes during memory consolidation occur in a morphological spine subtype and branch specific manner, and the ability to quantify this in an unbiased 3 dimensional manner prevents unreliability.

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

4. 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 Neurolucida 360 Studio is **\$33,146.00**. This amount is within the expected price range for these products.

5. 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 Neurolucida 360 Studio, (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 **MBF Bioscience**. 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 Monday, April 22, 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. SS9157

Accepted until Monday, April 22, 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