

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
223-15

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):

Omega160 DAQ F/T Transducer – 1 unit

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:

The system that is being purchased will be used to make force and torque measurements simultaneously in the wind tunnel. Force and torque are measurements that are essential to characterizing the aerodynamics of a system. The current sensor will allow us to make said measurements over the full operating range of the wind tunnel and will allow students and researchers to characterize the aerodynamics of airfoils, wings, and scaled aircrafts.

This particular sensor is the only one in the market that can make force and torque measurements with high accuracy and data rate, simultaneously.

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

The wind tunnel already has the data acquisition system (which costs ~\$5000) from the company ATI. Therefore, purchasing ATI's load cell will allow us to avoid changing the existing infrastructure.

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

The quote from ATI is for \$6,978.71, covering all the components listed above (Not shipping). This is reasonable given that it is the only company that makes such a sensor and building something like this in-house would require considerable time and effort.

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:

As stated above, the load cell will allow us to use our existing DAQ system. Additionally we were able to get an academic discount on the load cell.

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.