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Award

## **Procurement of Common Access Cards**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-021970

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03eb35

Published 28 July 2023, 11:55am

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

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

Ministry of Defence

Kings Lynn

PE33 9NP

#### **Contact**

Elaine Shelford

#### **Email**

[Elaine.Shelford750@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Elaine.Shelford750@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKH16 - North and West Norfolk

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.contracts.mod.uk](http://www.contracts.mod.uk)

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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**Section II: Object****II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

Procurement of Common Access Cards

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72611000 - Technical computer support services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Procurement contract to provide Common Access Cards.

**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: £192,000

**II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- US - United States

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

Supplies contract for the procurement of Common Access Cards

### **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

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## **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 restricted procedure
- 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:

The Lightning II Delivery Team, part of the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD), intends to place a 4 year contract with IdenTrust for the procurement of common access cards (CACs) enabling access to F-35 software applications hosted by the US Government. The contract has an estimated total value of £192,000 VAT inclusive. In accordance with the provisions of The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 SI No. 2020/1319, this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations (PCR) 2015 as amended (in particular by SI 2020/1319). Prior publication of a Contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union is no longer

appropriate. It is considered that the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (as required by in accordance with the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with Regulation 32(b)(ii) of the PCR 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

The F-35 Program utilises a number of aircraft maintenance tools, provided as software applications, for which the UK Lightning Delivery Team (LDT) needs access via the Partner Nation Supplier, Lockheed Martin. Two-factor authentication (2FA) is required to access these applications and the 2FA is provided by the ECA Medium Token Assurance Certificate on a CAC supplied by IdenTrust, as one of only two U.S. DoD approved suppliers. Purchase of the CACs from IdenTrust provides a digital profile and user certificate which is associated with a user profile for the associated Program application. Previously with fewer applications and associated users CACs were purchased in low value batches. Work was also undertaken separately by UK MOD to update the MOD Official Network to test and install IdenTrust's ActivClient software to provide approved users direct access via the IdenTrust CACs to the F-35 maintenance applications. A change away from IdenTrust would block access to the maintenance applications and leave UK MOD unable to fulfil its obligations under the F-35 Program and create a significant capability gap in performing key functions required to support F-35 operations.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Contract No**

708561451

### **Title**

Procurement of Common Access Cards

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

28 July 2023

#### **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**

IdenTrust

5225 Wiley Post Way

Salt Lake City

UT 84116

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

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: £192,000

**V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

Lightning Delivery Team

Kings Lynn

PE33 9NP

Email

[elaine.shelford750@mod.gov.uk](mailto:elaine.shelford750@mod.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom