Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

212-67

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):

The ACI aims to purchase 2 Batches (appx. 840lb) of Polynt PRD1632. This is a 2-component thermoset resin system that was specifically formulated for 3D printing using the Reactive Additive Manufacturing (RAM) process developed by Magnum Venus Products(MVP).

2. 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 ACI will need to purchase batches of resin from Polynt in order to use the MVP RAM mold printing machine that was purchased last year and expected to arrive in March. Once delivered and installed, this piece of research equipment will be the second of only two in the world and requires that the ACI only purchase resin systems that are specifically made to run through the pumps and nozzle of this specialized piece of equipment.

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

Polynt and MVP have worked for multiple years with Oak Ridge National Laboratory to develop this material system for the first MVP printer. Because it is a material that was developed for research and isn't a widely available commercial product, the resin is made to order in batches at Polynt. We will purchase directly from the only manufacturer, so there are no other sources for their resin.

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

Estimated cost is roughly $8000/420lb drum. This works out to $20/lb or $44/kg. This is an extremely reasonable price for a 3D printing material with the material properties that are expected at elevated temperatures which is our target use case. Typical thermoplastic 3D printing materials such as PEI, PEEK, and PEKK that are used in most commercially available printers for high temperature applications are typically closer to $1000/kg. For instance, this

PEKK product: https://ultimate3dprintingstore.com/products/kimya-pekk-carbon?currency=USD&variant=32030698668135 is currently over $500/500g.

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:

Because this material was specifically created to be used with the piece of equipment that we purchased, it is the only material of its type and the price is determined by the only manufacturer.

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
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.