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Award

## Ultrasonic Rail Testing Sticks

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-065967

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ce18 ([view related notices](#))

Published 16 October 2025, 3:03pm

## Scope

## Reference

Project\_43839

## Description

Network Rail (Wales & Western) intends to award a contract via direct award under the Procurement Act (2023) to TrackSYS Non Destructive Testing (NDT) Limited to replace and upgrade the existing fleet of Ultrasonic Testing Sticks.

Network Rail uses Ultrasonic Rail Testing Sticks, also known as Pedestrian Rail Detection Systems, to detect internal flaws in rail infrastructure. These devices are critical to the broader non-destructive testing (NDT) strategy aimed at maintaining rail safety and reliability.

Due to the specific standards required for non-destructive testing, and the current fleet of products entering an End-of-Life phase, Product Acceptance was achieved on the TrackSYS UT Lite Pedestrian Ultrasonic Rail Tester in collaboration with TrackSYS NDT Ltd and Network Rail's Technical Authority.

Not proceeding with this procurement could put the Network Rail Wales Route at significant risk of not being able to equip inspection teams with functioning, compliant equipment.

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## **Contract 1. Ultrasonic Rail Testing Stick Replacement**

### **Supplier**

- TrackSYS Non Destructive Testing Limited

### **Contract value**

- £1,547,000 excluding VAT
- £1,856,400 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

### **Earliest date the contract will be signed**

31 October 2025

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2028
- Possible extension to 30 March 2029
- 2 years, 11 months, 30 days

Description of possible extension:

Extension of 1 years dependant on the maintenance and servicing needs.

## **Main procurement category**

Goods

## **Options**

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

There is an additional innovative piece of equipment that could further improve the effectiveness of the products. Whether this option will be utilised is dependent on a number of unknown factors.

This additional product has also been designed in collaboration with Network Rail's Technical Authority.

## **CPV classifications**

- 38500000 - Checking and testing apparatus

## **Contract locations**

- UK - United Kingdom

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## **Participation**

## **Particular suitability**

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

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## **Other information**

### **Conflicts assessment prepared/revised**

Yes

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Direct award

### **Special regime**

Utilities

### **Direct award justification**

- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons

To meet regulatory standards, Network Rail requires Product Acceptance through our Technical Authority to utilise products of this nature. This is a lengthy, collaborative process, the result of which being that TrackSYS had the most effective product.

Schedule 5, Paragraph 5:

“The following conditions are met in relation to the public contract—

- (a) due to a particular supplier having intellectual property rights or other exclusive rights, only that supplier can supply the goods, services, or works required; and
- (b) there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services, or works.”

Schedule 5, Paragraph 6 :

“The following conditions are met in relation to the public contract—

- (a) due to an absence of competition for technical reasons, only a particular supplier can supply the goods, services or works required, and
- (b) there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services or works.”

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## **Supplier**

### **TrackSYS Non Destructive Testing Limited**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQRL-5517-XBBN

Croft Court, Croft Road

Newcastle-Under-Lyme

ST50TX

United Kingdom

Email: [terry.clarke@tracksysndt.com](mailto:terry.clarke@tracksysndt.com)

Region: UKG24 - Staffordshire CC

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Ultrasonic Rail Testing Stick Replacement

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## **Contracting authority**

### **NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

Waterloo General Office

London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

Email: [WandWRouteProcurement@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:WandWRouteProcurement@networkrail.co.uk)

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

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government