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Award

Didactic Learning System

University of Plymouth

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice
Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-036496
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04b5a5
Published 11 November 2024, 6:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Plymouth

Drake Circus

Plymouth, Devon

PL4 8AA

Contact

Kim Steer

Email

kim.steer@plymouth.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 01752588534

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK41 - Plymouth

National registration number

1128013

Internet address(es)

Main address

https://www.plymouth.ac.uk/about-us/university-structure/service-areas/procurement

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Didactic Learning System

Reference number

KS/UOP/DIDACTIC_SYSTEM/057/24

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 30210000 - Data-processing machines (hardware)

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The contract will be for the supply of specialist research laboratory/training equipment comprising two wind turbine nacelle systems, the nacelle being the part of the turbine that houses the components that transform the wind's kinetic energy into mechanical energy to turn a generator that produces electricity. We will also require two three-phase power converters to operate this specialist equipment in our lab environment. The contract includes a two year warranty.

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: £120,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 44316400 - Hardware

- 51611100 - Hardware installation services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK41 - Plymouth

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The contract will be for the supply of specialist research laboratory/training equipment comprising two wind turbine nacelle systems, the nacelle being the part of the turbine that houses the components that transform the wind's kinetic energy into mechanical energy to turn a generator that produces electricity. We will also require two three-phase power converters to operate this specialist equipment in our lab environment. The contract includes a two year warranty.

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

II.2.14) Additional information

The University of Plymouth intends to award this contract following 10 days from the date of publication of this notice.

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 Education Nacelle is unique as it is the real hardware you would find in a wind turbine nacelle, but safely packaged into a standalone system with a custom teaching interface to access data and software. This differs significantly from (1) engineering and teaching simulations, that are only somewhat accurate but not accurate down to the hardware and (2) real wind turbine equipment where a huge cost is in the encasings (e.g., shell) which are built to be weather proof.

As we are only interested in the computing components, option 2 has been a dead end as talking to wind turbine suppliers often confuses them. They are unable to sell us just the important computing parts connected to engineering components scaled down to a classroom size, and they are also unable to change their products to be safe for a lab/classroom environment.

When we tried to buy components directly from wind turbine manufacturers, theses challenges we were unable to overcome. The issue with (1) is as we are researching the cyber-physical security of wind turbines, simulation is not sufficient, we need the actual hardware and computing devices, just not all the extra engineering bits, and if we do need it, we need it scaled down for a safer (and more compact) lab setting.

One important aspect is this is a SIMENS based nacelle instead of a GE, which is very useful as our partners (e.g., ORE catapult) primarily use SEIMENS based turbines/nacelles.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

11 November 2024

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

Didactic Services Ltd

Applied Automation Centre, Centre, Rm 0.6, 55 Caswell Road

Brackmills

NN4 7PY

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKF24 - West Northamptonshire

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £120,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This is a voluntary ex ante transparency (VEAT) notice, indicating that the University of Plymouth intends to enter into a contract with Didactic Services Ltd (Festo Didactic, Official Partner, GB).

The contract will be for the supply of specialist research laboratory/training equipment comprising two wind turbine nacelle systems, the nacelle being the part of the turbine that houses the components that transform the wind's kinetic energy into mechanical energy to turn a generator that produces electricity. We will also require two three-phase power converters to operate this specialist equipment in our lab environment. The contract includes a two year warranty.

The value shown on this notice is the total cost of purchasing the two nacelle systems and power converters.

The University of Plymouth intends to award this contract following 10 days from the date of publication of this notice.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of Plymouth

Drake Circus

Plymouth

PL48AA

Email

procurement@plymouth.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom