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Award

## **In service support of Queen Elizabeth Class Integrated Navigation and Bridge Systems, and In service support for VM250 radar, astute ships inertial navigation system, MK39 gyroscope**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-037162

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04268d

Published 18 December 2023, 3:57pm

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

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

Ministry of Defence

Ships Maritime Combat Systems (MCS) team, Communications and Situational Awareness (CSA), #3213 Ash 2C Abbey Wood South

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Contact**

Hannah Smith

#### **Email**

[hannah.smith210@mod.gov.uk](mailto:hannah.smith210@mod.gov.uk)

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-equipment-and-support>

**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**

In service support of Queen Elizabeth Class Integrated Navigation and Bridge Systems, and In service support for VM250 radar, astute ships inertial navigation system, MK39 gyroscope

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 38112100 - Global navigation and positioning systems (GPS or equivalent)

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

**II.1.4) Short description**

This contract is to provide in-service support of a range of equipment and systems which are integrated to form the Integrated Navigation Bridge System. This includes navigation radars; other sensors and navigational aids; emergency navigation and maritime distress

systems; display consoles, workstations and indicators; and data distribution on the Queen Elizabeth Class (QEC) Carrier. This contract also includes legacy equipment such as Astute Ships Inertial Navigation System (ASINS), Mark 39 Gyros and the Vison Master 250 (VM250) Radar system which are standalone equipment fitted to Landing Platform Dock (LPD), P2000 and A-Class Platforms.

#### **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: £50,000,000

### **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

This contract is to provide in-service support of a range of equipment and systems which are integrated to form the Integrated Navigation Bridge System. This includes navigation radars; other sensors and navigational aids; emergency navigation and maritime distress systems; display consoles, workstations and indicators; and data distribution on the Queen Elizabeth Class (QEC) Carrier. This contract also includes legacy equipment such as Astute Ships Inertial Navigation System (ASINS), Mark 39 Gyros and the Vison Master 250 (VM250) Radar system which are standalone equipment fitted to Landing Platform Dock (LPD), P2000 and A-Class Platforms.

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

Price

#### **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

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to negotiated procedure with prior publication of a contract notice
- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
  - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The Communications & Situational Awareness (CSA) Project Team within Defence Equipment & Support (DE&S), part of the UK Ministry of Defence, (“the Authority”) intends to place a new support contract with Northrop Grumman UK Limited (NGUK) (company number 05989428) (the “Company”) for continued in-service support of a range of equipment and systems which are integrated to form the Integrated Navigation Bridge System. This includes navigation radars; other sensors and navigational aids; emergency navigation and maritime distress systems; display consoles, workstations and indicators; and data distribution on the Queen Elizabeth Class (QEC) Carrier. This contract also includes legacy equipment such as Astute Ships Inertial Navigation System (ASINS), Mark 39 Gyros and the Vison Master 250 (VM250) Radar system which are standalone equipment fitted to Landing Platform Dock (LPD), P2000 and A-Class Platforms.

In accordance with Regulation 4 of the Defence and Security Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) 2019 Regulations (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 as amended (by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450). Prior publication of a contract notice in the official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate.

It is considered that the award of contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Defence and Security Public Contracts

Regulations 2011 for technical reasons.

The QEC INBS contract will provide continued in-service support of the systems and equipment currently satisfied under the current CSA/3058 QEC INBS and Legacy Equipment Contract. This will include core support of the INBS Equipment and Legacy equipment. The in-service support includes safety management, spares provision, systems repairs, a range of supplementary support tasks, obsolescence management and technical support.

The QEC INBS contract has an estimated value of up to £50 million (Fifty Million Pounds Sterling (ex VAT) and will have a term of 10 (ten) years to align with the Authority's obsolescence management plan and technical refreshes in respect of the equipment.

It is considered that the QEC INBS contract can be placed with NGUK Limited as they are the owners of the Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) for key components and equipment and only supplier that can meet the technical requirements for the Contract. NGUK is the Design Authority and Original Equipment Manufacturer for much of the INBS and has the accumulated technical data and knowledge required to support the equipment in accordance with the technical requirements of the contract. Placing the QEC INBS contract with NGUK is critical to ensure the safety of personnel and the operational effectiveness of the platforms.

This notice advises that the Authority has decided to negotiate a contract with the named supplier on a single source basis and is published for reasons of transparency only. If you are interested in becoming a sub-contractor for this requirement, you should apply directly to the supplier named above.

#### **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**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

15 December 2023

#### **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**

Northrop Grumman UK Limited

Burlington House, 118 Burlington Road

New Malden

KT3 4NR

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

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: £50,000,000

#### **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

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom