

State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		Materials Testing & Exploration, Project Development			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		James Ryan Robinson, Laboratory Testing Engineer			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:					
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$6974	Advantage CT / RQS #:		RQS20230227000000001035
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:	3/8/23	Proposed End Date:	6/30/23	
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:		
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:		
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:		
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:		
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Instron, Norwood MA			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Replacement Instron Custom Series B, High-Strength Nut Proof Loading Assembly compatible with W-5155-B Bolt Holders.			

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
X	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

- 1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.**

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PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

The MaineDOT Laboratory uses an aging (+/- 60 years) Universal Testing Machine for which compatible parts and accessories are no longer available for routine purchase. We are seeking replacement of a High Strength Nut Proof Loading assembly used to verify the strength under load of internally threaded fasteners (nuts) used in bridge and highway construction. This assembly is a custom solution that will replace a broken fixture that has been discontinued by the manufacturer. MaineDOT is currently unable to perform critical testing of high strength fasteners.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.

This vendor is offering a custom solution to replace a discontinued piece of equipment that was solely manufactured and distributed by Instron. The nut holder being purchased is designed specifically to be compatible with the current tensile testing assembly, which is not an off-the-shelf item. Due to the specialized nature of this equipment and requirement to fit in an Instron tensile test assembly, replacement parts are not available from other vendors. To have one custom built by a machine shop would require an onsite visit by a parts designer and development of shop drawings which would dramatically increase the cost.



3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.

Past efforts to procure similar replacement parts for this approximately 60 year old universal testing machine resulted in comparable cost estimates. Ex.: a subpart of the assembly requested in this PJF was purchased from the vendor off-the-shelf in 2014 for \$1009.43; a pinion for this device was also purchased that year at a cost of \$4064.00. Market research into the cost of similar fixtures for modern universal testing machines indicates that the cost of this custom-build of a discontinued assembly is reasonable.

4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.

Due to the age of the universal testing machine and its inability to conduct testing on newer types of materials including glass-fiber reinforcement bars and various types of wire strands used in bridge construction, MTE is looking towards replacement of this test equipment in the next five years. A new device will increase the availability of the accessories needed, so custom replacement of outdated parts will no longer be necessary.

PART IV: APPROVALS

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):	<i>By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.</i>		
			
Printed Name:	William Pulver, C.O.O	Date:	3-3-2023
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by: 		
Printed Name:	2D5B6E39F57E44A... William J.E. Allen	Date:	3/10/2023

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