

USM SSP 27_003 Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of TAP Maintenance.

http://www.ms.gov/dfa/contract_bid_search/Bid

RFx: 3150006965

Comments/objections will be received as required per Section 31-7-13 (C) of the Mississippi Code until 8:00 a.m. (Central Time) on August 27, 2026.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Jacob Cochran

Director of Procurement & Contracts 118 College Dr. Box 5003 Hattiesburg, MS 39406

bids@usm.edu

Phone: 601-266-4131

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection USM SSP 27_003"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.

Run Dates: 8/10, 8/17

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The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

- USM is seeking to procure continued licensing, maintenance, technical support, cloud services, and software enhancement services for the Bluemvmt's Trusted Autonomy Portal (TAP). The Bluemvmt platform provides integrated data ingestion, management, visualization, analytics, and generative AI capabilities that are fully integrated with USM's existing CUBEnet data infrastructure. The procurement includes support for automated marine data pipelines, multimodal data fusion, cloud-native processing, AI/ML model hosting and execution, Databook analytics, natural language querying, and ongoing software enhancements necessary to maintain compatibility with existing research, operational, and federally sponsored projects.

2. What efforts were made by the Agency to determine that the proposed provider is the only entity that can provide the commodity needed?

- Bluemvmt is the original developer of the TAP platform and the custom software integrations currently deployed within CUBEnet. Over several years, Bluemvmt developed proprietary interfaces, APIs, cloud architecture, data pipelines, AI workflows, and operational capabilities specifically for USM's environment. No other vendor possesses the proprietary software, implementation knowledge, or existing system integrations necessary to support or enhance the platform without

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extensive redevelopment, reverse engineering, and system revalidation. Based on this technical evaluation, Bluemvmt is the only source capable of providing the required services while ensuring continuity of operations.

3. What efforts were made to ensure the best possible price for the commodity was obtained?

- USM worked directly with Bluemvmt to define only the services and functionality required to support current operational and project needs. The scope of work was reviewed to eliminate unnecessary features and limit costs to essential licensing, maintenance, technical support, cloud services, and software enhancements.

4. Why is the commodity the only one that can meet the needs to the Agency?

- The Bluemvmt platform is uniquely capable of meeting USM's requirements because it has been specifically developed and integrated with the University's CUBEnet platform. It provides capabilities that support real-time marine data ingestion, multimodal data fusion, cloud-native processing, AI/ML model execution, generative AI-assisted analysis, Databook analytics, and natural language interaction with marine datasets while maintaining compatibility with existing APIs, databases, authentication systems, and operational workflows. Replacing the platform with another commercial solution would require significant redevelopment of software interfaces, migration of existing workflows, validation of system performance, and interruption of ongoing federally funded research and operational activities.

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5. Why is the amount expended for the commodity reasonable?

- The proposed expenditure is reasonable considering the specialized technical expertise, proprietary software, cloud infrastructure, ongoing maintenance, and software development required to support the existing operational platform. The cost includes continued licensing, technical support, platform maintenance, cloud-hosted AI services, security updates, and enhancements necessary to maintain compatibility with CUBEnet.

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Advertisement Schedule	Date
1st scheduled	8/10/26
2nd scheduled	8/17/26

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Jacob Cochran

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Jacob.Cochran@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection 27_XXX"

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