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Award

## **MHC Procurement of IVER 4 Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs)**

Ministry of Defence, Mine Hunting Capability Team

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-024618

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-036541

Published 2 September 2022, 12:07pm

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

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

Ministry of Defence, Mine Hunting Capability Team

MoD Abbey Wood, Ash 0B I #3016, Filton, Bristol, BS34 8JH

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Contact**

Mr Garry Ogborne

#### **Email**

[garry.ogborne100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:garry.ogborne100@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKK1 - Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://des.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**

MHC Procurement of IVER 4 Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs)

Reference number

704391450

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 35512400 - Unmanned underwater vehicles

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

**II.1.4) Short description**

Procurement of IVER4 Autonomous Underwater Vehicles for the MHC Team. The AUVs are to be deployed as part of the Wilton operational capability.

**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: £2,000,000

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ31 - Portsmouth

Main site or place of performance

L3Harris ASV Ltd, Portchester, Fareham

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

Procurement of 3 x IVER4 Autonomous Underwater Vehicles for the MHC Team. The AUVs are to be deployed as part of the Wilton operational capability.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

The proposed contract will contain contractual options for both the procurement of one further IVER4 AUV system and associated ancillary equipment, and for training courses related to the operation and maintenance of the IVER4 systems.

### **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 procedure without publication of a contract notice

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- Additional deliveries by the original supplier

Explanation:

Ship Acquisition, which is part of the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD), proposes to place a contract with L3Harris Autonomous Surface Vehicles Ltd (Company Registration Number: 03689515) (“the Company”) for the provision of three (3) IVER4 580 Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs) (“the Systems”) to be integrated into an element of the Royal Navy’s underwater mine countermeasures capability (Wilton). The Systems are to be procured as a replacement for existing equipment, procured under a previous MOD contract.

The Systems each comprise the following: IVER4 580 EP AUV and IVER4 Swappable Battery 8 Section with Spare Tail, along with technical information (“the Goods”). The Contract will also include options for the UK MOD to procure Operator and Maintainer Training for the Systems and an additional IVER4 580 System and supporting ancillary equipment from the Company if exercised during the term of the contract.

The contract has an estimated value of £2M (two million pounds) at the time of contract placement and an estimated duration of seven (7) months.

In accordance with regulation 4 of The Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 as amended (in particular by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450).

It is considered that this contract can be placed using the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice pursuant to Regulation 16(1)(b)(i) of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011. Procuring the Systems from a manufacturer other than the Company would mean the MOD would be obligated to acquire equipment that would have substantively different technical characteristics to existing equipment that

is in operational use within the Wilton capability. Introducing Systems with different technical characteristics into the Wilton capability would result in incompatibility with, and cause disproportionate technical difficulties in the maintenance of, the existing equipment. The incompatibilities and technical difficulties which would arise are related to the physical and software-related modifications that have been made by the Authority to the Wilton Unmanned Surface Vessels and its subsystems, in addition to Wilton supporting equipment. In accordance with Regulation 16(3) the proposed contract term between the UK MOD with the Company does not exceed five (5) years in duration.

[END]

#### **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**

704391450

#### **Title**

MHC Procurement of IVER Autonomous Underwater Vehicles (AUVs)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

2 September 2022

##### **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**

L3Harris ASV

12 Murrills Estate, Portchester, Fareham

Portchester

PO16 9RD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ31 - Portsmouth

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: £2,000,000

Lowest offer: £2,000,000 / Highest offer: £2,000,000 taken into consideration

**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**

Ministry of Defence, DE&S, Mine Hunting Capability Team

Abbey Wood, Filton

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email

[garry.ogborne100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:garry.ogborne100@mod.gov.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://des.mod.uk/>

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Ministry of Defence, DE&S, Mine Hunting Capability Team

Ash 0B I #3016, MOD Abbey Wood, Bristol

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Country

United Kingdom