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Award

700003315 - Extension of PDM/INA in-service support contract (ISS)

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-011089

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-044fee

Published 5 April 2024, 11:47am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

Email

jordan.jones685@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://des.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

700003315 - Extension of PDM/INA in-service support contract (ISS)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75221000 - Military defence services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The role of the PDM system is to receive G&TR sensor inputs from the platform Gyro/Naval Compass Stabilisers, Ship's Log System and Wind Data System, and output this data in the required format to various navigation and weapon systems. Provision is also made for the input of simulated data and for transmission to various user equipment's for training purposes. This role is generally common to all outfits of PDM. Navigation capability on RN ships is a critical component of a ship's ability to operate and fight, hence any failure or degradation of these systems will place significant risk on the RN's ability to fulfil the Authority's required defence outcomes in accordance with the Authority's Defence Strategy and RN Command Plan.

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: £5,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The role of the PDM system is to receive G&TR sensor inputs from the platform Gyro/Naval Compass Stabilisers, Ship's Log System and Wind Data System, and output this data in the required format to various navigation and weapon systems. Provision is also made for the input of simulated data and for transmission to various user equipment's for training purposes. This role is generally common to all outfits of PDM. Navigation capability on RN ships is a critical component of a ship's ability to operate and fight, hence any failure or degradation of these systems will place significant risk on the RN's ability to fulfil the Authority's required defence outcomes in accordance with the Authority's Defence Strategy and RN Command Plan.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Criterion: Extension 100

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to negotiated procedure with prior publication of a contract notice
- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development

Explanation:

The United Kingdom Ministry of Defence (the “Authority”) intends to initially extend contract CSA/3049 for 5 months (from 01 July to 30 Nov 24) as an interim support solution, based upon current Scope of Work, rates/pricing and essential updates to T&Cs. This will then allow negotiations and discussions to take place between both parties to further extend the contract until 30th June 2027 as an adapted QDC contract. The contract will be extended with Ultra Electronics Command and Sonar Systems (the “Company”) for in-service support for Platform Data Management (PDM) Systems. The Equipment’s managed are the PDM/INA Outfits fitted to Type 23 Frigates (PDM2TR), Single Role Minehunter (PDM3), Vanguard Class Submarines (PDM4) and Fort Victoria (RFA) (PDM5(1)). Without a support contract, the serviceability of the navigational data distribution communication system which is needed for Command and control cannot be guaranteed. PDM is critical for platform navigation and deployment. PDM4 is used onboard our Continuous At Sea Deterrent Boats (CASD).

Ultra are the existing Contractor for PDM. PDM was developed and brought into service in the 1990’s. The technology used in PDM is aged which presents ongoing supportability and obsolescence challenges. Ultra have the legacy knowledge of PDM having supported this equipment since it was developed through a subsidiary of Ultra called PMES. Therefore, due to the age of the equipment and wider technical advances across the industry, moving support arrangements to an alternative supplier would be difficult. This is due to various reasons including legacy knowledge of PDM and testing and repair equipment owned by Ultra.

Through the development of the PDM systems, the OEM has designed and developed their

own test and repair equipment to enable them to maintain, repair and modify the PDM equipment to the standards required by the Authority. Ultra are the only supplier with the appropriate level of technical knowledge and SQEP availability, for the systems they have responsibility, to operate the test and repair equipment safely.

The planned term of the extension to contract CSA/3049 is initially 5 months as interim support, then extended for the period of Dec 2024 to June 2027. The total value of this extended period is estimated to be c£5.0m. It is assessed that only the Contractor can achieve delivery of this requirement within the timeframe available on all ships within scope, without considerable risk to the continued operation of the fleet.

It is considered that this contract can be placed using the Negotiated Procedure Without Prior Publication pursuant the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 (SI 1848), on the basis that the contract may be awarded only to the Company for technical reasons. The Company alone has at its disposal the specialist knowledge and equipment and meet the Authority's technical requirements under the contract. Prior publication of a contract notice in the official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate.

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

Contract No

700003315

Title

Extension of contract to maintain In Service Support of Platform Data Management Systems (PDM)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

5 April 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

Ultra Electronics Command and Sonar Systems

High Wycombe

HP10 9UT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £5,000,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Defence, Equipment & Support (Ministry of Defence)

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Country

United Kingdom