

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/018422-2024>

Award

## **Gravity Offload System**

SATELLITE APPLICATIONS CATAPULT LIMITED

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-018422

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-046ff7

Published 14 June 2024, 11:29am

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

SATELLITE APPLICATIONS CATAPULT LIMITED

Electron Building, Fermi Avenue, Harwell Oxford

DIDCOT

OX110QR

#### **Email**

[procurement@sa.catapult.org.uk](mailto:procurement@sa.catapult.org.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

#### **Companies House**

07964746

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://sa.catapult.org.uk/>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Other type

RTO

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Space Sector

---

**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Gravity Offload System

Reference number

SAC-25-002

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 42997300 - Industrial robots

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

**II.1.4) Short description**

An overhead gantry system that will enable simulation of orbital environments by off-loading the effect of gravity on a suspended object. The system provided will installed in

the Catapult's existing facility and will cover an area of 6m x 6m x 6m (l x w x h) and capable of carrying a 150kg payload. The system will be required to suspend objects in a free-floating manner but be able to move the object when a force is applied to it, thus simulating the in-orbit dynamics experienced during contact between space craft. Installation & commissioning of the system is to be included by the supplier.

#### **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: £303,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKJ1 - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

An overhead gantry system that will enable simulation of orbital environments by off-loading the effect of gravity on a suspended object. The system provided will be installed in the Catapult's existing facility and will cover an area of 6m x 6m x 6m (l x w x h) and capable of carrying a 150kg payload. The system will be required to suspend objects in a free-floating manner but be able to move the object when a force is applied to it, thus simulating the in-orbit dynamics experienced during contact between space craft. Installation & commissioning of the system is to be included by the supplier.

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

---

## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to open procedure

Explanation:

A full procurement exercise (ref: SAC-24-036) was undertaken. There was one response to this exercise from Jacobs Clean Energy Ltd in March which exceeded our available budget. We have since tested the supply chain in the market and adjacent markets including national and international suppliers. We have received no further credible proposals to deliver this solution in the timescale so have decided to proceed with a revised version of the Jacobs Clean Energy Ltd solution.

Please note that the FTS notice for this is ref 2024/S 000-004651.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

---

## Section V. Award of contract/concession

### Contract No

SAC-25-002

### Title

Gravity Offload System

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### V.2) Award of contract/concession

#### V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

14 June 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**

Jacobs Clean Energy Ltd

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

01120437

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £303,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £303,000

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Public Procurement Review Service

London

Email

[publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk](mailto:publicprocurementreview@cabinetoffice.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom