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Veterinary Officer

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 KTRHA/VO/SoR/Ultrasonography

 25 January 2021

**STATEMENT OF USER REQUIREMENT**

1. **Title. EQUINE VETERINARY DIAGNOSTIC ULTRASONOGRAPHY.**

2. **Customer Sponsor.** Headquarters London District.

3. **Users:**

a. Headquarters The Household Division.

b. The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment.

c. The Household Cavalry Training Wing.

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d. The King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery.

e. The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

4. **Required in-Service Date.** 1 June 2021.

5. **Requirement.** Equine veterinary diagnostic ultrasonography system.

6. **Background:**

a. The Veterinary Departments of The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment (HCMR) and The King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery (KTRHA) each require an equine diagnostic ultrasonography capability in order to promote and protect the health, welfare and operational effectiveness of Military Working Horses (MWH).

b. Ultrasonography, along with radiography and endoscopy, is a mainstay of equine diagnostic imaging, and is often essential to the clinical decision-making process. The field of veterinary ultrasonography is now more than 35 years old, and improvements in technology since its first use have been exponential. The vast majority of veterinary surgeons in equine general practice have ready access to an ultrasound machine. Ultrasonography has many applications in everyday practice. The most frequently non-invasively imaged structures and body systems in MWHs include the locomotor system, the reproductive system, the thoracic cavity, the abdominal cavity and the eye.

c. **Current situation.** HCMR and KTRHA currently share a dated system that does not achieve the widely accepted industry standard of diagnostic imaging. Maintenance costs are spiralling as the equipment ages. Ultrasonography has a number of applications in emergency situations, such as severe tendon injuries, internal bleeding and gastrointestinal obstruction, torsion and rupture. Sharing one system between two departments, which in turn support six locations, is untenable. At best, the unavailability of ultrasonography gives rise to otherwise unnecessary referrals to civilian practice, each at significant cost to the taxpayer. At worst, it leads to delayed or inaccurate diagnosis that may prove fatal. There have been a number of recent cases of MWHs requiring urgent ultrasonography, but the existing equipment being inadequate and/or at the other regiment.

7. **Specification:**

a. **Equipment:**

(1) Console:

 (a) Robust, lightweight, compact and portable laptop-style.

 (b) Compatible with the transducers listed below.

 (c) Colour, power and pulse wave Doppler.

 (d) B- and M-mode, with split-screen, measuring and calculations.

 (e) Not less than 15” monitor.

(f) Mains- and battery-powered, with not less than 30 minutes scanning per full charge.

(2) Transducers:

(a) 2-5MHz wide band convex probe with a maximum radius of not less than 60mm and a maximum depth of not less than 30cm.

(b) 6-10MHz micro-convex probe with a maximum radius of not less than 22mm.

 (c) 5-13MHz linear probe.

(3) Gel standoff.

(4) Adjustable trolley cart with probe rack, and imaging stool.

(5) Protective carry case.

b. **Information.** It must be possible to capture and store images digitally using a common external media storage device such as a secure digital card or universal serial bus drive.

c. **Maintenance:**

 (1) Planned maintenance must be contracted for a minimum of five years.

 (2) 24-hour telephone support and remote diagnostics must be accessible.

(3) Maintenance must be on-site, or loan equipment must be provided free of charge, including delivery and collection.

d. **Training**. Adequate and suitable training must be provided for London District Veterinary Officers and Technicians on setup, use, routine maintenance, troubleshooting and infection control.

8. **Demanding authority.** Veterinary Officer The King’s Troop Royal Horse Artillery.

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