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Award

Remote Aircraft Mover (RAM) - 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Chargers

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-015359

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-045998

Published 14 May 2024, 4:49pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Portsmouth

Email

joshua.price211@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://contracts.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

Remote Aircraft Mover (RAM) - 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Chargers

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 34741200 - Aircraft catapult systems

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

This is a Voluntary Transparency Notices to advise of the MoD's intention to award the contract Remote Aircraft Mover (RAM) - 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Chargers.

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: £220,373.10

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 31158100 - Battery chargers

- 31422000 - Battery packs

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Royal Navy, part of the UK Ministry of Defence, intends to award a 1 year contract with a value of £220,373.10 (Excluding VAT) to Curtiss Wright INDAL for the purchase of 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Charger for the Royal Navy to support the current in-service Remote Aircraft Movers (RAM) Handlers.

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 without a prior call for competition

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The Royal Navy, part of the UK Ministry of Defence, intends to award a 1 year contract with a value of £220,373.10 (Excluding VAT) to Curtiss Wright INDAL for the purchase of 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Charger for the Royal Navy to

support the current in-service Remote Aircraft Movers (RAM) Handlers.

In accordance with the provisions of The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 SI No. 2020/1319, this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) as amended (in particular by SI 2020/1319). Prior publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate. It is considered that the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (in accordance with the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the PCR 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

The in-Service RAM Handlers are used to support embarked Merlin Mk2/Mk4 and Wildcat HMA aircraft. The Royal Navy needs to purchase this equipment as spares to be able to support the availability of the RAM Handler fleet out to the equipment out of service date of 31 March 2026. The requirement for these spares can only be met by Curtiss Wright INDAL as they are the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and no alternative or substitutes can be used as the Chest Pack controls the RAM Handler and compatible battery packs.

The units are only available through the OEM, and no Fit Form Function replacement can be used to ensure safety requirements are met. The OEM is only company that has the design drawings, patent and intellectual property of the system that is required to meet the safety requirements. As the system is safety-critical, it is imperative that the system is designed correctly as it is used to move aircraft at sea; if incorrectly designed, it could cause an aircraft to be pulled overboard and cause the loss of a multimillion-pound asset and/or endanger lives.

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

711510451

Title

Remote Aircraft Mover (RAM) - 10 Handler Chest Packs & 8 Battery Pack Units and Chargers

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

14 May 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

Curtiss Wright INDAL

Mississauga

Country

Canada

NUTS code

- CA - Canada

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: £220,373.10

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

Navy Commercial

Portsmouth

Country

United Kingdom