

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO SOLE SOURCE

### DESCRIPTION

The NIST mass and force group requires replacement parts for its existing Electrostatic Force Balance (EFB) automated mass exchange system in order to extend instrument functionality. Currently, vacuum exchange of test masses allows only one mass to be tested at a time, causing excessive delays in measurements as the vacuum system is deactivated and the mass manually changed. The replacement part upgrades will allow the testing of multiple masses without breaking vacuum, decreasing measurement time substantially.

Attocube, Inc. is the sole vendor capable of providing the required replacement part upgrades to the Attocube mass exchange system based on the following:

1. The Attocube rotation and vertical rotation stages are proprietary to Attocube.
2. Attocube, Inc. is the manufacturer of the NIST owned EFB mass exchange system.
3. Attocube is the only company in the United States capable of providing upgrades to the mass exchange system. As such they are the only vendor that has the technology and expertise required to safely upgrade our mass exchange systems to original manufacturer's specifications.

The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this acquisition is 334516, with a size standard of 1,000 employees.

A determination by the Government not to compete the proposed acquisition based upon responses to this notice is solely within the discretion of the Government. Information received will be considered solely for the purpose of determining whether to conduct a competitive procurement.

No solicitation package will be issued. This notice of intent is not a request for competitive quotations. However, responses received by July 18, 2016 will be considered by the Government.