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Tender

UKRI-2121 LISA Optical Bench Baseplate

UK Research & Innovation

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-017138

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-034997

Published 23 June 2022, 10:05am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

UK Research & Innovation

<https://www.ukri.org/>, North Star Avenue

Swindon

SN2 1FL

Contact

Elizabeth Gage

Email

Elizabeth.Gage@ukri.org

Telephone

+44 7563420665

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.ukri.org/>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://ukri.delta-esourcing.com/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

UKRI-2121 LISA Optical Bench Baseplate

Reference number

UKRI-2121

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 38600000 - Optical instruments

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The LISA concept for directly detecting the oscillating strain in spacetime caused by gravitational waves shares the scheme used in all laser interferometer-based gravitational wave detectors: The passage of the wave is detected by measuring the time-varying changes of optical pathlength between test masses isolated from all forces other than gravitational waves.

The project draws on experience gleaned from the LISA Pathfinder (LPF) mission, a pioneering mission to test the LISA concept and demonstrate key concepts and technologies. A key technology to the LISA mission is performing interferometry with hydroxide catalysis bonded optics and this was demonstrated on LPF.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £2,500,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 38630000 - Astronomical and optical instruments

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The optical bench will host the optical components that enable the LISA interferometers to function. Components will be mounted on both sides – as shown below – using a silicate bonding process proven on the LISA Pathfinder experiment. To ensure stability the Optical Bench Baseplate will be manufactured from Zerodur, acid etched to maximise strength and polished to allow the mounting process and to enable tight alignment tolerances to be met.

The LISA Optical Bench will be produced at several model stages over a number of years, starting with a Structural Model and ending with Flight Models.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £2,500,000

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Duration in months

108

This contract is subject to renewal

No

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

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

II.2.14) Additional information

To respond to this opportunity please click here: <https://ukri.delta-sourcing.com/respond/9P5885Y52V>

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

28 July 2022

Local time

11:00am

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

28 July 2022

Local time

2:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.3) Additional information

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://ukri.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-Swindon:-Optical-instruments./9P5885Y52V>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://ukri.delta-esourcing.com/respond/9P5885Y52V>

GO Reference: GO-2022623-PRO-20482656

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK Research and Innovation

Polaris House, North Star Avenue

Swindon

SN2 1FL

Country

United Kingdom