

Notice of Intent to Sole Source

Posting Date: 11/13/2024

Francis Marion University seeks to sole source the procurement of a Mass Spectrometer addition for current GC/FID Equipment.

Intent to Sole Source:

The FMU Chemistry Department requires the use of a Mass Spectrometer for student use in the academic setting. Research is very important for developing fundamental skills that are essential for experimental chemistry research. The current Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometer (GCMS) has stopped communicating with the injector. GCMS is most used in pharmaceutical research to identify drugs and quantitate residual solvents/contaminants resulting from the synthesis of a drug. GCMS is also used for detection of pesticides and hydrocarbons/organic compounds in environmental samples and can detect oil and gasoline in water. The GCMS will benefit students in these fields that are required to take organic chemistry and environmental chemistry courses; this instrument may also be used in various independent research projects for not only students but also current FMU Faculty.

The FMU Chemistry Department competitively procured a Gas Chromatograph with Flame Ionization Detector System from Shimadzu Scientific Instruments with IFB 2434. Mass Spectrometers (MS) are coupled to another instrument to provide the sample in a proper form for analysis (separated into components). The Mass Spectrometer can be coupled with the department's existing Gas Chromatograph as a more cost-effective solution.

Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc. would be the sole source provider of the MS because it will be coupled to the existing Shimadzu GC/FID system. The maintenance and warranty for these systems are comprised of proprietary hardware and software that is the intellectual property of Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc. There are no other authorized entities that can provide factory-certified maintenance services for Shimadzu's equipment; any maintenance performed by technicians other than Shimadzu Scientific certified technicians will void all factory warranties on the equipment. The MS addition meets the needs, requirements, and budget provided by the Chemistry Department for student training for future career opportunities. For these reasons, Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc. is the sole source for the University's needs.

The cost for the MS is \$82,077.35.

Company Specifics:

Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc.
7102 Riverwood Dr.
Columbia MD 21046

Contact Person for this Intent to Sole Source:

Jennifer D Hester, Director of Purchasing
Phone: 843 661-1161
Email: jdhester@fmarion.edu
<http://www.fmarion.edu/about/solicitationsawards/>

Contact deadline: November 20, 2024 11:59 pm EST

Unless additional pertinent information is forthcoming, Award will be posted at the following physical address and website address on November 21, 2024:

Francis Marion University
Purchasing Office
Stokes Administration Building, Room 102
4822 East Palmetto Street
Florence, SC 29506
www.fmarion.edu/about/solicitationsawards/

If you are aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest a solicitation, you must submit a protest within fifteen days of the date the applicable solicitation document is issued. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of your intent to protest within seven business days of the date the award notice is posted, and (ii) submit your actual protest within fifteen days of the date the award notice is posted. Days are calculated as provided in Section 11-35-310(13). Both protests and notices of intent to protest must be in writing and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. See clause entitled "Protest-CPO". The grounds of the protest and the relief requested must be set forth with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided.

PROTEST – CPO ADDRESS – MMO: Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office, and submitted in writing

(a) by email to protest-mmo@mmo.sc.gov,

(b) by facsimile at 803-737-0639, or

(c) by post or delivery to:

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT OFFICE
1201 MAIN STREET, SUITE 600
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201