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Award

Open Air Diffusion Bonding Technology

UK INDUSTRIAL FUSION SOLUTIONS LTD

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-050210

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058b67

Published 20 August 2025, 2:12pm

Scope

Description

The open-air diffusion bonding technology presents a unique approach to manufacture of large-scale tungsten components. Unlike both traditional and advanced methods, this technique eliminates the need for vacuum conditions or tightly controlled atmospheres, thereby offering a more scalable and cost-effective solution for industrial applications.

7-month project for continuation of technical work that will further the Intellectual Property application related to open air diffusion bonding technology for fusion application.

Contract 1. Open Air Diffusion Bonding

Supplier

- IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

Contract value

- £220,000 excluding VAT
- £264,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

1 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 September 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 6 months, 29 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73100000 - Research and experimental development services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)

- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights

Imperial College London hold the initial patent (P78409GB) on the technology under consideration and have carried out technology development work on the process for fusion (STEP) application (FY 24-25) under the Manufacturing Framework (project ID: MFFW034).

To work directly with ICL is considered the best-value option due to the pre-existing foundation of technical knowledge and associated background IP owned by ICL.

Supplier

IMPERIAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND MEDICINE

- Companies House: RC000231
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHRL-7217-LGHH

The faculty Building, Imperial College London, Exhibition Road

London

SW7 2AZ

United Kingdom

Email: j.prestt@imperial.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.imperial.ac.uk>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Open Air Diffusion Bonding

Contracting authority

UK INDUSTRIAL FUSION SOLUTIONS LTD

- Companies House: 14620804
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCRM-7973-DCBL

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

United Kingdom

Email: operationalprocurement.step@ukifs.uk

Region: UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government