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Award

VTN - Project ASurvey - The Provision of an Automated Aircraft Inspection Capability for Poseidon MRA-Mk1 Aircraft of the Royal Air Force

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-005306

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043af9

Published 19 February 2024, 7:51am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING WHITEHALL

LONDON

SW1A2HB

Contact

Selina Groves

Email

Selina.groves106@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI32 - Westminster

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://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

VTN - Project ASurvey - The Provision of an Automated Aircraft Inspection Capability for Poseidon MRA-Mk1 Aircraft of the Royal Air Force

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 34114000 - Specialist vehicles

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

An automated aircraft inspection capability, for the RAF's Poseidon MRA-Mk1 (P8-A), enabling fast, accurate and detailed damage mapping of external airframe damage.

Military aircraft are subject to numerous hazards due to harsh operating conditions, in-flight refuelling or loading and unloading during ground operations. Whether at their home base or during operational deployments, fleet availability and optimal aircraft condition are key to guarantee efficiency and safety of operations. As a proof of concept, Project ASURVEY will use autonomous drone technology at RAF Lossiemouth on Poseidon MRA-Mk1. As the air system is new into service, the CAMO will be able to establish a detailed baseline of the aircraft external condition and maintain a comprehensive history of damage to individual tail numbers. This will be able to feed into the aircraft structural integrity, and environmental protection working groups. The data produced for each tail number would further enable the CAMO's data exploitation working group, identifying common and unusual trends,

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: £200,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

An automated aircraft inspection capability, initially for the RAF's Poseidon MRA-Mk1 (P8-A), enabling fast, accurate and detailed damage mapping of external airframe damage

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The Air Commercial, part of the UK Ministry of Defence (the "Authority"), intends to award a contract to Donecle for the The Provision of an Automated Aircraft Inspection Capability for a period of 2 years. The estimated contract value is circa £200,000 excluding VAT.

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 (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with [Regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 for technical reasons. This is because only Donecle has the technology suitably accredited to undertake this task in line with acceptable SyOPs parameters and has the know-how solution to achieve the requirement. Donecle solution is the only equipment with full security accreditation from the Air Accreditor for use. Accordingly, the Authority's view is that the circumstances specified in regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) is satisfied."

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

19 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

DONECLE

55 Avenue Louis Breguet Batiment 6

31400 Toulouse

Country

France

NUTS code

- FR - France

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £200,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £200,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Air Commercial

High Wycombe

HP14 4UE

Country

United Kingdom