

The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 19_005

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:

- Specimen Heating/Cooling Probe for ThermoFisher ESCALAB Xi+ – enables the determination of temperature dependent surface composition of materials
- Standard ThermoFisher ESCALAB Xi+ Sample Kit – enables high-throughput surface analysis by providing users with additional sample holders
- Essential Spares Kit for ThermoFisher ESCALAB Xi+ MAGXIS System – ensures replacement parts for common instrument consumables (e.g. ion gun filaments, gaskets, etc.) are readily available to minimize instrument downtime

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

These three items are specifically fabricated for the X-ray Photoelectron Spectrometer (ThermoFisher ESCALAB Xi+) currently installed in the USM School of Polymer Science and Engineering. Each item requested will advance the capabilities of the instrument and minimize instrument downtime.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity

These three items are highly specialized and are specifically fabricated for the X-ray Photoelectron Spectrometer (ThermoFisher ESCALAB Xi+) currently installed in the USM School of Polymer Science and Engineering. ThermoFisher is the only company that manufactures these items for the ESCALAB Xi+. Generic replacements are not available.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

The amount expended for these three items is reasonable. The purchase of these items will ensure a broader base of internal and external users on the XPS instrument, which will generate user fees to support and maintain the instrument.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

ThermoFisher extended an academic discount on the purchase of the full instrument; USM requested and received the same discounted prices for the purchase of these three items.

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| Advertisement Schedule | Date |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 1st scheduled | 8/23/18 |
| 2nd scheduled | 8/30/18 |

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:

Steve Ballew
Director of Procurement & Contracts
Steve.ballew@usm.edu

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

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.