

Jackson State University
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase 25-16
MTS Testing Equipment
RFX 3150006474

Jackson State University anticipates purchasing the item listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

Product Overview:

The MTS Criterion Series 40 Electromechanical Universal Test System meets a full spectrum of low-to medium-force monotonic testing requirements on specimens ranging from thin film plastics to composites and alloys in tension, compression, and flexure testing. The stiff load frame design produces reliable, stable, and accurate load, strain and modulus values. Precision linear motion guides ensure superior alignment. The thick crosshead and base design minimizes load frame stored energy for better data.

Explanation of need to be fulfilled by this item, how it is unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

The department conducted a review of available material testing equipment and suppliers and determined that MTS Systems is the only provider that offers the specific equipment meeting the performance, compatibility, and technical requirements necessary for their Engineering program. MTS is a recognized leader in material testing systems and is the sole manufacturer of the specific model they intend to purchase. Comparable systems from other vendors do not meet the required specifications for load capacity, software integration, and system expandability. Additionally, MTS equipment ensures compatibility with existing infrastructure and training already in place, making it the only viable option for their program needs.

Name of company selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide:

MTS Systems Corporation, 14000 Technology Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344 is the company selling this equipment. The equipment is designed, manufactured, and sold only by MTS Systems. No other supplier or distributor is authorized to sell MTS Systems laboratory testing equipment. This includes their hardware and software. MTS Systems only authorizes MTS Systems service engineers to service and maintain its products.

The testing equipment and software to be supplied to Jackson State University by MTS Systems is configured to meet the testing needs of the laboratory.

Replacement parts and service of the equipment provided by MTS Systems are only available directly through MTS Systems.

Estimated cost of item and explanation of why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

The estimated cost is \$91,908.00 including a discount from the standard pricing provided by the proposed provider.

Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine that this is the only source and efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

1. With departmental need at front of mind, faculty researched the marketplace and found that this item is the only one that will adequately meet the needs for research and curriculum purposes and determined that MTS Systems Corporation is the only manufacturer of this product.
2. Office of Purchasing and Travel searched DFA for item and vendor to no avail. Also searched web for alternate vendors to no avail as all listings of the product linked to MTS Systems Corporation as the sole purveyor of the item.

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:

Kimberly R. Harris, CMPA, MHSA
Director of Procurement Services
kimberly.r.harris@jsums.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, JSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then JSU 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.