

# UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI

## Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

# SS 070

**The University of Mississippi (UM) anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase as a sole source shall follow the procedures outlined below.**

**Commodity or commodities to be purchased (manufacturer, model, description):**

Nikon Model Ti2-E High Throughput Microscopy System with custom configuration

**The need to be fulfilled by this item(s) and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:**

In order to screen dozens of natural products and/or chemical entities in cultured cells, our research program requires an inverted fluorescent microscope that is capable of rapidly capturing images from 96 well plates at multiple time points, consistently over a period of hours to days. We observe the cellular responses over time, thus we require a system that can maintain proper growth conditions (temperatures/humidity/CO<sub>2</sub>) for several days, with automated stage control, and precise autofocus capabilities (that are maintained even with temperature changes/perfusion). Because of the high-throughput nature of our research, we require a software package with live cell analysis as well as manual and automated annotation. Z-stacking that can be used in combination with multi-channel and multi-time point capture is required for our studies with live fish, and we need to have the capabilities of 3D reconstructions and exporting views and cross-sections of these images. We would like to acquire a system that is cross compatible with the current Nikon microscope in house. Finally, we are looking for a system that can be upgraded to include a point-scanning confocal, TIRF, and super-resolution on the same base system. By having a central base with multiple ports, we will reduce the financial burden of adding on new microscope systems by utilizing the same oculars, objectives, and stage. The High Throughput Microscopy System, Nikon Model Ti2-E can fulfill all of the needs listed.

**Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):**

Nikon Instruments Inc. is the sole and original equipment manufacturer of the High Throughput Analysis system on an inverted Ti2-E Microscope. They are manufactured and imported into the United States exclusively by Nikon Corporation. Nikon Instruments is the sole supplier of the inverted Ti2-E Microscope in the United States. The Nikon inverted Ti2-E Microscope System are

proprietary products sold by Nikon. The system as described in quote can only be purchased by the University of Mississippi directly from Nikon.

**Why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:**

A microscope with this configuration for high content analysis with incubated growth chambers, perfect focus, and speed of acquisition generally costs \$40,000 more than our quoted amount.

**Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:**

Our faculty member first acquired a quote for a Nikon TI2-E that would best fit the needs of her research program. This system was then brought to the School of Pharmacy for an in-house demonstration. This demonstration was advertised throughout the University of Mississippi Oxford campus. Investigators from three departments attended the demonstration and based on the needs of all potential users, the system requirements were adjusted. A new, lower quote for the ideal system was then obtained.

**Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties:**

**Interested parties who have reason to believe that the item(s) above should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for UM to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source purchase.**

**1.1 Interested Party Information**

**1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number, Address and email address**

**1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable**

**1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification**

**1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.**

**1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.**

**1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Wednesday, September 20, 2017 at 3:00 pm (Central Time) to Katherine Jones at [kajones4@olemiss.edu](mailto:kajones4@olemiss.edu) (with Cc: to [purchase@olemiss.edu](mailto:purchase@olemiss.edu)) at The University of Mississippi Procurement Services Department, 164 Jeanette Phillips Drive, PO Box 1848, University, Mississippi 38677. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, or e-mail. The envelope or email should reference the sole source number. UM WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN**

**THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES.** It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach UM on time. Interested Parties may contact Katherine Jones to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

**If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, UM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then UM will withdraw the sole source certification and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.**

**If UM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then UM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board for approval to purchase.**