

**Mississippi State University**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**

**256-096**

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 commodities are Brain Products EEG systems (including the actiCHamp Plus 128 channel system with electrodes and associated accessories, and the LiveAmp 64 channel wireless system with electrodes and associated accessories), distributed by Brain Vision, LLC.**

**The systems include high-density EEG acquisition hardware, electrode caps, amplification systems, and supporting software required for high-resolution neurophysiological data collection in human subjects research.**

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 requested EEG systems must provide high-resolution, gel-based signal acquisition while also allowing for rapid setup and use with active participants.**

**Brain Products EEG systems are unique in that they use a post-placement gel injection workflow, where electrodes are pre-mounted in a cap and gel is injected after placement. This design significantly reduces setup time compared to traditional gel-based systems, which require individual electrode preparation.**

**Other EEG systems fall into two categories, both of which do not meet the department's needs:**

- **Traditional gel-based systems provide high-quality data but require long setup times, limiting efficiency and feasibility for active subject research.**
- **Dry or gel-free systems (e.g., BioSemi) allow faster setup but produce lower signal quality and reduced resolution.**

**Brain Products is the only system that combines high-resolution gel-based recordings with fast setup time.**

**Additionally, the systems provides modularity that allows switching between active electrodes, passive electrodes, and alternative configurations (e.g., saltwater nets), which supports multiple research protocols within a single platform.**

**The system also offers low-profile electrodes that improve subject comfort and mobility, which is critical for studies involving active participants.**

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

**Brain Vision, LLC is the exclusive distributor of Brain Products EEG systems in the United States.**

**Brain Products is the sole manufacturer of this equipment, and Brain Vision is the only authorized distributor. No other vendors or resellers are able to supply this system.**

**Therefore, Brain Vision is the only possible source for this purchase.**

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

**The estimated cost of each EEG system, all required accessories, and required training will be approximately \$120,000. Eight complete systems will be procured, for a total of approximately \$900,000.**

**The cost is reasonable given the advanced capabilities of the system, including high-density EEG acquisition, modular electrode configurations, integrated software, and specialized hardware required for research-grade neurophysiological data collection.**

**Comparable systems either lack the required signal quality or do not provide the necessary efficiency and flexibility. The Brain Products system represents the only option that meets all technical requirements, making the cost justified for the intended research applications.**

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:

**The department developed general specifications to allow for competition and evaluated alternative EEG systems from multiple vendors.**

**However, other vendors were unable or unwilling to meet the combined requirements of high-resolution gel-based recording, rapid setup, modularity, and subject mobility. In several cases, vendors declined to submit bids.**

**This confirms that no competing systems meet the required specifications.**

**The department worked directly with Brain Vision to obtain pricing based on the required configuration. As the exclusive distributor of Brain Products EEG systems, Brain Vision is the only vendor capable of supplying this equipment.**

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](mailto: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.