Request for Information (RFI)

Procurement of an automated rapid plasma regain analyser for the UKHSA (United Kingdom Health Security Agency) – Atamis Project C217241

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| Supplier Name |  |
| Contact Name |  |
| Contact Job Role |  |
| Contact Email Address |  |
| Contact Tel Number |  |

1. **Introduction:**
   1. The United Kingdom Health Security Agency (UKHSA), Bristol Laboratory, is seeking information from potential suppliers regarding the provision of an Automated RPR Analyser for Syphilis Serology Testing. This enquiry is aimed at understanding market availability, technological specifications, pricing, and support services related to the automated analysers, as well as related reagents and consumables.
   2. Please review the scope outlined in this Request for Information (RFI) and provide responses to the questions and requirements mentioned. Your input will help shape UKHSA's sourcing strategy for this procurement.
   3. Should you have any questions or queries relating to this RFI, please contract:

[science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk) For the Attention of (FAO) Imran Rahman

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| RESPONSE DEADLINE | **03/11/2023 12:00** |

1. **Disclaimer**
   1. This RFI is for information-gathering purposes and does not constitute a commitment, implied or otherwise, that the UKHSA will take procurement action in this matter. Further, the UKHSA will not be responsible for any costs incurred in the preparation and submission of the response.
   2. If a response is not received by the RFI response deadline, it will have no impact on your ability to participate in the procurement process in the future. UKHSA will not enter contracts based on replies to this RFI.
   3. The quality of the responses to this RFI will directly impact UKHSAs decision to proceed with this procurement.
2. **Background:**
   1. In light of the recent shift of Syphilis confirmation serology services from the Colindale UKHSA Laboratory to the Bristol UKHSA Laboratory, and the subsequent increase in workload, there is an urgent need to automate the existing manual RPR testing processes. Automation is sought to improve operational efficiency, accuracy, resilience, surge capacity, and overall quality of service, particularly as instances of Syphilis infections are witnessing a national rise.
3. **Scope:**
   1. The objective of this procurement is the acquisition of an automated RPR analyser alongside necessary reagents and consumables to enhance the Syphilis serology confirmation services at the Bristol UKHSA Laboratory. The lab currently handles 1200 RPR tests monthly, a number expected to rise annually.
4. **Expected Contract Duration:**
   1. The anticipated contract will span three years, with a possibility of two one-year extensions, culminating in a total potential contract term of five years.
5. **Information Sought:**
   1. We kindly request that you submit your responses to the below questions by the RFI response deadline mentioned.

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| UKHSA Question | Supplier Response | |
| Please confirm whether your organisation has an interest in bidding for this procurement and you have the capability to supply the United Kingdom (UK) | YES | NO |
| If no, please explain why? |  | |
| Product Specifications   * Please provide a PDF of your product specifications for an automated RPR analyser | [please attach a PDF product specification to your submission] | |
| Technology and Performance  Please provide information concerning:   * How your product provides automation of the RPR testing process * Quality control and accuracy of your product * Your products ability to integrate with laboratory information management systems | [Please answer in no more than 500 words] | |
| Pricing  Please provide information concerning:   * The base price of your product * Pricing for reagents and consumables * Availability of any bulk purchase discounts or incentives * Price of service, repair, maintenance (ongoing and one-off) * Price of delivery and installation * Price of delivering user training * Price of any software or licensing required for the use of your product | [Please answer in no more than 500 words] | |
| Support and Maintenance  Please provide information concerning:   * The availability and terms of after-sales support services * Warranty details and maintenance service offering | [Please answer in no more than 200 words] | |
| Compatibility and Integration  Please provide information concerning:   * Compatibility with existing systems, reagents, and consumables * Ease of integration with current laboratory workflows | [Please answer in no more than 200 words] | |
| Training and Documentation  Please provide information concerning:   * Availability of user training programs * Provision of user manuals and operational guidance documentation | [Please answer in no more than 200 words] | |
| Regulatory Compliance  Please provide information concerning:   * Information concerning regulatory approvals and certifications, such as CE marking. | [Please answer in no more than 100 words] | |
| Sustainability and Whole Life Costs:  Please provide information concerning:   * Environment sustainability considerations in the product design. * Expected operational lifespan and associated whole-life costs. | [Please answer in no more than 100 words] | |
| Delivery (Lead Times) and Installation:  Please provide information concerning:   * Expected delivery timelines post-order confirmation. * Installation requirements and procedures. | [Please answer in no more than 100 words] | |

1. **Next Steps**
   1. Once the UKHSA has received and analysed the responses from this RFI it shall decided on available options and recommended action. One available option will be to pursue this requirement as an Open Procedure procurement under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. If so, this will be run through Atamis, an e-procurement portal.
   2. Interest parties may register with Atamis here: [Welcome (site.com)](https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/s/Welcome)
   3. The Atamis project code for this procurement will be: C217241