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Award

DISAB Tubevac Overhaul

Transport for London

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-000117

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05feef

Published 5 January 2026, 8:29am

Scope

Description

This procurement is for the overhaul of two DISAB Tubevac Machines (the 'Assets') for London Underground, Engineering Vehicles Rolling Stock.

DISAB Tubevac Machines are specialized rail-mounted vacuum units that help to keep railway tracks clean and safe, reducing downtime and improving efficiency during maintenance projects.

They are mounted on rail wagons and used primarily for ballast track renewals and track maintenance. These machines employ powerful suction technology to remove and handle large volumes of material - such as ballast, dust, and debris - efficiently and safely during rail infrastructure works. Total contract amount is circa £1,310,373.

The justification for awarding this proposed contract in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023 Direct Award to DISAB UK LTD is compliant with Schedule 5 - paragraph 5 as the following conditions are met in relation to the public contract:

- a) a particular supplier having intellectual property rights or other exclusive rights, only that supplier can supply the goods, services or works required, and
- b) there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services or works.

Contract 1

Supplier

- DISAB UK LIMITED

Contract value

- £1,310,373 excluding VAT
- £1,572,448 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

2 March 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 5 March 2026 to 4 March 2027
- 1 year

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

A detailed condition assessment can only be carried out once the machine is taken out of service for overhaul. As a result, the full scope of works and any additional parts required will only be confirmed after this assessment. Additional purchases may therefore be required following the assessment to address identified needs.

CPV classifications

- 34621000 - Railway maintenance or service vehicles, and railway freight wagons
- 50200000 - Repair, maintenance and associated services related to aircraft, railways, roads and marine equipment

Contract locations

- UKI - London

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights

The Tubevac machines are OEM-controlled assets with critical components under DISAB's intellectual property, including hoppers, engine houses, oil and fuel tanks, manipulator arms, and J-hooks. Technical schematics, wiring diagrams, and spare parts information are strictly controlled and not shared with third parties.

The overhaul requires compatible parts, and due to lack of technical documentation and information, it is not possible to create a specification for an alternative.

Supplier

DISAB UK LIMITED

- Companies House: 01870611
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTGV-3981-JHBY

1 Chapel Street

Warwick

CV34 4HL

United Kingdom

Email: andrew.ainsworth@disab.com

Region: UKG13 - Warwickshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

Transport for London

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHMT-6197-NWNZ

5 Endeavour Square

London

E20 1JN

United Kingdom

Email: arjunmattathil@tfl.gov.uk

Region: UKI41 - Hackney and Newham

Organisation type: Public authority - central government