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Award

UPGRADE AND SUPPORT OF SRS FUSION

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-002763

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-031165

Published 31 January 2022, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Portsmouth

Email

eleanor.towler100@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.contracts.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

UPGRADE AND SUPPORT OF SRS FUSION

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 35512400 - Unmanned underwater vehicles

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The Royal Navy, part of the Ministry of Defence, intends to award a 2 year contract with a value of £183,000 to Strategic Robotic Systems (SRS) for the support and upgrade of the FUSION Remotely Operated Vehicle (Vehicle), which is used to carry out ordnance disposal in ports and harbours.

In accordance with the provisions of The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 SI No. 2020/1319, this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) as amended (in particular by SI 2020/1319). 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 32(2)(b)(ii) of the PCR 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

This is because SRS is the Original Equipment Manufacturer of the Vehicle. No other supplier would have the technical expertise, know-how and technical documentation (including in particular the source code for the Vehicle's software) necessary to safely support and upgrade the Vehicle. A new supplier would need to reverse engineer the software, which would introduce unacceptable risk to the integrity of the Vehicle, its

functionality and its operational effectiveness.

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: £210,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Royal Navy, part of the Ministry of Defence, intends to award a 2 year contract with a value of £183,000 to Strategic Robotic Systems (SRS) for the support and upgrade of the FUSION Remotely Operated Vehicle (Vehicle), which is used to carry out ordonnance disposal in ports and harbours.

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This is because SRS is the Original Equipment Manufacturer of the Vehicle. No other supplier would have the technical expertise, know-how and technical documentation (including in particular the source code for the Vehicle's software) necessary to safely support and upgrade the Vehicle. A new supplier would need to reverse engineer the software, which would introduce unacceptable risk to the integrity of the Vehicle, its functionality and its operational effectiveness.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

In addition to manufacturer's warranty, corrective maintenance packages are offered by the OEM to ensure comprehensive and cost-effective support over the period of evaluation.

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- 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 Royal Navy, part of the Ministry of Defence, intends to award a 2 year contract with a value of £183,000 to Strategic Robotic Systems (SRS) for the support and upgrade of the FUSION Remotely Operated Vehicle (Vehicle), which is used to carry out ordonnance disposal in ports and harbours.

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This is because SRS is the Original Equipment Manufacturer of the Vehicle. No other supplier would have the technical expertise, know-how and technical documentation (including in particular the source code for the Vehicle's software) necessary to safely support and upgrade the Vehicle. A new supplier would need to reverse engineer the software, which would introduce unacceptable risk to the integrity of the Vehicle, its functionality and its operational effectiveness.

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 January 2022

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

SRS FUSION

14842 NE 95th St, Redmond, WA 98052

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £210,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Ministry of Defence

Portsmouth

Country

United Kingdom