

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
245-103

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):

Bod Pod GS-X unit with:

- workstation
- electronic internal volume calibration
- electronic scale with calibration weights (20 Kg.)
- 24 in. touch-screen PC for OMNIA Data Mgmt with TGV measurement
- color laser printer
- isolation transformer 100M
- power cords and cables
- swim caps (6)
- window cleaner
- window cleaning cloths (5 pcs.)
- user manual

Service & Training

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:

COSMED is the manufacturer of the only commercially available air displacement plethysmography device. Their device was validated in research as in 1995 as a simple, quick, and accurate method to assess body composition. Since that time it has become one of the preferred methods of assessing body composition in scientific literature, professional and collegiate sport, and in clinical settings. Additionally, this methodology is versatile in its ability to assess children, elderly individuals, obese individuals, and athletes of all shape and sizes. This equipment is needed for us to be comparable to other kinesiology research programs nationally and internationally in methodology for scientific publications.

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

COSMED; This is the only manufacturer and distributor of this equipment

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

\$67,094.75

Research grade body composition analysis devices are costly due to the sensitivity and precision that provide. The methods by which air displacement plethysmography works requires very tight tolerances and manufacturing processes.

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:

COSMED USA, Inc. is the sole manufacturer and distributor of the BodPod. Efforts have been made to obtain the best possible price through the following steps:

Internet and Research Searches: The department has searched the internet and scientific journals for air displacement plethysmography devices. The BodPod is currently the only commercially available model we have found.

Vendor Communication: The department has communicated directly with COSMED USA, Inc. to confirm that the BodPod is the most recent model and the only commercially available air displacement plethysmography device.

Price Negotiation: Efforts are being made to purchase a 2025 model year BodPod GS-X unit. The department is receiving improved pricing as we are and academic institution, have previously purchased equipment from COSMED, and are continuing to build our inventory of their products due to seamless integration and compatibility with existing systems.

The decision to proceed with a sole source purchase from COSMED USA, Inc. is based on their status as the only provider of the BodPod GS-X. This equipment is needed for us to be comparable to other kinesiology research programs nationally and internationally in methodology for scientific publications.

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
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.

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