

State of Maine Waiver of Competitive Bidding Request Form

Form Instructions: Please provide the requested information in the white boxes below. This form is to precede all contract requests that are not the direct result of a competitive bid process.

Requesting Department's Contract Administrator:	Stephen P. Ashcroft	Office/Division/Program of Contract Administrator:	Secretary of State Bureau of Motor Vehicles Motor Carrier Services
Est. Contract Amount:	\$ 266,770.00	Contract or <u>RQS</u> Number:	2020013000000000812
Proposed Start Date:	02/01/2020	Proposed End Date:	01/31/2021
Vendor/Provider Name, City, State:	Explore Information Services, LLC 2750 Bluewater Rd, Ste. 200 Egan, MN 55121		
Short Description of Good or Service:	Maintenance renewal for the IFTA/IRP online processing system.		
Please note, for transparency purposes, Waivers of Competitive Bidding will be publicly posted. Public postings are placed on the Division of Procurement Services website for a period of seven consecutive calendar days.	<p style="text-align: center;">To be completed by the Division of Procurement Services</p> <p>Posting dates on Division of Procurement Services website: From: <u>1/13/2020</u> To: <u>1/19/2020</u></p>		
Notice of Intent to Waive Competitive Bidding Number:	NOI# 0120200047		
1. Statutory Justification			
State of Maine statute (5 M.R.S. §1825-B(2)) allows waivers of competitive bidding only for the specific reasons listed below. Please mark the appropriate box (X) next to the justification which applies to this specific request.			
<input type="checkbox"/>	A. The procurement of goods or services by the State for county commissioners pursuant to Title 30-A, section 124, involves the expenditure of \$2,500 or less, and the interests of the State would best be served;		
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. The Director of the Bureau of General Services is authorized by the Governor, or the Governor's designee, to make purchases without competitive bidding because, in the opinion of the Governor or the Governor's designee, an emergency exists that requires the immediate procurement of goods or services;		
<input type="checkbox"/>	<i>If citing the above justification for this Waiver of Competitive Bidding request, please have the requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (as the Governor's "designee") sign and date on the right.</i>	<p><i>By signing below, I signify as the Governor's designee there is an emergency that necessitates this non-competitive procurement.</i></p> <p>Signature:</p>	
		Printed Name:	Date:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. After reasonable investigation by the Director of the Bureau of General Services, it appears that any required unit or item of supply, or brand of that unit or item, is procurable by the State from only one source;		

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	D. It appears to be in the best interest of the State to negotiate for the procurement of petroleum products;	
	E. The purchase is part of a cooperative project between the State and the University of Maine System, the Maine Community College System, the Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State involving: (1) An activity assisting a state agency and enhancing the ability of the university system, community college system, Maine Maritime Academy, or a private, nonprofit, regionally accredited institution of higher education with a main campus in this State to fulfill its mission of teaching, research, and public service; (2) A sharing of project responsibilities and, when appropriate, costs;	
	<i>If citing the above justification for this sole source request, please note that the specific approval of the Governor's Office is required, in accordance with Executive Order 26 FY 11/12, "An Order to Enhance Competitive Bidding". The approval must be documented on DAFS/BGS/Division of Procurement Services "GOVCOOP" form, found here: http://www.maine.gov/purchases/info/forms/govcoop.doc.</i>	
	F. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, in which case the Director of the Bureau of General Services may accept oral proposals or bids;	
	G. The procurement of goods or services involves expenditures of \$10,000 or less, and procurement from a single source is the most economical, effective and appropriate means of fulfilling a demonstrated need.	
	If a different authorization specifically allows for this non-competitive procurement, please provide that reference here:	
Please note that the following four points below (#2 through 5) all require a response.		
2. Description of Specific Need Please identify, and fully describe, the specific problem, requirement, or need the resulting non-competitive contract would address and which makes the goods or services necessary. Explain how the requesting Department determined that the goods or services are critical and/or essential to agency responsibilities or operations.		
Explore Information Services, LLC provides annual maintenance for the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) and International Registration Plan (IRP) online processing systems. These systems are web browser-based, accessible from any browser without the need for application specific software, and capable of processing IFTA fuel tax returns and license applications; and IRP applications and credentials via the internet. The IFTA system automatically updates Maine's Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window (CVIEW) and IFTA license and decal information. The IRP system exchanges/transfers required data with BMV's Vehicle Services system daily, IRP Clearing House monthly, Commercial Vehicle Information Exchange Window (CVIEW) every 15 minutes and Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) daily.		

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3. Availability of other Public Resources

Please explain how the requesting Department concluded that sufficient staffing, resources, or expertise is not available within the State of Maine's government, or other governmental entities (local, other state, or federal agencies) external to the requesting Department, which would be able to address the identified need more efficiently and effectively than the identified vendor.

The Explore IRP/IFTA system was developed by Explore Information Services, LLC and is the only entity authorized to support and maintain this system.

4. Cost

Since a waiver of competitive bidding is being requested for this procurement, please explain how the requesting Department concluded the negotiated costs, fees, or rates are **fair and reasonable**.

The maintenance costs for the Explore IRP/IFTA system are fair and reasonable. Maintenance costs have not increased since implementation of IRP in 2009 and IFTA in 2014. A 3% increase of the annual maintenance equates to \$7,700.00.

5. Future Competition

Please describe potential opportunities which may be available to foster competition for these goods or services in the future.

Future opportunities to replace the current system will go through the competitive bidding process.

Please note that only one of the two points below ("Uniqueness" or "Timeframe") requires a response. Requesting Departments are not required to respond to both points.

6. Uniqueness

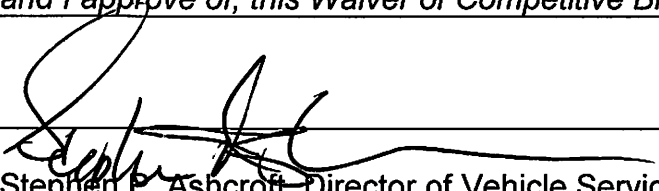
Please explain if the goods or services required are unique to a specific vendor. Describe the unique qualifications, abilities, and/or expertise of the vendor and how those particular unique factors address the specific need identified above. If the vendor has unique equipment, facilities, or proprietary data, also explain the necessity of these particular unique assets.

The IRP/IFTA systems are unique to Explore Information Systems, LLC and were developed to work in conjunction with the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicle systems and other entities requiring the information collected from motor carriers.

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7. Timeframe (Complete only if B. is the Statutory Justification marked on Page 1)
Please explain if time is of the essence and an emergency exists which requires the immediate procurement of goods or services. Describe the nature of this emergency, provide the date by which the goods or services must be delivered, and explain how that date was determined and its significance (i.e. impact if delayed beyond this date). Also, provide information as to how it was determined this vendor is the best option to address this time-sensitive procurement.

[Empty space for explanation of emergency and justification]

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner or Chief Executive (or designee within the Commissioner's Office):	<i>By signing below, I signify that my Department requests, and I approve of, this Waiver of Competitive Bidding.</i>
	
Printed Name:	Stephen P. Ashcroft, Director of Vehicle Services
Date:	12/6/19