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Contract

Direct Award - Protective Marking for Protected Wreck Sites: Longevity Testing, Evidence Gathering and Distribution

Historic England

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-008162

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04ea07

Published 6 March 2025, 10:50am

Scope

Reference

C/REF 00000925

Description

In response to a series of high-profile thefts from protected wreck sites, the 7591 project pioneered the development of a forensic marking product suitable for deployment on to high value objects on protected wreck sites around England. Several products were developed and initially tested in the laboratory and in benign sea conditions in a sheltered harbour. This project was completed in 2023, with the markers being successfully deployed onto several protected wreck sites around the coast of England.

We now need to return to these sites to establish how well the product has survived in the dynamic environment of the sea, and to determine the next steps for larger scale deployment across other Protected Wrecks and Scheduled Monuments under the

management of Historic England.

Historic England has received multiple enquiries from partner agencies, including the MoD, and the heritage agencies of other nations, who are interested in purchasing the product for deployment on other wreck sites.

This project will comprise archaeological diving fieldwork to assess the longevity of the product when deployed on shipwrecks in the marine environment, and will establish a procedure for production, deployment and evidence gathering in relation to heritage crime incidents. Publicity around the project will have the secondary benefit of deterring heritage crime aimed at Protected Wreck sites.

Contract 1

Supplier

- [MSDS Marine](#)

Contract value

- £65,000 excluding VAT
- £75,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Date signed

4 March 2025

Contract dates

- 3 April 2025 to 1 April 2026
- 11 months, 29 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73112000 - Marine research services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - without competition

Supplier

MSDS Marine

The Dairy, Boothswood Farm, Moorside Lane, Halbrook

Belper

DE56 0TU

United Kingdom

Email: INFO@MSDSMARINE.CO.UK

Region: UKF13 - South and West Derbyshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

Historic England

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXLY-5862-RMML

The Engine House

Swindon

SN22EH

United Kingdom

Email: procurement-he@historicengland.org.uk

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Public authority - central government