

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/033122-2023>

Contract

## **Lipless Firing Needle Assemblies**

Ministry of Defence

F18: Contract award notice for contracts in the field of defence and security

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-033122

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0416f0

Published 8 November 2023, 9:55pm

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

#### **I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)**

Ministry of Defence

Vehicle Support Team, DE&S Abbey Wood, Cedar 1a #3157

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Contact**

Dale Gurney-Newland

#### **For the attention of**

gurney-newland dale

#### **Email(s)**

[dale.gurney-Newland100@mod.gov.uk](mailto:dale.gurney-Newland100@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

---

## **Section II: Object of the contract**

### **II.1) Description**

#### **II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract**

Lipless Firing Needle Assemblies

#### **II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance**

Supplies

Purchase

#### **II.1.4) Short description of the contract or purchase(s)**

The manufacture and supply of quantity 400 modified Firing Needle Assemblies (FNA) for the L30A1 (120mm) gun of the Challenger 2 (CR2) main battle tank.

#### **II.1.5) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)**

- 35411100 - Main battle tanks

### **II.2) Total final value of contract(s)**

#### **II.2.1) Total final value of contract(s)**

Value: £578,898

Excluding VAT

---

## **Section IV: Procedure**

### **Type of procedure**

Negotiated without publication of a contract notice

Justification for the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice

1) Justification for the choice of the negotiated procedure without prior publication of a contract notice

The works/goods/services can be provided only by a particular tenderer for reasons that are:

technical

It is considered that this Contract can be placed under Regulation 16 (1) (a) (ii) of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations on a Single Source basis with RBSL for Technical Reasons. The FNA is a safety critical internal component of the 120mm L30A1 CR2 gun and requires modification to the current design to prevent obturation failure. This modification is a safety requirement that must be fulfilled to ensure the safe functioning of the L30A1 CR2 Main Armament during operation.

RBSL are the Design Authority (DA) and the Original Equipment manufacturer (OEM) for the CR2 and have been the sole supplier of FNAs throughout the life of the L30A1 gun. They have been involved in the development of the L30A1 Weapon System from its inception and possess technical information relating to the Weapon TVE Monitoring system, of which the FNA forms part of. In addition to the Firing Needle Assembly (FNA), the Weapons TVE Monitoring system consists of two interfacing units which interact with the Weapon:

- Tube Vent Electrical Display Unit (TVEDU)
- Tube Vent Electrical Contactor unit (TVECU)

These two units are both procured and/or repaired through RBSL, and the Authority does not have access to the full technical information relating to their design specification. This information is required to ensure that the FNA is built to the correct standard as required to interact with the Weapon TVE Monitoring system and RBSL is the only supplier with this necessary technical information. Without the necessary technical information, there is the risk of misfires, causing a safety issue that would put the crew at risk during Operations.

The Authority has adopted a 10 day standstill period by publishing a Voluntary Transparency Notice with the period ending at 17:00 on Thursday 3rd August 2023. No challenges were received during the standstill period.

---

## **Section V: Award of contract**

**Contract No**

704942450

**V.1) Date of contract award decision**

22 September 2023

**V.2) Information about offers**

**Number of offers received**

1

**Number of offers received by electronic means**

1

**V.3) Name and address of economic operator in favour of whom the contract award decision has been taken**

Rheinmetall BAE Systems Land (RBSL) Limited

Hadley Castle Works, PO Box 106

Telford

TF1 6QW

**Country**

United Kingdom

**V.4) Information on value of contract**

**Total final value of the contract**

Value: £578,898

Excluding VAT

**V.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract is likely to be sub-contracted: Yes

Value or proportion of the contract likely to be sub-contracted to third parties:

Proportion: 75%

Short description of the value/proportion of the contract to be sub-contracted:

The Contracting Authority intends to use an e-Tendering system in this procurement exercise, please visit [www.contracts.mod.uk](http://www.contracts.mod.uk) for full details and to register your interest in this procurement.

---

## **Section VI: Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about European Union funds**

The contract is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:  
No

### **VI.3) Procedures for appeal**

#### **VI.3.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures**

Beth Monis

Vehicle Support Team, DE&S Abbey Wood, Cedar 1a

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Email(s)**

[Beth.Monis577@mod.gov.uk](mailto:Beth.Monis577@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom