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Award

C2C Class 357 OLE Monitoring

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-029885

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-052c6a ([view related notices](#))

Published 4 June 2025, 1:46pm

Scope

Description

This procurement is for the provision of an Overhead Line Equipment (OLE) monitoring service for the c2c Class 357 fleet. This service will encompass the selection of technology, design, and installation of monitoring equipment on the passenger trains, ongoing maintenance, operation of the system, and subscription charges to the relevant supplier for data and analysis.

The OLE monitoring service will provide the following key functionalities:

- Height and Stagger Detection: Automated monitoring of OLE height and stagger, crucial parameters for safe and efficient train operation.
- Acceleration-Based Alerts: Detection of rapid changes in OLE parameters, providing early warnings of potential issues.
- Visual Processing: Analysis of streamed forward-facing CCTV and PanCam footage to identify:
 - o Balance weight positions on the OLE.

- o Presence of birds' nests on the OLE infrastructure.
- o Vegetation encroachment impacting the OLE.

This comprehensive monitoring service will enable NR to proactively identify and address potential OLE defects, contributing to improved safety, reliability, and performance of the railway network.

Contract 1. C2C Class 357 OLE Monitoring

Supplier

- [Angel Trains Ltd](#)

Contract value

- £769,682.10 excluding VAT
- £923,618.52 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

23 June 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 8 September 2025 to 7 September 2028
- 3 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72300000 - Data services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

This award is compliant with the Procurement Act 2023 under schedule 5 paragraph 5; competition is absent for technical reasons and NR's C&P Policy. The Rationale is as follows:

- the aim of the procurement is the creation or acquisition of a unique work of art or artistic performance.
- competition is absent for technical reasons.
- the protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights, but only in the case of paragraphs.

Angel Trains, as the owner and lessor of the Class 357 fleet, is uniquely positioned to provide this OLE monitoring service. The rationale for a direct award is based on the following:

- **Existing Asset Knowledge and Access:** Angel Trains possesses in-depth knowledge of the Class 357 fleet and has established access to the trains for the necessary design and installation of the monitoring equipment. This eliminates the need for a separate procurement process to identify and contract with a third party for train access and modification.
- **Service Integration:** Awarding the entire service to Angel Trains ensures seamless integration of the technology selection, installation, maintenance, and data provision aspects. This streamlined approach minimizes potential interface issues and simplifies contract management.
- **Established Service Delivery:** Angel Trains has a proven track record of delivering similar OLE monitoring services for other train operators. This existing experience and infrastructure reduce the risk associated with implementing a new service and ensure a level of expertise and efficiency from the outset.
- **Efficiency and Time Savings:** A direct award to Angel Trains leverages their existing relationship and knowledge, significantly reducing the time and resources required for a full competitive tender process. This allows for a faster implementation of the vital OLE monitoring capability.
- **Upgrade of Existing Equipment:** Angel Trains already has a previous generation of OLE monitoring equipment fitted to these trains, which can be upgraded to provide the latest technology.

By awarding this contract directly to Angel Trains, Network Rail can efficiently implement a well-established and effective OLE monitoring solution, leveraging the asset owner's unique position and existing service delivery capabilities.

Supplier

Angel Trains Ltd

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123 Victoria Street

London

SW1E 6DE

United Kingdom

Email: lee.sinden@angeltrains.co.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. C2C Class 357 OLE Monitoring

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

Waterloo General Office

London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

Email: james.akinwale@networkrail.co.uk

Website: <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government