

Mississippi State University Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

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):

CAEN digitizer DT 5725S + PHA software license+ 2 input filters

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:

Digitizer and related software license plus filters are required to read-out the signals from the nuclear radiation detectors in a new laboratory being set-up at in the Department of Physics and astronomy at MS State.

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

CAEN technologies are selling this product. These digitizers are unique in many ways. There used to be a competitive product from XIA called Pixie-Net, but that has been discontinued (<https://xia.com/support/pixie-net/>). Moreover, Pixie-Net has 4 channels and CAEN DT 5725S has 8 channels, that means we had to buy 2 Pixie-Net to be comparable to CAEN product. This product is stand-alone table-top digitizer and does not need any crate. Other companies do offer digitizers as well, but not stand-alone as one needs crate with generally more expensive and hence no one-to-one comparison.

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

Among the stand-alone digitizers, the DT 5725S has 8 channels, i.e. cost per channel is among the lowest in the category and provides good energy resolution + 250 MHz sampling rate, which is a unique and cheaper option (per channel).

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:

We have extensively searched for similar products, for example, with XIA or National Instruments, but there are no competitive and similar products available. To get the best price from CAEN, we got information on multiple options and DT 5725S provides less cost per channel and features important for intended research.

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 Services, Chief Procurement Officer

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.