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| **Questions** | **Answers** |
| * The tender requires the LIBS instrument to be smaller than 50cm x 50cm x 50cm. Is this a fixed requirement? | The foot plan dimensions are relatively fixed due to the need to operate in confined ship/ forward deployed environments. The proposed instrument does not sound like it would meet our portability needs, with the added complication of requiring a PC and monitor to operate. |
| * The Tender requires the instrument to be practicably portable with a weight not exceeding 25Kg. Is this because the instrument is to be carried by a person? Would you consider an instrument that weight exceeds this if it could be wheeled on a trolley? | The reason for <25kg weight is so that the instrument can be easily moved by hand to a dynamic range of locations in varying operating environments. A wheeled trolley may not be appropriate for many operating environments. Additional ruggedised transport cases would also be needed for the PC and monitor. |
| * The tender requires that the instrument does not require any services except mains electricity. If available on location Would the laboratory/user like to have the capability to introduce Helium/Argon into the sample chamber to heighten analytical capabilities (i.e. test for elements present in the atmosphere or heighten excitation of certain elements for improved analysis)? | A Helium/ Argon supply is not practical in many operating environments and contributes to running costs. Additional health and safety requirements would need to be considered with this option. |