# NIH NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

Posting Date: October 25, 2024

Closing Date: November 4, 11:30 a.m. ET

Reference Number: 25-002751

To: NCI Bid Board

From: Jasmine Ruffin NCI Purchasing Agent Jasmine.ruffin@nih.gov

Subject: NCI Bid Board Posting- Maintenance agreement for Octet R4 instrument

The Laboratory of Molecular Biology currently pursues 3 major areas of research to understand and treat cancer. One area comprises the study of antibody-based cancer treatments for hematologic, liver and mesothelin based cancers. Another area is modeling of thyroid hormone-based cancers. The third area focuses on basic biochemical processes of gene transcription, post-translational regulation, molecular chaperone systems that manage protein damage, and the localization and assembly of large protein structures.

The National Cancer Institute plans to purchase a Maintenance agreement for Octet R4 instrument to perform this work. This is not a request for competitive quotation. However, if any interested party believes it can meet the attached requirements, it may submit a statement of capabilities. The capability statement must be in writing and must contain information and material in sufficient detail to allow NCI to determine is the party can fully meet this requirement. The capability statement must be received in the contracting office by 11:30 AM on November 4, 2024. A determination by the Government not to compete this requirement based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement.

Sole Source Justification:

Sartorius is the sole provider of service for their Octet line of BLI instruments. Octet BLI instruments are complex lab research products that are only serviced by fully trained Sartorius Engineers who have received specialized factory training. Sartorius Octet BLI instruments are not serviced by any 3rd party provider. Sartorius does not sell parts to maintain or repair Octet BLI instruments to any 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers. Therefore, only Sartorius can meet original equipment manufacturer (OEM) specifications.

Attached Documents: SF18 Statement of Work FAR Clause 52.213-4 Simplified Acquisitions Terms and Conditions (AUG 2019) is applicable and available in full text upon request

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### Sole Source Justification

\$10,000.01 - \$25,000.00

1. Program Office: Laboratory of Molecular Biology, CCR, NCI Project Officer: Emily Danoff, <u>emily.danoff@nih.gov</u> Phone: 240-760-7714

### 2. Project Information:

Title: Service Agreement for Sartorius Octet R4 BLI Instrument Period of Performance: November 1, 2024 – October 31, 2025 Requisition No. Proposed Contractor: Sartorius Corporation 565 Johnson Ave. Bohemia, NY 11716, United States Contact: Evelyn Campbell, evelyn.campbell@sartorius.com Phone: (631) 319-0633

# **3.** Description of the item or service to be acquired and the benefit to be received by the Government:

The Laboratory of Molecular Biology (LMB) has a Sartorius Octet R4 bio-layer interferometry (BLI) instrument for measuring real-time biomolecular interactions in vitro. This instrument is used by several investigators in LMB and requires precise adjustment and maintenance in order to be operational at all times. The LMB is acquiring a 1-year service agreement to maintain this instrument so that the Government's Cancer Research Program continues without interruption. This full coverage service agreement includes all labor, travel, and parts with unlimited breakdown calls, and one scheduled Preventative Maintenance visit per year.

#### 4. Total Estimated Cost: \$20,590.00

# 5. Specific, detailed explanation of why it is not feasible to obtain full and open competition. Sole Source Justification:

Sartorius is the sole provider of service for their Octet line of BLI instruments. Octet BLI intruments are complex lab research products that are only serviced by fully trained Sartorius Engineers who have received specialized factory training. Sartorius Octet BLI instruments are not serviced by any 3rd party provider. Sartorius does not sell parts to maintain or repair Octet BLI instruments to any 3<sup>rd</sup> party providers. Therefore, only Sartorius can meet original equipment manufacturer (OEM) specifications.

### 6. FAR Statute: 13.106-1 (b)(1)

(b) Soliciting from a single source.

(1) For purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, Contracting Officers may solicit from one source if the Contracting Officer determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, or industrial mobilization).

### 7. Market research:

A Web search was performed and an NIH biophysics core facility was contacted. Dr. Grzegorz Piszczek, director of the Biophysics Core Facility at the NHLBI, confirmed that there are no other vendors that supply parts or service this instrument.

### 8. Check and fill in all that are applicable:

- □ The material or service must be compatible in all aspects (form, fit, and function) with existing systems presently installed. The current equipment is <insert description of current equipment>, and the new item/service must coordinate, connect, or interface with the existing system by <insert description of how the new item/service must coordinate or interface>.
- □ A patent, copyright, proprietary data, or licensing agreement limits competition. The proprietary data are described as follows:

<Insert description>

- □ These are "direct replacement" parts/components for existing equipment.
- □ Other information to support a sole-source buy:

<Insert any additional information that supports this sole-source acquisition>

## CERTIFICATION

I certify that statements checked and information provided above are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. In accordance with FAR 13.106-1(b)(1), the processing of this sole-source justification precludes the use of full and open competition.

Emily Danokk\_

\_10/10/2024\_

*Emily Danoff* Project Officer

Date

<*Insert Name*> Contracting Officer Date