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Contract

Multi collector Inductively Coupled Plasma Spectrometer MC-ICP MS

University of Portsmouth Higher Education Corporation

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-008452

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ebd3 ([view related notices](#))

Published 30 January 2026, 12:54pm

Scope

Reference

24-SJM-343

Description

The University of Portsmouth confirms it has contracted for the supply of a pre-owned dual-beam path MC-ICPMS (Multi Collector Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer). This includes Supply, Delivery, Installation and warranty.

The Total value of this contract is £490,000 ex vat.

Contract 1. MC-ICPMS (Multi-Collector Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer)

Supplier

- AMETEK (GB) LIMITED

Contract value

- £490,000 excluding VAT
- £588,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

13 January 2026

Contract dates

- 13 January 2026 to 13 January 2029
- 3 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38433100 - Mass spectrometer

Contract locations

- UKJ31 - Portsmouth

Justification for not setting key performance indicators

N/A Acceptance Testing required. Agreed Service plan and Warranty cover in place.

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Switching to direct award

The procurement needed a high specification ICP-MS but the University had a very

limited budget.

In accordance with UK procurement regulations, the University issued a UK2 on 1st December 2025. This Preliminary Market Engagement notice was used to assess market availability and determine whether any suitable/used instruments meeting the required technical specifications were available within the allocated budget. Following this engagement, the University received a single expression of interest from Nu Instruments, who confirmed their ability to meet the specification within the available budget.

The instrument meet the Universities requirements and will be utilised for high-precision isotopic analysis of Hf, U-Pb, U-series, Sr, Pb, and Nd in geological samples. It must support both dry plasma and laser ablation sample introduction methods and will primarily be applied to geological and materials science research. The system will be integrated with the University's existing 193 nm and femtosecond laser systems.

Minimum Technical Requirements:

Dual beam path enabling bypass of the collision cell when not required.

Daly detectors providing wide dynamic range for mixed isotope systems.

Upgrade pathway for fast ion counters to enable single-shot analysis when available.

Includes a manufacturer warranty of 36 months

PA23 UK5 Notice and UK 6 Notices published on 19th December 2025

Associated people/organisations:

Ametek GB (Ltd) is the Parent company of Nu Instruments Ltd.

The contract is placed with Nu Instruments Ltd

Supplier

AMETEK (GB) LIMITED

- Companies House: 02569386
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNPL-2282-WRQP

2 New Star Road

Leicester

LE4 9JD

United Kingdom

Email: ametekgb.service@ametek.com

Website: <http://www.ametek.co.uk/>

Region: UKF21 - Leicester

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. MC-ICPMS (Multi-Collector Inductively Coupled Plasma Mass Spectrometer)

Contracting authority

University of Portsmouth Higher Education Corporation

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWYV-2655-NPMQ

University House

Portsmouth

PO1 2UP

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@port.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.port.ac.uk/>

Region: UKJ31 - Portsmouth

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government