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Contract

## **RACE - Laser welding trials**

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-030188

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-037c53

Published 26 October 2022, 1:37pm

## **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

#### **Contact**

Phil Perkins

#### **Email**

[phil.perkins@ukaea.uk](mailto:phil.perkins@ukaea.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1235467147

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

**National registration number**

N/A

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

Buyer's address

<https://uk.eu-supply.com/ctm/Company/CompanyInformation/Index/72814>

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Fusion Research

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

RACE - Laser welding trials

Reference number

JNCA/PJP110/22

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 71600000 - Technical testing, analysis and consultancy services

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

Services

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

RACE has been investigating laser welding and carried out trials of its own design of laser welding equipment in 2018. It has just completed a second iteration of the design to implement improvements (higher power output, more reliability) and a similar set of trials to the 2018 work needs to be carried out to verify the design. RACE does not have the equipment and expertise to test internally.

The services, facilities and support needed are:

- Laser test facilities (Safety cell, laser power source, robot, measurement equipment)
- Technician support to run experiments
- Guidance on welding setup and parameters
- Analysis of welds
- Interpretation of welds and expert opinion

### **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: £28,122

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 71600000 - Technical testing, analysis and consultancy services

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

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Culham

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

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- Analysis of welds
- Interpretation of welds and expert opinion

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

Quality criterion - Name: Functional fit / Weighting: 50

Cost criterion - Name: Price Commercial / Weighting: 50

#### **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

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The RACE laser welding head is an evolution of the previous design that was tested at TWI. Only part of the design has needed to be changed. Testing at a different supplier is likely to require redesign of the interfacing components, requiring allocation of more resource and increasing design and management costs.

Various adaptors and ancillary components are needed to connect the laser welding head,

having previously tested with them, we already have the equipment needed to operate at TWI.

The costs to change to supplier are estimated around the £1500-£2000 mark, assuming the

safety provisions, control systems etc. are identical to TWI. This amount of money was found to be the difference between suppliers in the original selection of TWI.

Core to value for money being achieved through TWI is their previous involvement in this project. Because of this they have a good understanding of the projects aims and of UKAEA's needs. Additionally, TWI have already demonstrated that they are capable of performing the results needed to fulfil this type of testing, by completion of the previous set of trials.

TWI have the necessary expertise, equipment and analysis ability required to provide useful

insights into the performance of the welding head and the quality of the welds produced, all under one roof. Alternate facilities, for example at an academic institution, would not have this level of knowledge in-house.

In addition to this, keeping the supplier consistent between the trials will ensure

consistency in

the results collected. This will make direct comparison easier, which is necessary to show the

effectiveness of improvements in the design.

#### **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 V. Award of contract**

#### **Contract No**

C/2068630

#### **Title**

Laser welding trials

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

25 October 2022

##### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

##### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

TWI Ltd

Bevan Braithwaite Building, Granta Park, Great Abington

Cambridge

CB21 6AL

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

The contractor is an SME

No

**V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)**

Lowest offer: £28,122 / Highest offer: £28,122 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

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

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

VI.4.2)Body responsible for mediation procedures



#### VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

The authority will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers.

This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing from the authority before a contract is entered into applicants have 2 working days from the notification of the award decision to request. Additional debriefing and that information have to be provided within a minimum of 3 working days before the expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be sought from the contact named in this notice.

If an appeal regarding the award of a contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No. 102) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland).

Any such action must be brought promptly.

(generally within 3 months).

#### **VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>