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Award

## **710583450 - MSS/144 - Fresh Water Production & Purification**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-003795

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043769

Published 6 February 2024, 7:51am

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Ministry of Defence

MOD Abbeywood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Contact**

Jake Thomas

#### **Email**

[Jake.Thomas156@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Jake.Thomas156@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3001678849

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.Contracts.mod.uk](http://www.Contracts.mod.uk)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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**Section II: Object****II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

710583450 - MSS/144 - Fresh Water Production & Purification

Reference number

710583450 - MSS/144

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 45252200 - Purification plant equipment

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Works

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Marine Systems Support (MSS) Output Business Unit, within the Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) organisation, intends to place a contract for Post Design Services, Repairs & Overhaul and the provision of Spares for the support of Fresh Water Production & Purification and associated equipment.

This equipment is fitted across all HM Ships and Submarines (including the new build programme), and is supplied and supported by Salt Separation Services. Salt Separation Services are also the selected equipment supplier for future support projects including Type 26, Type 31 and Dreadnought new build programmes and are engaged in the AUKUS programme.

The procurement shall be conducted using the Invitation to Negotiate procedure without prior publication pursuant to Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 with Salt Separation Services.

#### **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: £50,000,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 45252200 - Purification plant equipment
- 45259200 - Purification-plant repair and maintenance work
- 65120000 - Operation of a water-purification plant

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Marine Systems Support (MSS) Output Business Unit, within the Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) organisation, intends to place a contract for Post Design Services, Repairs & Overhaul and the provision of Spares for the support of Fresh Water Production & Purification and associated equipment.

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The procurement shall be conducted using the Invitation to Negotiate procedure without prior publication pursuant to Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 with Salt Separation Services. The direct award is on the basis of Technical & Safety and anticipates a Contract term of 5 years with options to extend further should the business need dictate.

Fresh Water Production and Purification equipment is installed and integrated into all HM Ships & Submarines. Salt Separation Services are the Design Authority and manufacturer of 70% of the Authority's in-service Fresh Water Production and Purification equipments.

Under the current contracting arrangement and previous competitive procurements for this equipment, the rights holders of the remaining 30% of equipments have expressed that they do not have the capacity nor capability to contract directly with the Authority for their niche capability.

Salt Separation Services have a longstanding relationship and an established supply chain for those equipments for which they are not the Original Equipment Manufacturer and are, currently, the Prime Contractor for the remaining 30% of equipments.

In addition to Fresh Water production for domestic use & consumption, which is a key life support activity, the equipment also generates higher quality Technical Water required to safely meet complex, integrated military capabilities such as the provision of Technical Water for Nuclear Steam Raising Plant for Submarine Propulsion, Technical Water in support of Naval Aviation capabilities and Technical Water in support of Naval Medical capabilities.

A Fresh Water Production and Purification equipment support solution enabled by a capable industry supplier is critical to supporting Platform operability and delivering capabilities, including maintaining the Continuous At Sea Deterrent (CASD) and the availability of the Carrier Strike Group (CSG).

The contract can only be performed by Salt Separation Services because they hold the necessary technical knowhow including technical data, technical overhaul manuals and manufacturing design codes that are necessary for performing this requirement. Without

access to this information no other contractor could safely maintain this equipment, or safely support this equipment within the current integrated system.

The technical information held by Salt Separation Services is necessary for performing this requirement to the safety levels required by the mandatory requirements. Failure to use Salt Separation Services would lead to significant safety issues.

Failure to provide a continued support solution with the Industry Subject Matter Expert will significantly constrain the UK's ability to operate in service HM Ships and Submarines assets in support of the UK's defence doctrine and mandate.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

There is the potential that any future Contract would contain optional extension periods.

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

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## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- 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 Marine Systems Support (MSS), within Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S), intends to place a contract for Post Design Services, Repairs & Overhaul and the provision of Spares for the support of Fresh Water Production & Purification and associated equipment.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Contract No**

710583450 - MSS/144

### **Title**

710583450 - MSS/144 - Fresh Water Production & Purification

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

1 February 2024

#### **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**

Salt Separation Services Ltd

Grosvenor House

Rochdale

OL11 1AP

Email

[SSS@saltsep.co.uk](mailto:SSS@saltsep.co.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code



- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://saltsep.co.uk>

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: £50,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £50,000,000

#### **V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

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## **VI.4) Procedures for review**

### **VI.4.1) Review body**

MOD Abbeywood

Abbeywood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email

[Jake.thomas156@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Jake.thomas156@mod.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

[Contracts.mod.uk](http://Contracts.mod.uk)