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Award

Hydraulic Support Equipment

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-003594

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04db5c

Published 4 February 2025, 10:33am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

Email

Jamie.Malone417@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.mod.gov.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

Hydraulic Support Equipment

Reference number

712595450

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 35000000 - Security, fire-fighting, police and defence equipment

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

In-service support arrangement for the support of a range of the MODs Hydraulic Test Systems. This will include elements of spare provision, repairs of major equipment and sub-components, technical support and modifications.

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: £6,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

In-service support arrangement for the support of a range of the MODs Hydraulic Test Systems. This will include elements of spare provision, repairs of major equipment and sub-components, technical support and modifications.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

2 x 1 year extension options

4 x added equipment to scope options

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 procedure without publication of a contract notice

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to negotiated procedure with prior 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 Air Commodities team, part of the Ministry of Defence, intends to enter into a contract with Test Fuchs GmbH for the Provision of an in-service support arrangement for the support and modification of a range of the MODs Hydraulic Test Systems. This will include elements of spare provision, repairs of major equipment and sub-components, technical support and modifications. The contract will be for three years, plus two one-year options and have a value of approximately £6m (including options).

In accordance with Regulation 4 of the Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this contract falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 (the "DSPCR 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 (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Defence Security Public Procurement Regulations 2011 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

Test Fuchs (TF) are the Original Equipment Manufacturer for a technically complex range of aircraft Hydraulic Servicing Trolleys (HST), Static Hydraulic Test Benches (HTB) and Damper Absorbers Test Trolley (DATT). To ensure specific hydraulic circuit parameters are maintained and no damage to complex aircraft systems occurs all of TF HST and HTB's owned and operated by the MoD are subject to a 24-month calibration test utilising the TF Calibration Transfer Stand (CTS1, CTS2 and CTS3) which automatically

interrogates the operating parameters of the equipment ensuring specific safety parameters are maintained. These CTS rigs are themselves subject to an annual Master calibration and are returned to TF HQ in Austria where a Master Calibration Unit is utilised within a controlled environment to ensure a high level of compliance. The above equipment's proprietary software has been designed and is owned by TF who have previously stated that they do not intend to release it to any third party. This mature software is critical to the functionality of the above equipment and helps underpin the safety argument used by AC DT to provide an important level of Safety assurance via the specific Safety Assessment Report for this equipment. The DT holds neither the rights nor the source code to enable it to confidently go out to the wider market without introducing a certain level of risk which would be unacceptable from an engineering perspective. In Addition, the OEM holds all the IPR for the design and manufacture to the structure and the operating system specifications for the equipment. This specialist technical knowledge underpins each decision they make and enables them to provide the DT with key safety information, configuration control and technical support which underpins the Safety argument contained within the equipment SAR, it also allows for the continued safe running of this ageing equipment whilst providing a high level of safety confidence in the range of equipment they support.

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

712595450

Title

Hydraulic Support Contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

3 February 2025

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

Test Fuchs

Unit 30 King Street Industrial Estate

Peterborough

PE6 9NF

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £6,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £6,000,000

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

DE&S

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom