

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
223-40

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):

HumanTrak Movement Analysis System – Yearly (Renewal)
Custom HumanTrak Laptop, 3D Infrared Camera, Carry Case + Tripod
HumanTrak App, VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
3 year warranty, all upgrades and dedicated support
No shipping required
ForceFrame Strength Testing System – Yearly (Renewal)
ForceFrame Strength Testing Unit & Shoulder Mount
ForceFrame App, VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
3 year warranty, all upgrades and dedicated support
Multi-System Discount
No shipping required
ForceDecks (FDLite) Dual Force Plate System – Yearly (Renewal)
FDLite Dual Force Plates and Foam Surround
ForceDecks App, VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
3 year warranty, all upgrades and dedicated support
Multi-System Discount
No shipping required
ForceDecks (Kistler) Software – Yearly (Renewal)
ForceDecks App (3 seat licenses)
VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
(Only for Kistler Plates)
Multi-System discount
No shipping required
NordBord Hamstring Testing System – Yearly (Renewal)
NordBord Hamstring Testing Unit
NordBord App, VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
3 year warranty, all upgrades and dedicated support
Multi-System Discount
No shipping required
ForceDecks (FDLite) Dual Force Plate System – Yearly
FDLite Dual Force Plates and Foam Surround

ForceDecks App, VALD Hub Cloud Analytics and Unlimited User Profiles
3 year warranty, all upgrades and dedicated support
Multi-System Discount
Shipping FDLite via Air Freight

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:

VALD Performance provides products that help our strength and conditioning professionals evaluate musculoskeletal and neural performance as it pertains to human movement, performance, injury risk, and rehabilitation through robust data analysis capabilities. The HumanTrak, NordBord, ForceFrame, and ForceDecks technologies are specific to VALD and not available through any other provider. Additionally, each product integrates smoothly with the system that we've implemented for other VALD products in the past.

VALD provides us with a multitude of services all with one software and a common Hub to allow each of our coaches across all of our sports to gather information in real time training and store that data in a Hub that is accessible at all times for ALL of our units instead of having multiple vendors and products in multiple locations.

We have four weight rooms on campus and VALD has a software that is compatible with the three different kinds of force plates that are represented in these rooms (for equipment that we already own). If we switched to a different software, we would also have to change out the hardware in each of these rooms and force plates cost anywhere from \$5,000 to 25,000 for a set.

The NordBord is, to our extensive knowledge, the only device that measures eccentric hamstring strength. Which in research is found to be directly related to injuries, especially time loss and season ending lower body injuries.

The ForceFrame allows the strength and conditioning coaches to test, measure, and monitor strength and muscular imbalances at over 30 different joint positions. Comparable units from other companies are only able to measure 1 or 2 positions.

The HumanTrak 3D motion capture system is a full body movement analysis system that allows our strength and conditioning coaches to analyze athletes' movements and imbalances without having to place our hands on them at any point. This system integrates with the rest of our units from the VALD family and allow our coaches the make fully informed decisions about training and progression.

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

VALD Group, Inc. is the owner and sole provider of the HumanTrak, NordBord, ForceFrame, and ForceDecks technologies.

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

The total cost of access to all products, databases, and technologies for Strength and Conditioning department will be \$55,351.00 for the next three seasons.

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:

Our strength and conditioning staff stays in tune with emerging technologies in their field. They have decades of training experience, as well as ample professional certifications and licenses in their field. If there were another product out there that would do what VALD's products do for a lower cost, they'd be jumping at the opportunity to use it. A product that compares simply does not exist at this time.

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.

