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Planning

Cable Management System- Shore to Ship Power, Oban Base

Northern Lighthouse Board

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-056101

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059936

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Scope

Description

Historically, vessels at Oban Base have relied solely on onboard diesel generators while berthed, leading to continued fuel use and associated emissions. There has been no shore power provision in place.

The procurement of a cable management system is a strategic requirement, aligned with NLB's long-term sustainability objectives and operational shift toward cleaner technologies. It is driven by the introduction of NLV Pole Star, a new hybrid-powered vessel constructed by Gondán Shipbuilders in Spain. Pole Star features state-of-the-art hybrid systems designed to significantly reduce environmental impact. To fully realise its capabilities, the vessel requires a compatible shore power connection when alongside.

At this stage, we expect the contract scope to cover the supply, delivery, installation support, commissioning, and maintenance of a shore-to-ship cable management system at Oban Base, however this is to be confirmed. This includes all associated equipment, software (if applicable), training for NLB and vessel crews, and ongoing support services.

We are inviting expressions of interest from suppliers who can provide mobile cable

management systems that meet the key operational, technical, and environmental requirements of the Shore to Ship Project at Oban Base. The selected solution should adhere to the following essential project constraints:

Flexibility and Mobility: The system must be fully mobile, allowing for easy deployment and removal, with minimal impact on the base's operations when not in use.

Compatibility with Tidal Movements: The solution must be capable of operating effectively across the full tidal range at Oban Base, with the ability to accommodate fluctuations in water level while maintaining safe and stable cable connections.

Safety and Compliance: The system must comply with relevant safety standards, including IEC PAS 80005-3, ensuring safe operation during cable connection and disconnection processes. The design should incorporate features that prevent damage to cables and ensure the integrity of the connection under dynamic marine conditions.

Minimal Infrastructure Impact: The solution should require minimal or no modifications to existing infrastructure at Oban Base, particularly avoiding the need for significant deck strengthening or large-scale civil works.

Environmental Suitability: The system must be able to withstand harsh marine environments, with corrosion-resistant materials and the ability to operate effectively in a range of weather and sea conditions.

Operational Simplicity: The system should be user-friendly, requiring minimal training for both shore and ship personnel. It should also involve straightforward maintenance procedures to ensure long-term reliability and ease of operation.

We invite suppliers who can meet these criteria to engage with us. Please contact us to express your interest and to discuss how your solution can support the successful delivery of this important project.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://nlb.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-Edinburgh:-Marine-equipment./A3UXK468NS>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://nlb.delta-esourcing.com/respond/A3UXK468NS>

Total value (estimated)

- £600,000 excluding VAT
- £720,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 December 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 4 months

Main procurement category

Works

CPV classifications

- 34930000 - Marine equipment
- 45244100 - Marine installations
- 98362100 - Marine-base support services

Engagement

Engagement deadline

30 September 2025

Engagement process description

If you can support this project with viable solutions, or have expertise in developing or enhancing mobile cable management technology that meets the outlined operational and technical requirements, we invite you to get in touch. Your feedback, technical insights, and proposals are valuable as we explore potential solutions and move towards the procurement phase.

Contracting authority

Northern Lighthouse Board

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