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Contract

Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-078748

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a154 ([view related notices](#))

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Scope

Reference

project_43370

Description

Network Rail has awarded a contract via Direct Award under the Procurement Act 2023 to Thermit Welding (GB) Ltd for the Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Framework

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

This framework operates on a Direct Award basis. Network Rail will place orders directly with the supplier without further competition. The goods will be procured via a Network Rail catalogue, using the contracted Schedule of Rates, which are fixed for the first 6-months, following which a half yearly price review mechanism applies to ensure pricing remains fair and reflective of market conditions. The framework has a duration of 4 years, with an option to extend for a further 4 years, subject to performance and agreement. All call-offs will be managed through the catalogue system and will adhere to the terms and conditions set out in the framework agreement.

Award method when using the framework

Without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Contract 1. Supply of Aluminothermic Welding Materials and Associated Equipment

Supplier

- Thermit Welding (GB) Limited

Contract value

- £10,100,000 excluding VAT
- £12,120,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

9 November 2025

Contract dates

- 9 November 2025 to 31 October 2029
- Possible extension to 31 October 2033
- 7 years, 11 months, 22 days

Description of possible extension:

4 years - to be used if requirements and market conditions remain unchanged

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

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

Thermit Welding (GB) Limited

- Companies House: 00616382

87 Ferry Lane

Rainham

RM13 9YH

United Kingdom

Email: tw@goldschmidt.com

Region: UKI52 - Barking & Dagenham and Havering

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1

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