

Mississippi State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

256-037

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):

1004487 Z2020 TH AllroundLine Table-Top Machine

318936 Xforce K load cell, 20 kN capacity

029269 Connection adapter for Instron instruments and specimen grips

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 purchase of the ZwickRoell 20 kN Allround machine is necessary for viscoelastic material testing that Dr. Merrett conducts as part of his research within the Department of Aerospace Engineering. Viscoelastic material testing requires precise instrumentation to measure the deformation of the test specimens. ZwickRoell's videoXtens system has the highest precision on the market for material testing, an accuracy class of 0.5 in EN ISO 9513. The videoXtens system is only compatible with ZwickRoell's load frames, thus the 20 kN Allround machine must be purchased first.

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

ZwickRoell LP / David Fait, Regional Sales Manager, David.Fait@zwickroell.com

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

\$ 71,813.00 for Z2020 TH AllroundLine Table-Top Machine

\$ 9,937.00 for Xforce K load cell, 20 kN capacity

\$ 2,955.00 for Connection adapter for Instron instruments and specimen grips

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:

Dr. Merrett spent the past year contacting universal test frame suppliers to learn about their product lines and accuracy levels. Dr. Merrett also collected multiple quotes from the companies to assess the companies' pricing, and what they offer as part of their academic discounts or bundles. ZwickRoell's academic bundle includes an extensive library of test protocols and standards that will help with Dr. Merrett's research, and other research conducted in the Department. Further, Dr. Merrett consulted with CAVS and ACI to assess their current test frames to avoid redundancy in capabilities.

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.