

Transport Systems Catapult – Procurement Expression of Interest

**Summary Information**

<b>Programme:</b>	The All Aboard Competition
<b>Requirement:</b>	Adjustable Wristband for Visually / Hearing Impaired Passengers
<b>Estimated Contract Value:</b>	To Be Discussed At Tender Stage

**Outline Of Proposal**

1. Purpose

This document sets out the procurement expression of interest for the development of a low cost adjustable wristband that can be handed out to visually or hearing impaired passengers who use public buses.

2. Background

Transport Systems Catapult on behalf of the Department for Transport ( DfT ) ran a competition which challenged students aged between 14 – 18 years of age to come up with alternative, innovative solutions to provide accessible information on buses to those with visual or hearing impairments. They were asked to demonstrate the following :-

- i) Demonstrate an understanding of the current barriers to using the bus network for people who have a visual or hearing impairment
- ii) To keep in mind the current assistive technology operating on buses, while also looking at new and emerging technologies
- iii) Aim to be innovative, cost effective and easy to install on existing bus fleets
- iv) To be created for use on the actual bus, whilst not relying on the individual passenger devices eg:- mobile phone apps.
- v) For more information about what has been the All Aboard Competition challenge, please see the competition website <http://www.theallaboardcompetition.co.uk/>

3. Outcome

- The winning design by Daria Buszta, an AS Level student at Nottingham’s Bilborough College incorporated an adjustable wristband that would be handed out to visually or hearing impaired passengers using public buses
- The next stage as part of the competition is to identify partners who would wish to work in conjunction with TSC to develop a working prototype of Daria’s design.

4. Estimated Value

The estimated contract value for the development of a working prototype will be discussed with those parties who have been shortlisted to tender stage. Indicative costs will also be discussed at this stage.

## 5. Funding Considerations

Transport Systems Catapult is funded by DfT, Innovate UK and a grant from BIS. Though the TSC is a private sector company limited by guarantee, the source of funding means that the procurement approach must satisfy transparency and value for money criteria as specified within the Transport Systems Catapult procurement policy.

## 6. Procurement Timescale / Initial Requirements

Week Commencing 27th April :-	Issue Procurement Expression of Interest
Friday 15th May by Midday :-	Responses Received from Interested Parties
Friday 22nd May:-	Shortlisted Candidates Identified
Week Commencing 25 <sup>th</sup> May :-	Tender Issued
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June by Midday :-	Final Proposals Submitted
Week Commencing 22nd June :-	Meetings with Potential Suppliers
Week Commencing 6 <sup>th</sup> July:-	Preferred Supplier Appointed

It is intended to award the contract to a single provider.

The criteria for award will be most economically advantageous tender taking into account cost and design.

## 7. Points to Consider from Daria's Proposal

The design will be a low cost, durable, adjustable rubber wristband that can be handed out to visually or hearing impaired passengers by the bus drivers. The wristband will vibrate when the bus is close to the passenger's chosen stop.

The wristband will incorporate a Bluetooth device that links up to the driver's touch screen or ticket machine. The driver will then set up a reminder which will serve two purposes;-

- To remind the driver to stop at the desired stop and offer assistance if necessary
- To activate the vibration on the wristband which will let the passenger know it is their stop next.

## 8. Other Considerations

The selected supplier will be expected to involve Daria at all stages of the development.

## 9. Registering your Interest to Participate in the Tender Process

To register your interest send an email acknowledgement to :- [procurement@ts.catapult.org.uk](mailto:procurement@ts.catapult.org.uk)

