Contract

Contract for the Supply and Installation of a 1.2 GHz NMR Spectrometer to the University of Birmingham

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

F03: Contract award notice
Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-007104
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03a334
Published 10 March 2023, 3:09pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

EDGBASTON

BIRMINGHAM

B152TT

Contact

Kseniya Samsonik

Email

k.samsonik@bham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG31 - Birmingham

Companies House

RC000645

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.birmingham.ac.uk/index.aspx

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Contract for the Supply and Installation of a 1.2 GHz NMR Spectrometer to the University of Birmingham

Reference number

SC11406/23

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 38433000 - Spectrometers

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The University of Birmingham has been awarded UKRI funds as part of an EPSRC-led

UK-wide NMR Infrastructure call to purchase an ultra-high field 1.2 GHz nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrometer for the Henry Wellcome Building for Biomolecular NMR Spectroscopy (HWB-NMR) and for the greater benefit of the UK life and physical sciences NMR community. Currently the highest magnetic field available for NMR, this state-of-the-art equipment will allow local PIs, collaborators and external users to remain at the forefront of international research, in terms of scientific applications, methodological development and the recruitment and training of graduate students and young researchers, fulfilling UKRI's overarching strategy to support excellence in UK science. This additional ultra-high field capability will provide a unique enabling technology, supporting a wide range of science with far-reaching impact.

It is anticipated that the 1.2 GHz NMR spectrometer will transform our scientific understanding in three key areas: (1) the spatial and temporal resolution of biological mechanisms; (2) the structure and function of materials at the atomic level; (3) the impact of environmental and chemical agents on live cells and organisms. In all three fields, the gains brought by the 1.2 GHz spectrometer will translate into new and otherwise unreachable discoveries that will benefit human wellbeing. In health and the biological sciences, a better understanding of biological mechanisms will help define novel therapeutic strategies in contexts such as infection, cancer, neuropathologies and aging. In the physical sciences, improved characterization of solid-state structures and properties will accelerate the development of new materials (e.g. for energy storage, electronic devices and drug formulations), as well as the design of industrial strategies for green chemistry. In environmental science, deeper insights into the effects of chemicals and pollutants on plant and microbial functions will facilitate design of effective routes of prevention and intervention.

The equipment to be procured comprises a superconducting magnet operating at 1.2 GHz magnetic field, a spectrometer console capable of transmitting and receiving radiofrequencies of > 1.2 GHz, one associated cryogenically-cooled probe for measurement of solution-state samples in 3 mm tubes and a solid-state 1.9 mm probe for material science.

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: £10,003,258.20

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG31 - Birmingham

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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 UKRI funds are awarded to the University of Birmingham for the purchase of a 1.2 GHz NMR spectrometer and a few peripheral accessories. The total cost of this purchase, which relates to the main instrument and some of the accessories, is £10,003,258.20. The 1.2 GHz magnet and spectrometer awarded to Birmingham (one of two 1.2 GHz systems funded) can only be supplied by one manufacturer in the world (Bruker). The same is true for the associated cryogenically-cooled probe operating at 1.2 GHz. Thus, we have negotiated with Bruker a package comprising of magnet, spectrometer, the cryogenically-cooled probe and the solid-state probe for material science. Both the cryogenically-cooled probe and the solid-state probe for material science are provided to us on loan and thus are part of the package but not of the purchase. EPSRC is aware that the instrument can only be supplied by one manufacturer.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: 2023/S 000-003593

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

6 February 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Bruker UK Limited

Coventry

CV4 8HZ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG33 - Coventry

Companies House

00923986

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £10,003,258.20

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of Birmingham

Birmingham

B15 2TT

Country

United Kingdom