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Award

MHC Procurement of TSC2002 IFF System & Associated Equipment - Amendment 1 - VTN

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-016426

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0346cf

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

#3016 Ash0C NH3, MoD Abbey Wood, Bristol

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Contact

Jack Barber

Email

jack.barber127@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

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

MHC Procurement of TSC2002 IFF System & Associated Equipment - Amendment 1 - VTN

Reference number

701162380

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 35512400 - Unmanned underwater vehicles

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Procurement of TSC2002 IFF System & Associated Equipment

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: £123,075

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ28 - West Sussex (North East)

Main site or place of performance

Manor Royal, Crawley, UK

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1 x TSC2002 IFF Transponder Unit and Associated Equipment

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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

- 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:

In accordance with regulation 4 of The Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 as amended (in particular by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450). 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 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 for technical reasons.

The Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM), Thales UK and its parent company TDMS France are the only company which can supply the TSC2002 IFF equipment. This specific model of IFF is required to be issued by the Authority to TDMS France as GFE, as an element of the current phase of the joint UK/French Maritime Mine Countermeasures (MMCM) Contract.

The MMCM Programme is a collaborative contract between the UK and French Governments with Thales DMS France, for the design and manufacture of the next generation of autonomous underwater mine hunting capability. The Agreement stems from, and forms part of, the Lancaster House Agreement made between the UK and French nations and is based upon the idea of co-operation and collaboration between the two nations and their capabilities within this area.

The integration of the Thales UK TSC2002 is critical to ensure that the UK system has commonality, compatibility and interoperability with the French system, which is to include an identical type of IFF.

There is a strict technical impracticality for any other economic operator to undertake the

work required within this proposed contract as the specific model of IFF system is proprietary to Thales UK and its parent company TDMS France. This specific model of IFF system is necessary for interoperability, compatibility and commonality purposes, in order to ensure successful testing and integration into the UK/French MMCM systems. Both the UK and French MMCM systems have been designed to use identical IFF models, in order to ensure their ability to communicate effectively and function interoperably, and so that the interface between the two systems can be maximised. The requirement for interoperability is contingent on Thales' specific expertise of their system, and on this basis the use of an alternative supplier or equipment is not viable as they would not allow the same level of compatibility. Failure to provide the TSC2002 model of IFF would impact upon the upcoming production phase of the MMCM systems, which have been designed around the integration and use of this specific IFF system. The integration and use of alternative models of IFF systems would not be possible without significant redesign of the overall system, along with a change to the common Training DLOD and Support DLOD.

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

701162380

Title

MHC Procurement of TSC2002 IFF System and Associated Equipment

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

24 February 2022

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

Thales UK Limited

Thales UK, Manor Royal, Crawley

Crawley

RH10 9HA

Email

crawley.reception@uk.thalesgroup.com

Telephone

+44 1293581000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ28 - West Sussex (North East)

Internet address

<https://www.thalesgroup.com>

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: £123,075

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

Ministry of Defence, Ships, Mine and Hydrographic Capability

MOD Abbey Wood, Bristol

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email

jack.barber127@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Ministry of Defence, Ships, Mine and Hydrographic Capability

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Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email

jack.barber127@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom