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Award

Autonomous Underwater Research Vehicles

Cardiff University

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-057849

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059bf1 ([view related notices](#))

Published 18 September 2025, 4:18pm

Scope

Description

This project proposes to enhance UK capabilities for polar sea-bed survey, specifically filling an important gap in assets currently occupied by costly infrastructure and resource-heavy robotic systems. Our vision is to make Cardiff a hub for a low-logistics, deep-water autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) swarm for Antarctic marine exploration.

Contract 1. Autonomous Underwater Research Vehicles

Supplier

- Planet Ocean Limited

Contract value

- £605,094 excluding VAT
- £725,622 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

16 September 2025

Standstill period

- End: 29 September 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

1 October 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 October 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 5 months, 30 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 34513550 - Survey vessels
- 38296000 - Surveying instruments

Contract locations

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Supplier

Planet Ocean Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBMT-3252-TZBN

Unit 16, Camberley Business Centre

Bracebridge, Camberley

GU15 3DP

United Kingdom

Email: sales@ecosub.uk

Region: UKJ25 - West Surrey

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Autonomous Underwater Research Vehicles

Contracting authority

Cardiff University

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHVT-4343-HWYR

Procurement Services

Cardiff

CF24 4HQ

United Kingdom

Email: Procurement@cardiff.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/business/why-work-with-us/for-suppliers>

Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Wales