

Our Ref: ML231002

Your Ref:

Date: 10/10/2023

Dear Sirs,

Request for Quotation

**Contract Ref: ML 23100**

**Contract Title:** **Automated Gel Electrophoresis System**

You are invited to submit a quotation for the requirement described in the specification, Section 2. You are invited to quote for the above in accordance with the enclosed documents.

Please confirm by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote or not.

Your response should be returned to the following email address by:

Email: [andy.fegan@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:andy.fegan@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Date 10/11/2023

Time 12:00

Yours sincerely



Andy Fegan

ML Contract Manager

E-mail: andy.fegan@environment-agency.gov.uk

Telephone: 020302 50009

**Contact Details and Timetable**

Andy Fegan will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote or the process. Please submit any clarification questions via email and note that, unless commercially sensitive, both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | Date |
| Date of issue of RFQ | 10/10/2023 |
| Deadline for clarifications questions | 20/10/2023 at 16:00 |
| Deadline for receipt of Quotation | 10/11/2023 at 12:00 |
| Intended date of Contract Award | 24/11/2023 |
| Intended Contract Start Date | 12/1/2024 |
| Intended Delivery Date / Contract Duration | 11/1/2025 / 12 months |

Section 1: General Information

Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions used within this Request for Quotation shall have the following meanings (to be interpreted in the singular or plural as the context requires):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
| “Authority” | Means Environment Agency who is the Contracting Authority. |
| “Contract” | means the contract to be entered into by the Authority and the successful supplier. |
| “Response” | means the information submitted by a supplier in response to the RFQ. |
| “RFQ” | means this Request for Quotation and all related documents published by the Authority and made available to suppliers. |

Conditions applying to the RFQ

You should examine your Response and related documents ensuring it is complete and in accordance with the stated instructions prior to submission.

Your Response must contain sufficient information to enable the Authority to evaluate it fairly and effectively. You should ensure that you have prepared your Response fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated.

By submitting a Response, you, the supplier, are deemed to accept the terms and conditions provided in the RFQ. Confirmation of this is required in Annex 2.

Failure to comply with the instructions set out in the RFQ may result in the supplier’s exclusion from this quotation process.

Acceptance of Quotations

By issuing this RFQ the Authority does not bind itself to accept any quotation and reserves the right not to award a contract to any supplier who submits a quotation.

Costs

The Authority will not reimburse you for any costs and expenses which you incur preparing and submitting your quotation, even if the Authority amends or terminates the procurement process.

Self-Declaration and Mandatory Requirements

The RFQ includes a self-declaration response (Annex 1) which covers basic information about the supplier, as well as any grounds for exclusion. If you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated.

Any mandatory requirements will be set out in Section 2, Specification of Requirements and, if you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated.

Clarifications

Any request for clarification regarding the RFQ and supporting documentation must be submitted via email no later than the deadline for clarifications set out in the Timetable. The Authority shall be under no obligation to respond to queries raised after the clarification deadline.

The Authority will respond to all reasonable clarifications as soon as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum response time. The Authority will publish all clarifications and its responses to all suppliers via email unless deemed commercially sensitive.

If a supplier believes that a request for clarification is commercially sensitive, it should clearly state this when submitting the clarification request. However, if the Authority considers either that:

* the clarification and response are not commercially sensitive; and
* all suppliers may benefit from its disclosure,

then the Authority will notify the supplier (via email), and the supplier will have an opportunity to withdraw the request for clarification by sending a further message requesting the withdrawal of the clarification request. If not withdrawn by the supplier within 2 working days of the Authority’s notification, the Authority may publish the clarification request and its response to all suppliers and the Authority shall not be liable to the supplier for any consequences of such publication.

The Authority reserves the right to seek clarification of any aspect of a quotation and/or provide additional information during the evaluation phase to carry out a fair evaluation. Where the Authority seeks clarification on any aspect of the quotation, the supplier must respond within the timeframe requested by the Authority.

Amendments

The Authority may amend the RFQ at any time prior to the deadline for receipt. If it amends the RFQ the Authority will notify you via email.

Suppliers may modify their quotation prior to the deadline for Responses. No Responses may be modified after the deadline for Responses.

Suppliers may withdraw their quotations at any time by submitting a notice via the email to the named contact.

Conditions of Contract

The Authority’s standard Conditions of contract for Goods, provided as part of the RFQ will be included in any contract awarded as a result of this quotation process. The Authority will not accept any changes to these terms and conditions proposed by a supplier.

Suppliers should note that the quotation provided by the successful bidder will form part of the Contract.

Prices

Prices must be submitted in £ sterling, exclusive of VAT

Disclosure

All Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement, including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice. For these purposes, the Authority may disclose within Government any details contained in your quotation. The information will not be disclosed outside Government during the procurement.

In addition, the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which provide a public right of access to information held by public bodies. In accordance with these two statutes, the Authority may be required to disclose information contained in your quotation to any person who submits a request for information pursuant to those statutes.

Further to the Government’s transparency agenda, all UK Government organisations must advertise on Contract Finder in accordance with the following publication thresholds:

* Central Contracting Authority’s: £12,000
* Sub Central Contracting Authority’s and NHS Trusts: £30,000

For the purpose of this RFQ the Authority is classified as a Sub Central Contracting Authority with a publication threshold of £30,000 inclusive of VAT

If this opportunity is advertised via Contracts Finder, we are obliged to publish details of the awarded contract including who has won the contract, the contract value, and indicate whether the winning supplier is a small and medium-sized enterprise (“SMEs”) or voluntary organisation or charity. A copy of the contract must also be published with confidential information redacted.

By submitting a Response, you consent to these terms as part of the procurement.

Disclaimers

Whilst the information in this RFQ and any supporting information referred to herein or provided to you by the Authority have been prepared in good faith the Authority does not warrant that this information is comprehensive or that it has been independently verified.

The Authority does not:

* make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the RFQ;
* accept any liability for the information contained in the RFQ or for the fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information; or
* accept any liability for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or any other liability which cannot lawfully be excluded) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any supplier considering entering into contractual relationships with the Authority following receipt of the RFQ should make its own investigations and independent assessment of the Authority and its requirements for the goods and/or services and should seek its own professional financial and legal advice.

Protection of Personal Data

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 the supplier must agree to the following:

You must only process any personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Authority.

* You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
* You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
* Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
* Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.
* You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
* On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

General Data Protection Regulations 2018

For the purposes of the Regulations the Authority is the data processor.

The personal information that we have asked you provide on individuals (data subjects) that will be working for you on this contract will be used in compiling the tender list and in assessing your offer. If you are unsuccessful the information will be held and destroyed within two years of the award of contracts. If you are awarded a contract it will be retained for the duration of the contract and destroyed within seven years of the contract’s expiry.

We may monitor the performance of the individuals during the execution of the contract, and the results of our monitoring, together with the information that you have provided, will be used in determining what work is allocated under the contract, and in any renewal of the contract or in the award of future contracts of a similar nature. The information will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Authority without the consent of the data subject, unless the Authority is required by law to make such disclosures.

Equality, Diversity & Inclusion (EDI)

The Client is striving to create a diverse and inclusive working environment where every individual has equality of opportunity to progress and to apply their unique insights to making the UK a great place for living. The Service Provider is expected to respect this commitment in all dealings with Environment Agency staff and service users.

Suppliers are expected to;

* support Defra group to achieve its Public Sector Equality Duty as defined by the Equality Act 2010, and to support delivery of [Defra group’s Equality & Diversity Strategy](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/defra-group-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2020-to-2024/defra-group-equality-diversity-and-inclusion-strategy-2020-to-2024).
* meet the standards set out in the [Government’s Supplier Code of Conduct](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supplier-code-of-conduct)
* work with Defra group to ensure equality, diversity and inclusion impacts are addressed (positive and negative) in the goods, services and works we procure, barriers are removed and opportunities realised.

**Sustainable Procurement**

Addressing global sustainability impacts and realising additional community benefits within commercial activity is core to Defra group’s approach, working with its supply chain is key to achieving sustainable outcomes. In addition to supporting Defra group to meet its outcomes we look to understand and reduce negative sustainability impacts associated with our commercial activity and realise benefits.

The Client encourages its suppliers to share these values, work to address negative impacts and realise opportunities, measure performance and success.

Suppliers are expected to have an understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals, the interconnections between them and the relevance to the Goods, Services and works procured on the Client’s behalf.

**Conflicts of Interest**

The concept of a conflict of interest includes but is not limited to any situation where an Involved Person or Relevant Body has directly or indirectly, a financial, economic or other personal interest which might be perceived to compromise their impartiality and independence in the context of the procurement procedure and/or affect the integrity of the contract award.

We expect suppliers to mitigate appropriately against any real or perceived conflict of interest through their work with government. A supplier with a position of influence gained through a contract should not use that position to unfairly disadvantage any other supplier or reduce the potential for future competition.

Where the supplier is aware of any circumstances giving rise to a conflict of interest or has any indication that a conflict of interest exists or may arise you should inform the Authority of this as soon as possible (whether before or after they have submitted a quotation). Tenderers should remain alert to the possibility of conflicts of interest arising at all stages of the procurement and should update the Authority if any new circumstances or information arises, or there are any changes to information already provided to the Authority. Failure to do so, and/or to properly manage any conflicts of interest may result in a quotation being rejected.

Provided that it has been carried out in an open, fair and transparent manner, routine pre-market engagement carried out by the Authority should not represent a conflict of interest for the supplier.

Section 2: The Invitation

**Specification of Requirements**

# Background to Environment Agency

**Who is the Environment Agency?**

We are an Executive Non-departmental Public Body responsible to the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Our principal aims are to protect and improve the environment, and to promote sustainable development.

Further information on our responsibilities, Corporate Plan and how we are structured can be found on our Website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about>

**What do we spend our money on?**

We are a major procurer of goods and services within the UK, spending circa £600M per annum, our major spend areas are:

* Flood and Coastal Risk Management (design, construction and maintenance)
* ICT and Telecommunications
* Vehicles and Plant
* Environmental Consultancy and Monitoring
* Temporary Staff and Contractors
* Facilities Management, Energy and Utilities
* Flood Management and Water Related Services

**What do we need from our suppliers?**

Suppliers are vital in supporting the delivery of our corporate plan. We aim to support the economy and society whilst delivering more environmental outcomes for every pound we spend. In many areas we are leading the way on environmental and technical developments. It is our role to ensure that suppliers clearly understand our corporate aims and objectives and know that we are committed to delivering the best value most sustainable solutions, taking into account the whole life cost of our procurement decisions. We promote diversity and equality and treat all of our suppliers fairly.

Our procurement strategy may be of interest to you as a potential supplier. It sets out our priorities and key commitments in a range of areas such as delivering our corporate plan, Government policy, supplier management and sustainable procurement:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency/about/procurement#procurement-strategy>

**Background to Requirement**

The Environment Agency’s Monitoring Laboratories (ML) undertake a wide range of molecular and microbiological analysis of environmental samples for both the Environment and for other private sector clients. The system purchase will be installed at the ML Starcross Laboratory, Staplake Mount, Starcross, Exeter, EX6 8FD.

The ML Starcross Laboratory analyses aqueous environmental samples using molecular techniques including metabarcoding and qPCR for various downstream applications including species assemblage assessments, microbial source tracking and eDNA monitoring.

The laboratory has a need to purchase an automated gel electrophoresis system to streamline current nucleic acid sample quality control.

# Technical Specification

The equipment shall comprise of the following;

1. An automated electrophoresis platform for sample quality control of DNA and RNA samples.
2. Consumables options which provide the flexibility to quantify RNA or DNA from pg/ul concentrations, over a wide fragment range size (<50bp to >50,000bp).
3. Software that provides an automated numerical integrity number to assess the quality of nucleic acids.

**Electrophoresis platform requirements:**

* Ability to analyse from 1 to 96 samples in a single run
* Automated loading of samples from strips, tubes or 96 well plates, with the capability to pierce foil seals.
* Result generation in less than 100 minutes for 96 samples
* Minimum sample volume of 1 or 2 microlitres
* Data output that details the nucleic acid size, concentration and integrity

**Consumables requirements:**

* Gel system must have physically separated individual sample lanes that eliminate any chance of contamination. These lanes must be separated from one another with no continuation of gel matrix between individual lanes.
* Flexible consumables options that demonstrate proven direct quantification of RNA and/or DNA from pg/µl concentrations upwards, over a wide fragment size range (<50bp to >50,000bp).
* Barcoded Electrophoresis Gels

**Software requirements:**

* Results must be displayed in both gel and image formats and electropherogram view.
* Software must automatically calculate concentration, sizing and integrity of nucleic acid.
* Ability to explore peaks and regions of electropherogram to determine exact size and quantitation bands.
* Separate integrity scores for DNA and RNA that provides a standardised assessment of nucleic acid quality.
* Freely available software

**Service and Maintenance**

The supplier must have the capability to carry out maintenance and or repair on site at our Starcross Laboratory. The supplier should be able to offer a range of maintenance options including preventative and reactive maintenance.

**Sustainability**

The Environment Agencyprotects and improves the environment and is committed to reducing the sustainability impacts of its activities directly and through its supply chains. We expect the Contractor to share this commitment and adopt a sound, proactive sustainable approach in keeping with the 25 yr environmental plan/our commitments compliant with all applicable legislation. This includes understanding and reducing direct and indirect sustainability impacts and realising opportunities, including but not restricted to; resilience to climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, water use and quality, biosecurity, resource efficiency and waste, reducing the risk of pollution, biodiversity, modern slavery and equality, diversity & inclusion, negative community impacts.

As a delivery partner, the successful contractor is expected to pursue sustainability in their operations, thereby ensuring the Contracting Authority is not contracting with a supplier whose operational outputs run contrary to the Contracting Authority’s objectives. The successful contractor will need to approach the project with a focus on the entire life cycle of the project.

**Contract Management**

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Agency byAndy Fegan

We will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

**Payment**

The Authority will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

The Authority’s preference is for all invoices to be sent electronically, quoting a valid Purchase Order number.

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded for a period of12 monthsto end no later than 11/1/2025. Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in writing in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.

**Evaluation Methodology**

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

Technical – 40%

Commercial – 60%

Evaluation criteria

Evaluation weightings are 40% technical and 60% commercial, the winning tenderer will be the highest scoring combined score.

**Technical (40%)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Award Criteria | Weighting (%) | Evaluation Topic & Weighting | Sub-Criteria | Weighted Question |
| Technical | 100% | Compliance and Conformance | * Capability of proposed equipment to meet and exceed the required specification. | Provide full technical information on the equipment you are offering to comply with the technical specification. |
|  |  |  | * Capability of proposed equipment to integrate with existing ML practise and methodologies |

Technical evaluations will be based on responses to specific questions covering key criteria which are outlined below. Scores for questions will be based on the following:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Description | Score | Definition |
| Very good | 100 | Addresses all the Authority’s requirements with all the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. There are no weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority complete confidence that all the requirements will be met to a high standard. |
| Good | 70 | Addresses all the Authority’s requirements with all the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. The response contains minor weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority confidence that all the requirements will be met to a good standard. |
| Moderate | 50 | Addresses most of the requirements with most of the relevant supporting information set out in the RFQ. The response contains moderate weaknesses and therefore the tender response gives the Authority confidence that most of the requirements will be met to a suitable standard. |
| Weak | 20 | Substantially addresses the requirements but not all and provides supporting information that is of limited or no relevance or a methodology containing significant weaknesses and therefore raises concerns for the Authority that the requirements may not all be met. |
| Unacceptable | 0 | No response or provides a response that gives the Authority no confidence that the requirement will be met. |

Technical evaluation is assessed using the evaluation topics and sub-criteria stated in the Evaluation Criteria section above.

Separate submissions for each technical question should be provided and will be evaluated in isolation. Tenderers should provide answers that meet the criteria of each technical question.

**Commercial (60%)**

The Contract is to be awarded as a 'fixed price' which will be paid according to the completion of the deliverables stated in the Specification of Requirements.

Suppliers are required to submit a total cost to provide the deliverables stated in the Specification of Requirements. In addition to this the Commercial Response template must be completed to provide a breakdown of the whole life costs against each deliverable used in the delivery of this requirement.

Calculation Method

The method for calculating the weighted scores is as follows: [Insert correct weightings below as appropriate]

● Commercial

Score = (Lowest Quotation Price / Supplier’s Quotation Price ) x 60% (Maximum available marks)

● Technical

Score = (Bidder’s Total Technical Score / Highest Technical Score) x 40% (Maximum available marks)

The total score (weighted) (TWS) is then calculated by adding the total weighted commercial score (WC) to the total weighted technical score (WT): WC + WT = TWS.

**Information to be returned**

Please note, the following information requested must be provided. Incomplete tender submissions may be discounted.

Please complete and return the following information:

* Provide Full technical information on the equipment you are offering to comply with the technical specification.
* Details of all installation requirements including electrical supply and equipment footprint
* Please provide an expected delivery time from receipt of order. Time will be of the essence in this purchase and prompt delivery as described in your response will be expected.

● Completed Commercial Response template

● completed Mandatory Requirements (Annex 1)

● completed Acceptance of Terms and Conditions (Annex 2)

**Award**

Once the evaluation of the Response(s) is complete all suppliers will be notified of the outcome via email.

The successful supplier will be issues a contract incorporating their response for signature. The successful supplier will then be issued the contract via a purchase order.

**Commercial Response**

Please complete Table 1, below, to show a breakdown of your cost per product or unit of time (i.e. ‘rates’) and the number of products or days / hours for each task, and total cost for each task required to deliver this requirement. You may insert additional task lines if required.

Please state the total overall cost for this requirement. Prices should exclude VAT.

Table 1: Commercial Response (to be completed by Supplier)

Descriptions of Tasks and / or Products Cost per product / or Cost per Hour / Day (i.e. rate) No of products / Hours / Days Total Cost

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Descriptions of Tasks and / or Products | Cost per product | No of products / Hours / Days | Total Cost per Task |
| Supply, Delivery and Installation 1 x Automate Gel Electrophoresis System | N/A |  | £ |
| Total Costs | | | £ |
| Expenses or other costs (please detail type, e.g. travel, consumables | | | £ |
| Discounts applied (please detail) | | | £ |
| Total Overall Cost | | | £ |

**Annex 1 Mandatory Requirements**

* **Part 1 Potential Supplier Information**

Please answer the following self-declaration questions in full and include this Annex in your quotation response.

**Part 1.1 Potential Supplier Information:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 1.1(a) | Full name of the potential supplier submitting the information |  |
| 1.1(b) | Registered office address (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(c) | Company registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(d) | Charity registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(e) | Head office DUNS number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(f) | Registered VAT number |  |
| 1.1(g) | Are you a Small, Medium or Micro Enterprise (SME)? | (Yes / No) |

Note: See EU definition of SME <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en>

**Part 1.2 Contact details and declaration**

By submitting a quotation to this RFQ I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted and information contained in this document are correct and accurate.

I declare that, upon request and without delay you will provide the certificates or documentary evidence referred to in this document.

I understand that the information will be used in the selection process to assess my organisation’s suitability to be invited to participate further in this procurement.

I understand that the authority may reject this submission in its entirety if there is a failure to answer all the relevant questions fully, or if false/misleading information or content is provided in any section.

I am aware of the consequences of serious misrepresentation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 1.2(a) | Contact name |  |
| 1.2(b) | Name of organisation |  |
| 1.2(c) | Role in organisation |  |
| 1.2(d) | Phone number |  |
| 1.2(e) | E-mail address |  |
| 1.2(f) | Postal address |  |
| 1.2(g) | Signature (electronic is acceptable) |  |
| 1.2(h) | Date |  |

Part 2 Exclusion Grounds

Part 2.1 Grounds for mandatory exclusion

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 2.1(a) | Please indicate if, within the past five years you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation been convicted anywhere in the world of any of the offences within the summary below. | |
|  | Participation in a criminal organisation. | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Corruption. | ((Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Fraud. | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Money laundering or terrorist financing | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
|  | Child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.1 (b) |
| 2.1(b) | If you have answered yes to question 2.1(a), please provide further details.  Date of conviction, specify which of the grounds listed the conviction was for, and the reasons for conviction.  Identity of who has been convicted  If the relevant documentation is available electronically please provide the web address, issuing authority, precise reference of the documents. |  |
| 2.1 (c) | If you have answered Yes to any of the points above have measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (i.e. Self-Cleaning) | (Yes / No) |
| 2.1(d) | Has it been established, for your organisation by a judicial or administrative decision having final and binding effect in accordance with the legal provisions of any part of the United Kingdom or the legal provisions of the country in which the organisation is established (if outside the UK), that the organisation is in breach of obligations related to the payment of tax or social security contributions? | (Yes / No) |
| 2.1(e) | If you have answered yes to question 2.3(a), please provide further details. Please also confirm you have paid or have entered into a binding arrangement with a view to paying, the outstanding sum including where applicable any accrued interest and/or fines. |  |

Part 2.2 Grounds for discretionary exclusion

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Question no. | Question | Response |
| 2.2(a) | The detailed grounds for discretionary exclusion of an organisation are set out on this [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf), which should be referred to before completing these questions.  Please indicate if, within the past three years, anywhere in the world any of the following situations have applied to you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation | |
| 2.2(b) | Breach of environmental obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(c) | Breach of social obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(d) | Breach of labour law obligations? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2(e) | Shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions? | (Yes / No)  If yes please provide details at 2.2 (f) |
| 2.2 (f) | If you have answered Yes to any of the above, explain what measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (Self Cleaning) |  |

**Annex 2 Acceptance of Terms and Conditions**

I/We accept in full the terms and conditions appended to this Request for Quote document.

Company \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Conditions of Contract - Goods**

**Ref: ML231002**

**Title: Automated Gel Electrophoresis System**

1. Definitions...........................................................................................................
2. Precedence........................................................................................................
3. Contract Supervisor......................................................................................................
4. Goods.................................................................................................................
5. Assignmen.........................................................................................................
6. Contract Period................................................................................................
7. Materials............................................................................................................
8. Security........................................................................................................................
9. Variations...........................................................................................................
10. Extensions of Time..........................................
11. Property and Risk....................................................................................
12. Rejection of Goods............................................................................................
13. Default................................................................................................................
14. Termination.........................................................................................................
15. Determination.....................................................................................................
16. Indemnity............................................................................................................
17. Limitation on Contractor’s Liability......................................................................
18. Insurance............................................................................................................
19. Prevention of Fraud or Corruption......................................................................
20. Contract Price.....................................................................................................
21. Invoicing & Payment.........................................................................................
22. Intellectual Property Rights...............................................................................
23. Warranty............................................................................................................
24. Guarantees.........................................................................................................
25. Statutory Requirements.....................................................................................
26. Environment, Sustainability and Diversity..........................................................
27. Publicity..............................................................................................................
28. Law.....................................................................................................................
29. Waiver................................................................................................................
30. Enforceability and Survivorship….......................................................................
31. Dispute Resolution.............................................................................................
32. General..............................................................................................................
33. Freedom of Information Act................................................................................
34. Data Protection……….………………………………………………………………..

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1. **DEFINITIONS** 
   1. In the Contract, unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions shall have the following meanings assigned to them.
      1. The Agency

The Environment Agency, its successors and assigns.

* + 1. The Appendix

The Appendix to these Conditions.

* + 1. The Contract

These Conditions including the Appendix, any Special Conditions, the Specification, Pricing Schedule, Contractor’s tender, acceptance letter and any relevant documents agreeing modifications exchanged before the Contract is awarded, and any subsequent amendments or variations agreed in writing.

* + 1. The Contractor

The person, firm company or body who undertakes to supply the Goods to the Agency.

* + 1. Contract

The time period stated in the Appendix or otherwise

Period provided in the Contract, for the delivery of the Goods.

* + 1. Contract Price

The price exclusive of VAT set out in the Contract for which the Contractor has agreed to supply the Goods.

* + 1. Contract Supervisor

Any duly authorised representative of the Agency notified in writing to the Contractor for all purposes connected with the Contract. Any Notice or other written communication given by or made to the Contract Supervisor, shall be taken as given by or made to the Agency.

* + 1. Contracting Authority

Means any contracting authorities (other than the Environment Agency) as defined in regulation 2 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102) (as amended).

* + 1. Contractor Personnel

Means all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Contractor and/or of any sub-contractor engaged in the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

* + 1. Data Protection Legislation

Means: (i) the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) or GDPR, the Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680) ("LED") and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the Data Protection Act 1998 ("DPA 1998") and/or the Data Protection Act 2018 ("DPA 2018") to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy.

* + 1. Data Protection Schedule

The Schedule attached to this Contract describing how the Parties will comply with the Data Protection Legislation.

* + 1. Goods

All Goods detailed in the Specification including any additions or substitutions as may be requested by the Contract Supervisor Where the Contract is for the provision of Goods *and* Services, the words “the Goods” shall mean, where the context allows, to include the Services the Contractor has agreed to provide.

* + 1. Intellectual Property Rights

All Intellectual Property Rights including without limitation, patents, patent applications, design rights, registered designs, utility models, trade and service marks and applications for same, copyright know- how, rights in semi-conductor chip topography, and in each case whether protectable at law or not, and if protectable, whether an application has been made for such protection or not, and all similar industrial, commercial, monopoly or other intellectual property rights whether present or future, vested or contingent wherever protected.

* + 1. Law

Means any law, subordinate legislation within the meaning of Section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements with which the Contractor is bound to comply.

* + 1. Notice

Any written instruction or notice given to the Contractor by the Contract Supervisor, delivered by:

fax, or hand delivery to the Contractor’s registered office or other address notified for the purposes of the Contract and deemed to have been served at the date and time of delivery.

First class post to the Contractor’s registered office. Such Notices are deemed to have been served 48 hours after posting.

* + 1. Permission

Express permission given in writing before the act being permitted.

* + 1. Regulations

means the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102) as amended.

* 1. Except as set out above and in the Data Protection Schedule, the Contract shall be interpreted in accordance with the Interpretation Act 1988.

* 1. All headings in these Conditions are for ease of reference only, and shall not affect the construction of the Contract.
  2. Any reference in these Conditions to a statutory provision will include all subsequent modifications.
  3. All undefined words and expressions are to be given their normal English meaning within the context of this Contract. Any dispute as to the interpretation of such undefined words and expressions shall be settled by reference to the definition in the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary.

1. **PRECEDENCE**

To the extent that the following documents form the Contract, in the case of conflict of content, they shall have the following order of precedence:

* Conditions of Contract including Appendix, Data Protection Schedule and any Special Conditions;
* Specification;
* Pricing Schedule;
* Drawings, maps or other diagrams.

If these Conditions are used in the production of an order under pre-existing arrangements, then the Conditions of Contract of the pre-existing arrangements shall prevail.

1. **CONTRACT SUPERVISOR**

The Contractor shall strictly comply with any instruction given by the Contract Supervisor concerning or about the Contract provided such instructions are reasonable and consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract. All such instructions shall be in writing. The Contractor is not obliged to comply with any verbal instruction from the Contract Supervisor that is not confirmed in writing within 7 working days.

1. **GOODS**

The Contractor shall provide all staff, equipment, materials and any other requirements necessary for the performance of the Contract to the standard in the Specification, within the time period specified in the Appendix [DRAFTING NOTE – CHECK TIME IN APPENDIX], using reasonable skill, care and diligence, and to the reasonable satisfaction of the Contract Supervisor.

1. **ASSIGNMENT**
   1. The Contractor shall not assign, transfer or sub-contract the Contract, or any part of it, without the Permission of the Contract Supervisor.
   2. Any assignment, transfer or sub-contract entered into, shall not relieve the Contractor of any of his obligations or duties under the Contract.
   3. Nothing in this Contract confers or purports to confer on any third party any benefit or any right to enforce any term of the Contract.
2. **CONTRACT PERIOD**

The Contractor shall deliver the Goods within the time stated in the Appendix [DRAFTING NOTE – CHECK APPENDIX], subject to any changes arising from Condition 9 (Variations), and/or Condition 10 (Extensions of time).

1. **MATERIALS** 
   1. The Contractor shall be responsible for establishing his own sources of supply for any goods and materials needed in connection with the performance of the Contract.
   2. The Contractor shall not place, or cause to be placed, any orders with suppliers or otherwise incur liabilities in the name of the Agency or any representative of the Agency.
2. **SECURITY** 
   1. The Contractor shall be responsible for the security of all goods and equipment belonging to the Agency and used by the Contractor in the supply of the Goods, or belonging to the Contractor, or the Contractor’s staff, or sub-contractors whilst on Agency premises.
   2. This Condition shall not prejudice the Agency's rights under Condition 16.
3. **VARIATIONS** 
   1. The Contract Supervisor may vary the Contract by adding to, deleting or otherwise modifying the Goods to be supplied, by written order to the Contractor provided such variations are reasonable and consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract.
   2. The value of any such variation, other than any variation arising out of Condition 9.3, shall be determined by reference to the rates contained in the Pricing Schedule. Where the Goods so ordered are not covered in the Pricing Schedule, they shall be valued at a fair and reasonable rate agreed between the Contract Supervisor and the Contractor.
   3. Where a variation is the result of some default or breach of the Contract by the Contractor or for some other cause for which he is solely responsible, any additional cost attributable to the variation shall be borne by the Contractor.
   4. The Contractor may also propose a variation to the Goods to be supplied but no such variation shall take effect unless agreed and confirmed in writing by the Contract Supervisor.
   5. No variation shall have the effect of invalidating the Contract, or placing the Contract at large, if that variation is reasonably consistent with the nature, scope and value of the Contract.
   6. The Agency may vary the Contract to comply with a change in English Law. Such a change will be effected by the Contract Supervisor notifying the Contractor in writing.
   7. The Agency may assign, novate or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under the Contract or any part thereof to:
      1. any Contracting Authority; or
      2. any other body established by the Crown or under statute in order substantially to perform any of the functions that had previously been performed by the Agency; or
      3. any private sector body which substantially performs the functions of the Agency, provided that any such assignment, novation or other disposal shall not increase the burden of the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.
   8. Any change in the legal status of the Agency such that it ceases to be a Contracting Authority shall not affect the validity of the Contract. In such circumstances the Contract shall bind and inure to the benefit of any successor body to the Agency.
4. **EXTENSIONS OF TIME** 
   1. Should the performance of the Contract be directly delayed by any cause beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor, and provided that the Contractor shall first have given the Contract Supervisor written notice within five working days after becoming aware that such delay was likely to occur, then the Contract Supervisor, if satisfied that this Condition applies:
      1. in the case of any delay of which the Agency is not the cause, may grant the Contractor such extension of time, as in his opinion is reasonable, having regard, without limitation, to any other delays or extensions of time that may have occurred or been granted under the Contract. The Contract Price shall not increase as a result of such an extension of time.
      2. in the case of any delay of which the Agency is the cause, shall grant the Contractor a reasonable extension of time to take account of the delay.
      3. No extension of time shall be granted where in the opinion of the Agency the Contractor has failed to use reasonable endeavours to avoid or reduce the cause and/or effects of the delay.
      4. Any extension of time granted under this Condition shall not affect the Agency’s rights to terminate or determine the Contract under Conditions 12 and 13.
5. **PROPERTY AND RISK**

The property and risk in the Goods shall pass to the Agency when the Goods have been delivered to the Agency's nominated address or addresses as stated in the Appendix and unloaded

1. **REJECTION OF GOODS** 
   1. Without prejudice to the operation of Condition 12.5 the Goods shall be inspected on behalf of the Agency within a reasonable period of time after delivery and may be rejected if the Goods:
      1. are found to be defective, inferior in quality to or differing in form or material from the requirements of the Contract, or
      2. do not comply with any term (express or implied) of the Contract.
   2. Without prejudice to the operation of Condition 12.5, the Agency shall notify the Contractor of the discovery of any defect within fourteen days and shall give the Contractor all reasonable opportunities to investigate such defect.
   3. The whole of any consignment may be rejected if a reasonable random sample of the Goods taken from the consignment is found not to conform in every respect with the requirements of the Contract.
   4. Goods so rejected after delivery shall be removed by the Contractor within 14 days of receipt of the Agency's notification of rejection. If the Contractor fails to remove the rejected Goods within this time period, the Agency may return the rejected Goods at the Contractors risk and expense.
   5. The Agency's right of rejection shall continue irrespective of whether the Agency has accepted the Goods. In particular, taking delivery, inspection, use or payment for the Goods, or part of them shall not constitute acceptance, waiver or approval and shall be without prejudice to any right or remedy the Agency may have against the Contractor.
2. **DEFAULT** 
   1. The Contractor shall be in default if he:
      1. fails to perform the Contract with due skill, care diligence and timeliness;
      2. refuses or neglects to comply with any reasonable written instruction given by the Contract Supervisor;
      3. is in breach of the Contract.
   2. Where in the opinion of the Contract Supervisor, the Contractor is in default, the Contract Supervisor may serve a Notice giving at least five working days in which to remedy the default.
   3. If the Contractor fails to comply with such a Notice the Contract Supervisor may, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies under the Contract, purchase other goods of the same or equivalent description. Any extra costs arising from this action, will be paid by the Contractor or deducted from any monies owing to him.
3. **TERMINATION** 
   1. The Agency may immediately, without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under the Contract, terminate all or any part of the Contract by Notice in writing to the Contractor, Receiver, Liquidator or to any other person in whom the Contract may become vested, if the Contractor:
      1. fails in the opinion of the Contract Supervisor to comply with (or take reasonable steps to comply with) a Notice under Condition 13.2.
      2. becomes bankrupt or insolvent, or has a receiving order made against him, or makes an arrangement with his creditors or (being a corporation) commences to be wound up, not being a voluntary winding up for the purpose of reconstruction or amalgamation, or has a receiver, administrator, or administrative receiver appointed by a Court.
   2. Termination under the Regulations'
   3. The Agency may terminate the Contract on written Notice to the Contractor if:
4. the contract has been subject to a substantial modification which requires a new procurement procedure pursuant to regulation 72(9) of the Regulations;
5. the Contractor was, at the time the Contract was awarded, in one of the situations specified in regulation 57(1) of the Regulations, including as a result of the application of regulation 57(2), and should therefore have been excluded from the procurement procedure which resulted in its award of the Contract; or
6. the Contract should not have been awarded to the Contractor in view of a serious infringement of the obligations under the Treaties and the Regulations that has been declared by the Court of Justice of the European Union in a procedure under Article 258 of the TFEU.
7. **DETERMINATION** 
   1. Without prejudice to any other rights or remedies under the Contract, the Agency reserves the right to determine the Contract at any time by giving not less than one month’s Notice, (or such other time period as may be appropriate).
   2. The Agency shall pay the Contractor such amounts as may be necessary to cover his reasonable costs and outstanding and unavoidable commitments necessarily and solely incurred in properly performing the Contract prior to determination.
   3. The Agency will not pay for any costs or commitments that the Contractor is able to mitigate and shall only pay those costs that the Agency has validated to its satisfaction. The Agency's total liability under this Condition shall not in any circumstances exceed the Contract Price that would have been payable for the Services if the Contract had not been determined.
8. **INDEMNITY** 
   1. Without prejudice to the Agency’s remedies for breach of Contract, the Contractor shall fully indemnify the Agency and its staff against any legally enforceable and reasonably mitigated liability, loss, costs, expenses, claims or proceedings in respect of:
      1. death or injury to any person;
      2. loss or damage to any property excluding indirect and consequential loss;
      3. infringement of third party Intellectual Property Rights

which might arise as a direct consequence of the actions or negligence of the Contractor, his staff or agents in the execution of the Contract.

* 1. This Condition shall not apply where the damage, injury or death is a direct result of the actions, or negligence of the Agency or its staff.

1. **LIMIT OF CONTRACTOR’S LIABILITY** 
   1. The limit of the Contractor’s liability for each and every claim by the Agency, other than for death or personal injury, whether by way of indemnity or by reason of breach of contract, or statutory duty, or by reason of any tort shall be:
      1. the sum stated in the Appendix[DRAFTING NOTE – INSERT SUM and consider personal data risk];
      2. if no sum is stated, the Contract Price or five million pounds whichever is the greater**.**
2. **INSURANCE** 
   1. The Contractor shall insure and maintain insurance against liabilities under Condition 16 (Indemnity) in the manner and to the values listed in the Appendix [DRAFTING NOTE – CHECK SUM and consider personal data risk]. If no sum is stated, the value insured shall be five million pounds.
   2. If specifically required by the Agency, nominated insurances shall be in the joint names of the Contractor and the Agency.
   3. The Contractor shall, upon request, produce to the Contract Supervisor documentary evidence that the insurances required are fully paid up and valid for the duration of the Contract.
3. **PREVENTION OF FRAUD AND CORRUPTION**
   1. The Contractor shall not offer, give, or agree to give anything, to any person an inducement or reward for doing, refraining from doing, or for having done or refrained from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of the Contract or for showing or refraining from showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the Contract.
   2. The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps, in accordance with good industry practice, to prevent fraud by the Contractor’s staff and the Contractor (including its shareholders, members and directors) in connection with the Contract and shall notify the Agency immediately if it has reason to suspect that any fraud has occurred or is occurring or is likely to occur.
   3. If the Contractor or the Contractor’s staff engages in conduct prohibited by this clause 19 or commits fraud in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Crown (including the Agency) the Agency may:
      1. terminate the Contract and recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss suffered by the Agency resulting from the termination, including the cost reasonably incurred by the Agency of making other arrangements for the supply of the Goods and any additional expenditure incurred by the Agency throughout the remainder of the Contract; or
      2. recover in full from the Contractor any other loss sustained by the Agency in consequence of any breach of this clause.
   4. The Contractor shall not, directly or indirectly through intermediaries commit any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 (as amended), in any of its dealings with the Agency.
4. **CONTRACT PRICE** 
   1. The Contract Price will be paid by the Agency to the Contractor as amended by any Variations ordered under Condition 9 (Variations).
   2. In addition to the Contract Price, the Agency will pay to the Contractor such Value Added Tax (if any) as may properly be chargeable at rates ruling at the time of invoice.
5. **INVOICING AND PAYMENT**
   1. Invoices shall only be submitted for those Goods already delivered accompanied by such information as the Contract Supervisor may reasonably require to verify the Contractor’s entitlement to payment. Such invoices will be paid in 30 days from receipt by the Agency.
   2. If any sum is payable under the Contract by the Contractor to the Agency, whether by deduction from the Contract or otherwise, it will be deducted from the next available invoice.
   3. If the Contractor enters into a sub-contract with a supplier for the purpose of performing its obligations under the Contract, it shall ensure that a provision is included in the sub-contract which requires payment to be made of all sums due from it to the sub-contractor within 30 days from the receipt of a valid invoice.
6. **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS** 
   1. The Contractor warrants to the Agency that the Goods, shall not in any way infringe any Intellectual Property Rights belonging to any third party and shall fully indemnify the Agency against all actions, claims, costs, charges, expenses and liabilities of whatsoever nature arising from or incurred by reason of any infringement, or alleged infringement.
   2. The Contractor shall not be liable under this Condition if such infringement arises from the use of any design, technique or method of working provided by or specified by the Agency.
   3. If the Contractor is prevented from carrying out his obligations under the Contract due to any infringement or alleged infringement of any Intellectual Property Rights, the Agency may without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under the Contract, exercise the powers and remedies available to it under Conditions 14 and 15.
7. **WARRANTY**

The Contractor warrants that the Goods supplied by him are of a satisfactory quality and are supplied with reasonable skill, care and diligence and fit for the Agency’s intended purpose so far as this has been communicated to him, or which he would reasonably be expected to know.

1. **GUARANTEES**

The Contractor shall promptly remedy all defects in the Goods arising from faulty design, materials or workmanship and, without prejudice to the Agency’s statutory rights, either repair or replace the Goods (as the Agency shall elect) at no cost to the Agency, for a period of 12 months from putting the Goods into intended service, or 18 months from delivery, whichever is the less, or as otherwise agreed in writing.

1. **STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS**

The Contractor shall fully comply with all relevant statutory requirements in the performance of the Contract, including, but not limited to the giving of all necessary notices and the paying of all fees.

1. **ENVIRONMENT, SUSTAINABILITY AND DIVERSITY**
   1. The Contractor in the performance of this Contract should adopt a sound proactive environmental approach, designed to minimise harm to the environment, to conserve energy, water, wood, paper and other resources, reduce waste and phase out the use of single-use plastic, ozone depleting substances and minimise the release of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds and other substances damaging to health and/or the environment, and be able to provide proof of so doing to the Agency on demand.
   2. The Agency is committed to ensuring that workers employed within its supply chains are treated fairly, humanely and equitably. The Agency expects the Contractor to share this commitment and to understand any areas of risk associated with this and work to ensure they are meeting International Labour Standards. The Contractor ensures that it and its sub-contractors and its supply chain:
      1. comply with the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act 2015;
      2. pay staff fair wages (and pays its staff in the UK not less than the Foundation Living Wage Rate ); and
      3. implement fair shift arrangements, providing sufficient gaps between shifts, adequate rest breaks and reasonable shift length, and other best practices for staff welfare and performance.
   3. The Contractor should support the Agency to achieve its Public Sector Equality Duty by complying with the Agency's policies (as amended from time to time) on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI). This includes ensuring that the Contractor (and their sub-contractors) in the delivery of its obligations under this Contract:
      1. eliminates discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
      2. advances equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not; and
      3. fosters good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
2. **PUBLICITY**

The Contractor shall not advertise or publicly announce that he is supplying Goods or undertaking work for the Agency without the Permission of the Contract Supervisor.

1. **LAW**

This Contract shall be governed and construed in accordance with the Law, and subject to the jurisdiction of the courts of England.

1. **WAIVER** 
   1. No delay, neglect or forbearance by the Agency in enforcing any provision of the Contract shall be deemed to be a waiver, or in any other way prejudice the rights of the Agency under the Contract.
   2. No waiver by the Agency shall be effective unless made in writing.
   3. No waiver by the Agency of a breach of the Contract shall constitute a waiver of any subsequent breach.
2. **ENFORCEABILITY AND SURVIVORSHIP**
   1. If any part of the Contract is found by a court of competent jurisdiction or other competent authority to be invalid or legally unenforceable, that part will be severed from the remainder of the Contract which will continue to be valid and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law
   2. The following clauses shall survive termination of the Contract, howsoever caused: 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33 and 34.
3. **DISPUTE RESOLUTION** 
   1. All disputes under or in connection with this agreement shall be referred first to negotiators nominated at a suitable and appropriate working level by the Agency and the Contractor.
   2. If the parties' negotiators are unable to resolve the dispute within a period of forty five days from its being referred to them, the dispute shall be referred at the instance of either party to the parties' respective senior managers or directors (supported as necessary by their advisers).
   3. If the parties' respective senior managers or directors are unable to resolve the dispute within forty five days the dispute shall be referred to the Centre for Dispute Resolution who shall appoint a mediator and the parties shall then submit to the mediator's supervision of the resolution of the dispute.
   4. Recourse to this dispute resolution procedure shall be binding on the parties as to submission to the mediation but not as to its outcome. Accordingly all negotiations connected with the dispute shall be conducted in strict confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the parties in any future legal proceedings. Except for any party's right to seek interlocutory relief in the courts, no party may commence other legal proceedings under the jurisdiction of the courts or any other form of arbitration until forty five days after the appointment of the mediator.
   5. If, with the assistance of the mediator, the parties reach a settlement, such settlement shall be put in writing and, once signed by a duly authorised representative of each of the parties, shall remain binding on the parties.
   6. The parties shall bear their own legal costs of this dispute resolution procedure, but the costs and expenses of mediation shall be borne by the parties equally.
   7. Any of the time limits in Condition 31 may be extended by mutual agreement. Such agreed extension shall not prejudice the right of either party to proceed to the next stage of resolution.
4. **GENERAL** 
   1. Neither party to the Contract will be liable to the other for any delay in performing or failing to perform its obligations (other than a payment obligation) under the Contract because of any cause outside its reasonable control. Such delay or failure will not constitute a breach of the Contract and the time for performance of the affected obligation will be extended by a reasonable period.
   2. The Contract contains the whole agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous communications, representations and arrangements, written or oral. It is accepted that the Contract has not been entered into on the basis of any representations that are not expressly contained in the Contract.
5. **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT** 
   1. The Agency is committed to open government and to meeting its responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (as amended) ('Act') and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (as amended) (Regulations').
   2. The Contractor agrees that:
      1. All information submitted to the Agency may need to be disclosed by the Agency in response to a request under the Act or the Regulations; and
      2. The Agency may include information submitted (in whole or in part) in the publication scheme which it maintains under the Act or publish the Contract, including from time to time agreed changes to the Contract, to the public.
   3. If the Contractor considers that any of the information included in its tender, or that it has submitted to the Agency or that is otherwise contained in the Contract, is commercially sensitive, it shall identify and explain (in broad terms) what harm may result from disclosure if a request is received, and the time period applicable to that sensitivity. The Contractor acknowledges that if it has indicated that information is commercially sensitive, such information may still be required to be disclosed by the Agency under the Act or the Regulations. The receipt of any material stated to be or marked 'confidential' or equivalent by the Agency shall not be deemed to infer that the Agency agrees any duty of confidentiality by virtue of that marking.
6. **DATA PROTECTION**
   1. In the event that the Contract requires data to be processed within the meaning of the Data Protection Legislation the Data Protection Schedule shall be completed by the Parties and provisions and definitions therein shall apply and bind the Parties as part of this Contract

# Appendix to Conditions Goods

Ref: **ML231002**

Title: **Automated Gel Electrophoresis System**

**Condition**

**1 Contract Supervisor 3**

Andy Fegan

Address:-

NLS Starcross Laboratory

Staplake Mount

Starcross

Exeter

EX6 8FD

1. **Contractor**

**3 Completion**  **6**

Contract Start Date 12/1/2024

Contract End Date 11/1/2025

**4 Delivery** **11**

Address:-

NLS Starcross Laboratory

Staplake Mount

Starcross

Exeter

EX6 8FD

**5 Insurance 18**

Professional Indemnity Min. Cover £1million

Third Party Minimum Cover £1million

Public Liability Min. Cover £1million

**6 Limit on Liability** **17**

Limit on Contractors Liability £1million