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Award

Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) In-Service Support - UK5

Defence Equipment and Support

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-019320

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050dac

Published 7 May 2025, 11:48am

Scope

Description

In-Service Support to Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) and the Manufacture and Delivery of BSIA Capital Spares

Contract 1. Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) In-Service Support

Supplier

- [General Dynamics European Land Systems-Bridge Systems GmbH](#)

Contract value

- £4,542,500 excluding VAT
- £5,451,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

29 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 September 2025 to 31 March 2033
- Possible extension to 31 March 2035
- 9 years, 6 months, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

Time extension for maintenance and repairs

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Extension of time

CPV classifications

- 34144300 - Mobile bridges
- 44212110 - Bridge sections
- 71322300 - Bridge-design services
- 71631450 - Bridge-inspection services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

Various

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Defence and security

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - technical reasons
- Additional or repeat goods, services or works - extension or partial replacement

Combat Support Vehicles (CSV), part of the UK Ministry of Defence (“the Authority”), intends to place a new contract for the Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) to provide repair, Post Design Services (PDS), spares, and technical assistance with Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) GDELS-BS. The contract shall span 8 years and is estimated to cost circa £5M. Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) is a modular assault bridge crucial for manoeuvring troops across various terrains.

Placing a Direct Award contract with GDELS-BS, will ensure safety and technical standards continue to be met at reasonable cost to the taxpayer. Justification for utilising Direct Award is under Section 41, Schedule 5, Paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Procurement Act 2023 (PA23), based on there being no reasonable alternatives to BSIA, the need for additional or repeated goods, services, or works and an absence of competition for technical reasons. The decision is grounded in the potential technical difficulties that would arise if a change in supplier led to incompatible goods or services, particularly in terms of operational and maintenance challenges.

GDELS-BS is the only operator with the specific technical expertise required to support the maintenance and safe operation of the equipment. Using an alternative supplier would result in incompatibility and compromise safety, especially in tasks like technical welding which requires expert input from the OEM. Without access to the bespoke jigs and tools or to technical data and process information, a third-party supplier would not have sufficient information or capability to provide the required in-service support without significant operational safety risk and delays which are not operationally acceptable to the Authority.

A Direct Award contract with the OEM guarantees access to necessary support, spares,

technical services, and expertise, whilst underpinning the safety case of the capability without major disruptions. It is deemed the only option which meets the operational and safety requirements of the BSIA equipment, ensuring continuity, and value for money while mitigating associated technical and operational risk.

Supplier

General Dynamics European Land Systems-Bridge Systems GmbH

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPXP-8717-HGML

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Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Bridge Set Infantry Assault (BSIA) In-Service Support

Contracting authority

Defence Equipment and Support

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRL-5831-GLMM

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Bristol

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United Kingdom

Email: DefComrc1-SystemsGuidance@mod.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-equipment-and-support>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government