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Planning

## **Gravity Off-Load System (Unit A)**

Satellite Applications Catapult

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-020267

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03e1ed

Published 14 July 2023, 12:22pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

Satellite Applications Catapult

Electron Building, Fermi Avenue, Harwell

Didcot

OX11 0QR

#### **Email**

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

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

[https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA42845](https://www.mytenders.co.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA42845)

## **I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

## **I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Other type

RTO

## **I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Space Sector

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## **Section II: Object**

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

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Gravity Off-Load System (Unit A)

Reference number

SAC-24-017-A

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 42997300 - Industrial robots

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Satellite Applications Catapult is seeking a suitable provider to 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 15m x 7m x 7m (lxwxh) and capable of carrying a 100kg payload. The system will be required to suspend objects in a free-floating manner but be able to move the object in any direction when a force is applied to it, thus simulating the in-orbit dynamics experienced during contact between space craft. As such, 6 degrees of freedom are required at the attachment point. The system will need to utilise its own control system to enable this, but it must be possible to provide force, position and trajectory data to external systems in a suitable format for data processing and control of other systems. Installation & commissioning of the system is to be included by the supplier.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £400,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ13 - Buckinghamshire CC

Main site or place of performance

Westcott

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

This is a prior information notice outlining this potential requirement to make the market aware of the potential upcoming need. If this progresses, procurement documentation will be published on the MyTenders portal and will be conducted by a competitive procurement process. We do not have further information to share at this point. Please ensure that you have registered your interest on the MyTenders portal to receive further updates about this opportunity.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Additional background information is provided in the downloadable document “Background SAC IOSM Facility” – if you are having issues locating this document, please contact [procurement@sa.catapult.org.uk](mailto:procurement@sa.catapult.org.uk) to request a copy.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

15 September 2023

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

We are issuing a series of PINs related to this requirement. It is worth noting that not all of these will progress to contract but work is still underway to determine our preferred options.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the myTenders Web Site at

[https://www.mytenders.co.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=229852](https://www.mytenders.co.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=229852).

(MT Ref:229852)