

Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

24-58087

Supply of Liquid Handler for Protein Crystallization

1. Advance Contract Award Notice (ACAN)

An ACAN is a public notice indicating to the supplier community that a department or agency intends to award a contract for goods, services or construction to a pre-identified supplier, thereby allowing other suppliers to signal their interest in bidding, by submitting a statement of capabilities. If no supplier submits a statement of capabilities that meets the requirements set out in the ACAN, on or before the closing date stated in the ACAN, the contracting officer may then proceed with the award to the pre-identified supplier.

2. Definition of the requirement

The National Research Council of Canada has a requirement for the supply of one liquid handler for protein crystallization. The system must be able to set up hanging drop, sitting drop, micro batch and seeding crystallizations in a 96 well format.

3. Criteria for assessment of the Statement of Capabilities (Minimum Essential Requirements)

- Any interested supplier must demonstrate by way of a statement of capabilities that its system meets all of the following requirements:
- The system must include the hardware and software required to set up hanging drop, sitting drop, micro batch and seeding crystallizations in a 96 well format.
- The system must be able to deliver volumes as low as 25 nanoliters
- The system must be capable of multiple aspirations with single dispense
- The system must be capable of a single aspiration with multiple dispenses.
- The instrument must have a humidifying chamber with humidity fully controlled by the software.
- The system must be able to complete a 96 well setup in less than 3 minutes.
- Liquid delivery must be by true positive displacement.
- The system liquid delivery must eliminate any chance of cross-contamination of sample or reservoir solutions.
- System operation and maintenance must not require washing steps.

4. Applicability of the trade agreement(s) to the procurement

This procurement is subject to the following trade agreement(s)

- *Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA)*
- *Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA)*
- *Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement*

- *Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement*
- *Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement*
- *Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement*
- *Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA)*

7. Justification for the Pre-Identified Supplier

SPT LabTech Ltd., is the only vendor able to meet the criteria outlined in the Statement of Capabilities.

8. Government Contracts Regulations Exception(s)

The following exception(s) to the *Government Contracts Regulations* is invoked for this procurement under subsection 6(d) – only one person is capable of performing the work.

9. Exclusions and/or Limited Tendering Reasons.

The following exclusion(s) and/or limited tendering reasons are invoked under the:

- a. Canadian Free Trade Agreement (CFTA) – Article 513 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- b. Canada-Chile Free Trade Agreement (CCFTA) – Article Kbis-16 (2) (c): necessary to protect intellectual property;
- c. Canada-Colombia Free Trade Agreement – Article 1409 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- d. Canada-Honduras Free Trade Agreement – Article 17.11 (2) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- e. Canada-Korea Free Trade Agreement – referencing the WTO Protocol Amending the GPA, Article XIII (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;
- f. Canada-Panama Free Trade Agreement – Article 16.10 (1) (b) (iii): because of the absence of competition for technical reasons;
- g. Canada-Peru Free Trade Agreement (CPFTA) –Article 1409 (1) (b) (iii): due to an absence of competition for technical reasons;

10. The equipment is to be delivered on/before October 31, 2024.

11. Cost estimate of the proposed contract

The estimated value of the contract is **\$132,817.00** (GST/HST extra).

12. Name and address of the pre-identified supplier

SPT Labtech Ltd.,
Melbourn Science Park,
Melbourn, Hertfordshire SG8 6HB, UK

13. Suppliers' right to submit a statement of capabilities

Suppliers who consider themselves fully qualified and available to provide the goods, services or construction services described in the ACAN may submit a statement of capabilities in writing to the contact person identified in this notice on or before the

closing date of this notice. The statement of capabilities must clearly demonstrate how the supplier meets the advertised requirements.

14. Closing date for a submission of a statement of capabilities.

The closing date and time for accepting statements of capabilities is July 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. ET.

15. Inquiries and statements of capabilities are to be directed to:

Carol Cooper, Senior Contracting Officer
carol.cooper@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca

Telephone: 902 293 8053