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Award

PFSP SHM 15Te Skiphandler Crane (Replacement Grapple & Cameras) & Mast/Stem

Sellafield Limited

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-081733

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05f345 ([view related notices](#))

Published 11 December 2025, 7:31am

Scope

Reference

C27559

Description

Design support, manufacturing and installation to facilitate a new Skiphandler Machine mast and stem, in addition to a new grapple and camera system, including, project planning and quality assurance, design and engineering, procurement and manufacturing, factory assembly and testing, dispatch and logistics, removal of existing components, installation of new components and site acceptance and commissioning.

Contract 1. PFSP SHM 15Te Skiphandler Crane (Replacement Grapple & Cameras) & Mast/Stem

Supplier

- Wellman Booth a trading division of The Clarke Chapman Group

Contract value

- £2,967,972.48 excluding VAT
- £3,561,566.98 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

22 December 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 5 January 2026 to 31 October 2028
- 2 years, 9 months, 27 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 51511110 - Installation services of cranes

- 42419100 - Parts of cranes
- 42414200 - Overhead travelling cranes
- 50531400 - Repair and maintenance services of cranes

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

The purpose of the Skip Handling Machine (SHM) removable mast in Sellafield's Pile Fuel Storage Pond (PFSP) is to move skips around the pond, between the various retrievals systems. The removable mast has an operations platform that is used for numerous tasks, including skip inspection, with 110v sockets that allow cameras/lights/video equipment to be deployed. The SHM is the single most important piece of production equipment in PFSP and is a key system for Sellafield Ltd's Retrievals Value Stream. There are structural concerns regarding corrosion on the SHM mast, therefore it is imperative for site operations that the existing SHM mast is replaced with a functionally like for like mast.

In the current circumstances, competition is absent for technical reasons and pursuant to Schedule 5, paragraph 6 of the Procurement Act 2023, Sellafield may award a contract directly in accordance with section 43 of the Procurement Act 2023. Wellman Booth have carried out extensive work on the PFSP SHM, including design, manufacture and installation of new components, carried out as part of maintenance and CE requirements, and have in-depth knowledge, experience, and design data associated with the PFSP SHM. Given Wellman Booth's existing knowledge and design data associated with the PFSP SHM, and their understanding of the operational constraints in the facility, they are able to work around Sellafield's planned outages on site. Additional outages would cause a reduction in operational time within the asset, which may have a critical impact to Sellafield's programme delivery. Due to the history and provenance of the crane with Wellman Booth, the dilapidated state and urgent requirement for its replacement, Wellman Booth represent the only organisation able to meet Sellafield's Programme's requirements.

Supplier

Wellman Booth a trading division of The Clarke Chapman Group

- Companies House: 04120617

Unit 2, Kirkfield Industrial Centre, Kirk Lane

Yeadon, Leeds

LS19 7LX

United Kingdom

Email: info@wellmanbooth.co.uk

Region: UKE42 - Leeds

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. PFSP SHM 15Te Skiphandler Crane (Replacement Grapple & Cameras) & Mast/Stem

Contracting authority

Sellafield Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWYP-8439-MZWY

Hinton House, Birchwood Park Avenue

Warrington

WA3 6GR

United Kingdom

Contact name: Euan Burnard

Email: euan.burnard@sellafieldsites.com

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/sellafield-ltd>

Region: UKD61 - Warrington

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government