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Contract

Design, Development, Supply & Installation of Equipment for Studio Ulster

University of Ulster

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-013940

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04044c

Published 30 April 2024, 4:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Ulster

Block X Room X031, Cromore Road

Coleraine

BT52 1SA

Email

a.todd@ulster.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 2870124515

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKN0 - Northern Ireland

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.ulster.ac.uk

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

Design, Development, Supply & Installation of Equipment for Studio Ulster

Reference number

project_27819

II.1.2) Main CPV code

• 32000000 - Radio, television, communication, telecommunication and related equipment

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Design, Development, Supply & Installation of Equipment for Studio Ulster

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: £19,954,122.42

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 32200000 Transmission apparatus for radiotelephony, radiotelegraphy, radio broadcasting and television
- 32210000 Broadcasting equipment
- 32220000 Television transmission apparatus without reception apparatus
- 32230000 Radio transmission apparatus with reception apparatus
- 32240000 Television cameras
- 32260000 Data-transmission equipment
- 32270000 Digital transmission apparatus
- 32300000 Television and radio receivers, and sound or video recording or reproducing apparatus
- 32310000 Radio broadcast receivers
- 32320000 Television and audio-visual equipment
- 32330000 Apparatus for sound, video-recording and reproduction
- 32340000 Microphones and loudspeakers
- 32350000 Parts of sound and video equipment
- 32400000 Networks
- 32410000 Local area network
- 32420000 Network equipment
- 32430000 Wide area network
- 32500000 Telecommunications equipment and supplies
- 32510000 Wireless telecommunications system
- 32520000 Telecommunications cable and equipment
- 32530000 Satellite-related communications equipment

- 32550000 Telephone equipment
- 32560000 Fibre-optic materials
- 32570000 Communications equipment
- 32580000 Data equipment
- 38651100 Camera lenses
- 38651200 Camera bodies
- 38651400 Instant print cameras
- 38651500 Cinematographic cameras
- 38651600 Digital cameras
- 38653400 Projection screens
- 38810000 Industrial process control equipment
- 39113000 Miscellaneous seats and chairs
- 39121000 Desks and tables
- 39122000 Cupboards and bookcases
- 39134100 Computer tables
- 39156000 Lounge and reception-area furniture
- 39294100 Information and promotion products
- 48210000 Networking software package
- 48220000 Internet and intranet software package
- 48311100 Document management system
- 48318000 Scanner software package
- 48331000 Project management software package
- 48332000 Scheduling software package
- 48333000 Contact management software package
- 48520000 Multimedia software package
- 48710000 Backup or recovery software package

- 48720000 Bar coding software package
- 48730000 Security software package
- 48750000 Storage media loading software package
- 48760000 Virus protection software package
- 48770000 General, compression and print utility software package
- 48780000 System, storage and content management software package
- 48790000 Version checker software package
- 48810000 Information systems
- 48820000 Servers
- 48910000 Computer game software package, family titles and screen savers
- 48920000 Office automation software package
- 50340000 Repair and maintenance services of audio-visual and optical equipment
- 51610000 Installation services of computers and information-processing equipment
- 51620000 Installation services of office equipment
- 72000000 IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support
- 72100000 Hardware consultancy services
- 72200000 Software programming and consultancy services
- 72500000 Computer-related services
- 72600000 Computer support and consultancy services
- 72800000 Computer audit and testing services
- 80300000 Higher education services
- 80500000 Training services
- 92224000 Digital television
- 92225100 Film-on-demand television
- 92226000 Teleprogrammation
- 92370000 Sound technician

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

• UKN0 - Northern Ireland

Main site or place of performance

North Foreshore Film Studios, Giant's Park, Belfast

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Vision for Studio Ulster (SU) is to be a leading Commercial Centre of Excellence in Virtual Production ("VP") in the UK and Ireland and to establish a 'Tier 1' Centre of

Excellence in Research and Development and Innovation (R&D&I), in Real-time and Virtual Production, a rapidly developing suite of technologies and methodologies for screen content production.

Located on the North Foreshore in Belfast, the development of SU in conjunction with the Belfast Harbour Film Studio complex creates a unique blend of facilities, that will drive commercial activity and collaboration in R&D on an unprecedented scale involving all strands of production and technology professionals involved in the virtual production, film, broadcast, animation, games, VFX and immersive sectors.

The successful appointed tenderer will develop technical proposals for the equipment allowing SUL to deliver on the final Business Plan objectives. The design solutions presented shall be based on the successful tenderer's IP and best practices from experience to date in the VP sector.

SU is a fully funded project, with Contracts for Funding executed and all associated legal agreements with Belfast Harbour in place. The project benefits from £25.2m (£21m excluding VAT) through BRCD, both contributions to support the initial development of the SU VP studio and to part-fund life cycle replacement costs for the specialist VP equipment, within the first 10 years of operation. Ulster University has committed £3.6million from its own funds and has secured a further £2.9m from the UK Levelling Up Fund. These sums represent the total scale of the SUL investment, inclusive of miscellaneous costs for items outside of this Competition (loose

furniture, fees, marketing, branding etc.).

The successful tenderer will develop the design, procure, deliver, install, test and

commission the specialist equipment and provide all necessary training to SUL in the operation of the equipment.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Cost criterion - Name: Contractor Credentials / Weighting: 15

Cost criterion - Name: Strategy & Operations / Weighting: 40

Cost criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 35

Cost criterion - Name: Social value / Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The final contract includes the requirement for all planned maintenance of the Equipment for a minimum 3-year period from the date of handover to the Client. This will include the provision of all necessary spares / replacement parts and consumables as required.

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

Competitive dialogue

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: <u>2023/S 000-028546</u>

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

project_27819

Title

Design, Development, Supply & Installation of Equipment for Studio Ulster

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

18 April 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

NantStudios, LLC

2040 E. Mariposa Avenue, El Segundo, CA 90245

California

Country

United States

NUTS code

US - United States

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £19,954,122.42

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Please note that a Corrigendum Notice was published (FTS ref: 2023/S 000-028557) which amended the estimated total value in Section II.1.5 of the contract notice from £2,000,000 to £20,000,000.

The quantities, which it is anticipated will be required under this Contract, was set out in the final tender stage of the competition within the Commercial Submission. This information was given for the guidance of the tenderers and was not deemed to be a condition of the Contract or a guarantee of minimum demand or uptake. No compensation will be payable to the successful tenderer should the actual demand be less than that stated.

Further, the delivery of service as to be provided by the successful tenderer is demandled. Changes which may affect the demand may include but are not limited to, technological upgrades/changes within the virtual production marketplace. Such changes may result in unanticipated workload growth which is higher than the levels accounted for within the tender competition. To be able to offer continuing service delivery as provided for by this tender competition the University reserves the right to commission additional

product volumes over the life of the contract period, including any extension period(s) if utilised. Any steps taken by the University in this regard will be done in compliance with Regulation 72 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (as amended).

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland

Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street

Belfast

BT1 3JY

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Ulster University incorporated a standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract was communicated to tenderers. The standstill period, which was for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provided time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (Northern Ireland).