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Award

709732450 - Provision of Neptune and SeeTrack Software Licences

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-001115

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-042cbf

Published 12 January 2024, 2:39pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Contact

Mr Garry Ogborne (Commercial Manager - Mine Hunting Capability)

Email

garry.ogborne100@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://des.mod.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

709732450 - Provision of Neptune and SeeTrack Software Licences

Reference number

709732450

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 48151000 - Computer control system

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

UK MoD Mine Hunting Capability Team procurement of Neptune and SeeTrack software licences

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £583,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Main site or place of performance

SeeByte Ltd, Edinburgh, UK

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Provision of a quantity of Neptune and SeeTrack software licences from SeeByte Ltd.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2.14) Additional information

Link to DSP Opportunity Notice:

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/go/25732014018CFDEEA21C>

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The Mine Hunting Capability Team, part of the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD), intends to award a contract to SeeByte Limited (SeeByte) for the procurement of a quantity of SeeTrack and Neptune software licences.

The contract shall run for a period of one year, with no contractual Options to extend the contract duration. The maximum total value of the contract is not estimated to exceed £700k (VAT inclusive).

In accordance with regulation 4 of The Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 as amended (in particular by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450). Prior publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate. It is considered that the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (in accordance with the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 (as amended) for Technical Reasons.

This requirement is for the procurement of software licences for SeeByte's suite of proprietary SeeTrack and Neptune software, which was privately developed by SeeByte. This software is widely used in different applications by the Royal Navy and works collectively and collaboratively to optimise the operation and effectiveness of its autonomous underwater vehicles.

For operational reasons the Royal Navy systems which incorporates the SeeByte Limited software need to be able to interoperate with similar systems used by UK Allies, many of

whom use the SeeByte software. Royal Navy systems with third party software would not meet these requirements and would create significant interoperability issues which would result in a degraded capability. As the sole owner of SeeTrack and Neptune software, and by extension the associated rights and software licences, only SeeByte Limited have the technical capability necessary to meet this requirement.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

709732450

Title

Provision of Neptune and SeeTrack Software Licences

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

8 November 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

SeeByte Ltd

Orchard Brae House, 30 Queensferry Road

Edinburgh

EH4 2HS

Telephone

+44 1314474200

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £580,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Link to DSP Opportunity Notice:

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/go/25732014018CFDEEA21C>

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK MoD - Mine Hunting Capability Team

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Country

United Kingdom

