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Award

Hire of Wind Tunnel for dermal aerosol protection assessments

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-024177

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03f0a7

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

DSTL Porton Down

SALISBURY

Email

ivhill@dstl.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK - South West (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-science-and-technology-laboratory>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Hire of Wind Tunnel for dermal aerosol protection assessments

Reference number

0000029019-VTN

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73110000 - Research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Hire of wind tunnel and adjacent laboratory with support staff to operate wind tunnel and perform chemical analysis

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: £160,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Hire of wind tunnel and adjacent laboratory with support staff to operate wind tunnel and perform chemical analysis

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to restricted procedure
- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- 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:

Defence Science and Technology Laboratory on behalf of The Secretary of state for Defence intends to procure the services of Silsoe Spray Applications Unit (SSAU), to hire a wind tunnel and adjacent laboratory to perform chemical analysis on the dissemination of aerosols.

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 the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 32(b)(ii) of the PCR 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons as outlined below:

The tests Dstl conduct involve the dissemination of aerosols within a wind tunnel. The wind tunnel must be large enough to house the test mannequins (at the very least 2.5m wide and 2m high, ideally at least 3 m x 2.5 m) with a long enough working area to allow dissemination far enough from the mannequin to allow mixing (>10 m floor length). However, it must not be so large that we cannot generate the aerosols at high enough concentrations within an acceptable time frame (