

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

234-109

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):

DSI PowerMill PostProcessor - ABB Robot Post Processor and Machine tool definition

This is a custom solution post-processor that DSI will develop for our wire arc DED additive manufacturing cell @ CAVS. This robot post processor will allow us to make toolpaths for our specific robot within the PowerMill software package (we already have a license for PowerMill).

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

To generate additive manufacturing toolpaths for our current wire arc DED system, we also need to account for movements of the robot. To do this for complex geometries, we need a digital replication of the robot within a commercially-available toolpath software. PowerMill is one of the main software's of choice for this task...we have a license for it already. DSI is going to create a custom solution within PowerMill for us that replicates the movements of our robot so we can include that in our toolpath generation process. We currently do not have an option for generating custom toolpathing, which limits our ability to complete the research tasks for our current project.

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

Design and Software International (DSI). They are the only company that develops custom solutions for this type of need.

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

The cost for the postprocessor is \$8,000. This is very reasonable considering the expertise it takes to import the CAD models of our wire arc DED AM cell, correctly applying robot kinematics

to the multiple movable objects, and getting them all to work within the PowerMill framework for us to generate AM toolpaths.

5. 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:

Multiple companies have been contacted to determine if they can provide a custom solution within an existing software package we have @ MSU and this was the only one that met that requirement.

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:

Jennifer Mayfield, CPPO
Interim Deputy Director of Procurement & Contracts
jmayfield@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.