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Award

SRS Laser Replacement

National Physical Laboratory

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice
Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-038318
Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c079
Published 27 November 2024, 2:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

National Physical Laboratory

Hampton Road

Teddington

TW11 0LW

Contact

Gary Phillips

Email

gary.phillips@npl.co.uk

Telephone

+44 2089773222

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.npl.co.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

SRS Laser Replacement

Reference number

127860

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 38000000 - Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Replacement of SRS laser (due Sept 25): PicoEmerald FT with upgraded electronics to improve speed, productivity and sensitivity

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: £268,981.50

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Teddington

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Replacement of SRS laser (due Sept 25): PicoEmerald FT with upgraded electronics to improve speed, productivity and sensitivity.

Tuning speed: 1.5 s for a random tuning step, up to 100x faster than previous generation picoEmerald S we currently have at NPL. Highly improved signal-to-noise ratio mainly due to the reduction of the laser repetition rate leads to 10x faster image acquisition compared to picoEmerald S. This two-colour turnkey system ideal for stimulated Raman microscopy up to video rate speed as it offers perfect temporal and spatial overlap of exit beams; tuneable between 660 nm and 2340 nm which translates to 210 cm-1 to 5450 cm-1 energy difference (currently we can go 660 cm-1 to 4500 cm-1) providing the opportunity to analyse also a variety of materials that we are not capable of right now; 2 ps pulses with 10 cm-1 spectral width providing a similar spectral resolution to our current device; extremely low noise compared to all-fiber laser systems; compatible with commercial microscopes and homebuilt setups; active and passive stabilization, ideal for long-term experiments

This laser will increase the capacity of our facility but will provide also new capabilities in offering services on dynamic samples.

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- 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 sole manufacture of this type of laser system is A.P.E GmbH who has made available the next generation of laser systems that are compatible to the current version we have.

This laser can be bought only as a laser unit via the exclusive representative in the UK called “Photonic Solutions”.

Photonic Solutions Ltd has been for 20 years and remains the official and exclusive distributor across the UK and Ireland for A.P.E GmbH in Berlin.

Clearly using another supplier would require replacement of the microscope as the software and the microscope we currently have will not be able to “communicate” with the new laser source. This would prove both prohibitive and costly.

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

Contract No

127860

Title

SRS Laser Replacement

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 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

Photonic Solutions Ltd

Unit 2.2 Quantum Court, Heriot-Watt University Research Park

Edinburgh

EH14 4AP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £268,981.50

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £268,981.50

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NPL Management Limited

Teddington

TW11 0LW

Country

United Kingdom