

SINGLE SOURCE CERTIFICATION

Authority is requested to make the following purchase under the provision of USF System Regulation USF4.02010(IV)(A)(2)(b) as a non-competitive purchase available from only one source. By submitting this form, department acknowledges that existing [exemptions](#) will not apply to this purchase. Single source requests exceeding \$75,000 must be signed by a Procurement Director and posted publicly for (3) business days.

DATE: 2/14/2023

ITEM(S): SBE25plus, SBE32 Carousel, and SBE33 Deck Box water sampling system.

PRICE: \$ 104,775.25 **FUND #:** 10009

SUPPLIER ID: _____ **REQUISITION#:** _____

SUPPLIER NAME: Sea-Bird Electronics, Inc.

FEDERAL GRANT: Y N

In your words, describe the equipment, commodity, or contractual service. Explain how these specifications are essential to the accomplishment of your work:

This single source certification is for the purchase of a new SBE25plus instrument. The Florida Institute of Oceanography currently utilizes Seabird Conductivity Temperature and Depth (CTD) sensors on board the oceanographic research vessels. In addition to the CTDs the vessels also have Seabird Carousel water sampling systems, dissolved oxygen sensors, pH sensor and optical fluorescence instruments. All the instrumentation and the water sampling systems integrate with the Seabird SBE 25plus CTD. Purchase of the Seabird unit will allow seamless integration of these auxiliary components. The SBE 25plus CTD instrument contains the main motherboard which connects and processes all data transmitted from the sensors.

In your own words, describe the reason(s) the item is not subject to competition from other sources and how the stated specification(s) restrict the requisition to only one supplier. Description may include unique features/compatibility/specifications/availability/delivery time frame etc. (Note: Price is not a valid reason).

Without this Seabird SBE logger additional auxiliary sensors and custom cables would be required increasing the cost to operate the system. The CTDs are often exchanged between vessels when instrument calibration or service is required. Having identical systems on both vessels eliminates the need to reconfigure shipboard data acquisition systems often requiring multiple software and hardware modifications. The vessels would be potentially operating two different CTD data acquisition systems producing dissimilar raw and processed data products. Integration of multiple vendor components will negatively affect the overall data collection and processing.

In your own words, describe the due diligence conducted to validate this supplier as Single Source. Description SHOULD list all other suppliers with item(s)/service(s) with similar functions, your efforts to identify other suppliers, and why these suppliers would not qualify to submit a competitive quote.

Additionally, Seabird is the only vendor that supplies the motherboard and connections to connect to other Seabird instruments. In order to provide operational and data product continuity and reduce additional costs to integrate third party instrumentation, FIO is requesting a sole source certification be approved for the acquisition of the new CTD SBE 25 plus CTD from Seabird Electronics.

DocuSigned by: _____ George Lotter 2/15/2023 | 09:38 EST **START** 2/15/2023 **END** 2/20/2023

Approved By (Procurement)

DATE

PUBLIC POSTING DATES

Authority: USF4.02010(IV)(A)(2)(b)

Last Modified: 05/10/2021

OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY CONTROLLER, PROCUREMENT SERVICES

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