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Award

Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-059367

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05a158

Published 24 September 2025, 3:37pm

Scope

Reference

project_43859

Description

Network Rail intends to award a contract via direct award under the Procurement Act 2023 to Pandrol Ltd for the Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Framework

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Contract 1. Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment

Supplier

- Pandrol Ltd

Contract value

- £6,100,000 excluding VAT
- £7,320,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

20 October 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 November 2025 to 31 October 2029
- Possible extension to 31 October 2033
- 8 years

Description of possible extension:

4 Years

Main procurement category

Goods

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Should the Supplier introduce new products under the scope of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment, the Buyer shall have the right to vary these into the Agreement.

CPV classifications

- 44315200 - Welding materials
- 42662000 - Welding equipment

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Additional or repeat goods, services or works - extension or partial replacement

With respect to joining rails on site, Aluminothermic Welding is the only welding process Network Rail can utilise given the number of welds installed on an annual basis (Circa 30,000 - 40,000). Other welding processes are either not suitable (enclosed arc welding) or unable to support the number of sites and welds required per year i.e. flash butt welding as only 1 machine is available in the UK to support this process.

Network Rail has a number of Aluminothermic Welders in the business which are trained on the Supplier's Aluminothermic Welding Process. In order to continue using this process, Network Rail has to use the Supplier's Aluminothermic Welding Materials and associated equipment as they are specific to their processes and alternatives would be incompatible with the process.

Network Rail is unable to move to another Aluminothermic Welding process as this would require retraining of all welding staff which would cause disproportionate technical difficulties in operation and maintenance. In addition to this, there are no other Suppliers in the market which have an Aluminothermic Welding process approved to the requirements of NR/L2/TRK/0032 and EN14730-1.

Supplier

Pandrol Ltd

- Companies House: 00521438

Bonemill Lane, Gateford Road

Worksop

S81 7AX

United Kingdom

Email: marketing@pandrol.com

Website: <https://www.pandrol.com/>

Region: UKF15 - North Nottinghamshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

Waterloo General Office

London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

Email: matthew.taylor76@networkrail.co.uk

Website: <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government