



Administered by University of Maine System
Office of Strategic Procurement
Request for Proposal (RFP)

Dropstitch Panels Purchase

RFP #2023-079

Issued Date: May 15, 2023

Response Deadline Date/Time: June 13, 2023, 11:59 p.m. EST

Response Submission Information:

Submitted electronically to UMSResponses@maine.edu
Email Subject Line – DH: Dropstitch Bladder Purchase - RFP#2023-079

Response Contact Information:

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Contents

1.0 INTRODUCTION..... 3

1.1 Definitions, Background, Purpose and Specifications..... 3

1.2 General Information..... 5

1.3 General Submission Provisions 9

2.0 EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS..... 12

2.1 Evaluation Criteria 12

2.2 Award 13

2.3 Negotiations 13

2.4 Award Protest 13

3.0 RESPONSE FORMAT REQUIREMENTS..... 15

3.1 General Format Instructions 15

3.2 Response Format Instructions..... 15

Appendix A – University of Maine System Response Cover Page..... 17

Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification..... 18

Appendix C – Required Cost Evaluation Exhibits..... 19

Appendix D – Purchase Agreement 21

Appendix E – Organization Reference Form 27

Appendix F – Evaluation Question(s) - Organization, Qualifications and Experience 28

Appendix G – Proposed Solution 29

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Definitions, Background, Purpose and Specifications

1.1.1 Definitions

The University of Maine System will hereinafter be referred to as the "University." Respondents to the document shall be referred to as "Respondent(s)" or "Respondent".

The Respondent to whom the Agreement is awarded shall be referred to as the "Contractor."

The University of Maine System and other components of the University shall be referred to as "Multi-Institution".

1.1.2 Background

Overview

Established in 1968, the University of Maine System (UMS) unites six distinctive public universities, comprising 10 campuses and numerous centers, in the common purpose of providing quality higher education while delivering on its traditional tripartite mission of teaching, research, and public service.

A comprehensive public institution of higher education, UMS serves more than 30,000 students annually and is supported by the efforts of more than 2,000 full-time and part-time faculty, more than 3,000 regular full-time and part-time staff, and a complement of part-time temporary (adjunct) faculty.

Reaching more than 500,000 people annually through educational and cultural offerings, the University of Maine System also benefits from more than two-thirds of its alumni population residing within the state; more than 123,000 individuals.

The System consists of six universities: The University of Maine (UMaine), including its regional campus the University of Maine at Machias (UMM); the University of Maine at Augusta (UMA); the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF); the University of Maine at Fort Kent (UMFK), the University of Maine at Presque Isle (UMPI); and the University of Southern Maine (USM). The System also includes the University of Maine School of Law and the University of Maine Graduate and Professional Center.

Campus thumbnails

University of Maine

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state's land grant and sea grant university. As the state's only public research university, UMaine has a statewide mission of teaching, research and economic development, and community service. UMaine is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast with nearly 100 majors and academic programs. It attracts students from Maine and 49 other states, and more than 60 countries. It currently enrolls more than 11,400 undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in research, working with world-class scholars. UMaine offers more than 100 degree programs through which students can earn graduate certificates, master's, doctoral or professional science master's degrees. The university promotes environmental stewardship, with substantial efforts campus wide aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction.

1.1.3 Purpose

The Advanced Structures and Composites Center (ASCC) at the University of Maine is seeking responses to provide inflatable dropstitch panels. This document provides instructions for submitting responses, the procedure and criteria by which the Respondent(s) will be selected, and the contractual terms which will govern the relationship between the University and the awarded Respondent(s).

Respondents shall review **1.1.4 Specifications / Scope of Work** of this document to see required response instructions.

The University is committed to providing increased access and opportunity to diverse businesses include and not limited to: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Business Enterprise (LGBTQ+BE); Minority Business Enterprise (MBE); Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (SDVBE); Small Business Enterprise (SBE); veteran-owned; service-disabled veteran-owned; HUBZone; small disadvantaged business; women-owned; minority-owned; Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE); and Women’s Business Enterprise (WBE).

1.1.4 Specifications / Scope of Work

In order to participate, Respondents must have a current JCP Certification. After verification of respondent's JCP certification, ASCC will provide details of the scope of work, specifications, and pertinent CAD data.

1.2 General Information

1.2.1 Contract Administration and Conditions

1.2.1.1 The winning Respondent will be required to execute a contract in the form of a University of Maine System Master Agreement, which is attached to this response as **Appendix D**. The Master Agreement initial term and renewal periods are reflected in Section 2 of Appendix D, Master Agreement, and are subject to continued availability of funding and satisfactory performance.

The Master Agreement entered into by the parties shall consist of the University of Maine System Master Agreement (attached to this document), the RFP, the selected Respondent's submission, including all appendices or attachments and clarifications, the specifications including all modifications thereof, and a Purchase Order or Letter of Agreement requiring signatures of the University and the Contractor, all of which shall be referred to collectively as the Agreement Documents.

In the event of a conflict of terms the following precedence will apply:

1. University of Maine System Master Agreement
2. Agreement Riders as required
3. Contract Amendments (as required)
4. The University's RFP
5. Respondent's Submission
6. Purchase Order or Letter of Agreement

1.2.1.2 Modification of Agreement terms and conditions is permitted except that the University, due to its public nature, will not :

- a. Provide any defense, hold harmless or indemnity;
- b. Waive any statutory or constitutional immunity;
- c. Apply the law of a state other than Maine;
- d. Procure types or amounts of insurance beyond those UMS already maintains or waive any rights of subrogation.
- e. Add any entity as an additional insured to UMS policies of insurance;
- f. Pay attorneys' fees, costs, expenses or liquidated damages;
- g. Promise confidentiality in a manner contrary to Maine's Freedom of Access Act;
- h. Permit an entity to change unilaterally any term or condition once the contract is signed;
- i. Accept any references to terms and conditions, privacy policies or any other websites, documents or conditions referenced outside of the contract; or
- j. Agree to automatic renewals for term(s) greater than month-to-month.

1.2.1.3 By submitting a response to a Request for Proposal, bid or other offer to do business with the University your entity understands and agrees that:

- a. The above Agreement provisions (**Section 1.2.1.2**) will not be modified and are thereby incorporated into any agreement entered into between University and your entity; that such terms and condition shall control in the event of any conflict with such agreement; and that your entity will not propose or demand any contrary terms;
- b. The above Agreement provisions (**Section 1.2.1.2**) will govern the interpretation of such agreement notwithstanding the expression of any other term and/or condition to the contrary;
- c. Your entity agrees that the resulting Agreement will be the entire agreement between the University (including University's employees and other End Users) and Respondent and in the event that the Respondent requires terms of use agreements or other agreements, policies or understanding, whether on an order form, invoice, website, electronic, click-through, verbal or in writing, with University's employees or other End Users, such agreements shall be null, void and without effect, and the terms of the Agreement shall apply.
- d. Your entity will identify at the time of submission which, if any, portion or your submitted materials are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act; that failure to so identify will authorize UMS to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless UMS in any and all legal actions that seek to compel UMS to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between UMS and your entity.

1.2.2 Communication with the University

It is the responsibility of the Respondent to inquire about any requirement of this document that is not understood. Responses to inquiries, if they change or clarify the document in a substantial manner, will be forwarded by addenda to all parties that have received a copy of the document. Addenda will also be posted on our web site, www.maine.edu/strategic/upcoming_bids.php

It is the responsibility of all Respondents to check the web site before submitting a response to ensure that they have all pertinent documents. The University will not be bound by oral responses to inquiries or written responses other than addenda.

Inquiries must be made using the **Response Contact Information** provided on the cover sheet of this document. Refer to table in **Section 1.3.1 Timeline of Key Events** for deadline requirements.

1.2.3 Confidentiality

The University must adhere to the provisions of the Maine Freedom of Access Act (FOAA), 1 MRSA §401 et seq. As a condition of submitting a response under this section, a respondent must accept that, to the extent required by the Maine FOAA, responses to this solicitation, and any ensuing contractual documents, are considered public records and therefore are subject to freedom of access requests.

The information contained in responses submitted for the University's consideration will be held in confidence until all evaluations are concluded and a Respondent selected (the successful Respondent). At that time the University will issue award notice letters to all participating Respondents and all Respondents' responses may be made available to participating Respondents upon request. Such request must be made by submitting a written request to the individual noted in the Response Contact Information shown on the cover sheet of this document, with a copy of the request provided to the other Respondents. Such requests are public records.

After the protest period has passed and the Agreement is fully executed, responses will be available for public inspection upon request.

Pricing and other information that is an integral part of the offer cannot be considered confidential after an award has been made. The University will honor requests for confidentiality for information that meets the definition of "trade secret" under Maine law. Clearly mark any portion of your submitted materials which are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine's Freedom of Access Act. Failure to so identify as trade secret will authorize the University to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the University in any and all legal actions that seek to compel the University to disclose under Maine's Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between the University and your entity.

1.2.4 Costs of Preparation

Respondent assumes all costs of preparation of the response and any presentations necessary to the response process.

1.2.5 Authorization

Any Agreement for services that will, or may, result in the expenditure by the University of \$50,000 or more must be approved in writing by the Office of Strategic Procurement, Executive Director of Strategic Procurement & Services and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.

1.2.6 Pricing

All prices provided shall remain firm for the entire term of the agreement.

1.2.7 Cost Response Form Quantities

The quantities shown on the cost response form are approximate only. The Contractor shall cover the actual needs of the University throughout the term of the Agreement regardless of whether they are more or less than the quantities shown.

1.2.8 Employees

The Contractor shall employ only competent and satisfactory personnel and shall provide a sufficient number of employees to perform the required services efficiently and in a manner satisfactory to the University. If the Agreement Administrator or designee, notifies the Contractor in writing that any person employed on this Agreement is incompetent, disorderly, or otherwise

unsatisfactory, such person shall not again be employed in the execution of this Agreement without the prior written consent of the Agreement Administrator.

1.2.9 Environment Compliance

In the event that the resulting Agreement involves the generation, transportation, handling, disposal, and/or other operations or activities in relation to toxic, hazardous, radioactive, or otherwise dangerous gases, vapors, fumes, acids, alkali's, chemicals, wastes or contaminants and/or other substance, material or condition, the Contractor agrees to indemnify save harmless and defend the University from and against all liabilities, claims, damages, forfeitures, suits, and the costs and expenses incident thereto (including costs of defense, settlement and reasonable attorney's fees) which the University may hereafter incur as a result of death or bodily injuries or damage to any property, contamination of or adverse effects of the environment or any violation of state or federal regulations or laws (including without limitation the Resources Conservation and Recovery Act, the Hazardous Material Transportation Act or the Superfund Amendment and Reauthorization Act, as the same now exists or may hereafter be amended) or order based on or arising in whole or in part from the Contractor's performance under the Agreement, provided, however the Contractor shall not indemnify the University for any liabilities, claims, damages, (as set forth above) caused by or arising out of the sole negligence of the University, or arising out of any area of responsibility not attributable to Contractor.

1.2.10 Specification Protest Process and Remedies:

If a Respondent feels that the specifications are written in a way that limits competition, a specification protest may be sent to the Office of Strategic Procurement to the email address provided on the cover page of this document. Specification Protests will be responded to within five (5) business days of receipt. Determination of protest validity is at the sole discretion of the University. The due date of the proposal may be changed if necessary to allow consideration of the protest and issuance of any necessary addenda. Specification protests shall be presented to the University in writing as soon as identified, but no less than five (5) business days prior to the Deadline for Proposal Submission noted in Section 1.3.1. No protest against the award due to the specifications shall be considered after this deadline. Protests shall include the reason for the protest and any proposed changes to the specifications.

1.3 General Submission Provisions

1.3.1 Timeline of Key Events

Reference Section	Event Name	Event Due Date
Section 1.3.2	Respondents provide JCP Certification	May 19,2023
Section 1.3.3	Respondents provide written interest to participate and information for NDAs	May 19, 2023
	After NDA is executed, UMaine will provide Confidential Data Package	May 26, 2023
Section 1.2.2	Deadline for Written Inquiries/Questions	June 2, 2023
Section 1.2.2	Response to Written Inquiries/Questions (subject to change)	June 6, 2023
Section 1.2.2	Deadline for Proposal Submission	June 13, 2023
Section 1.3.8	Estimated Respondent Presentation/Q&A Session Date (subject to change)	June 19, 2023
Section 2.2	Award Announcement (subject to change)	June 23, 2023

1.3.2 JCP (Joint Certification Program) Certification

1.3.2.1 In order to respond to this solicitation, Respondents shall have a current JCP Certification. Due to the required panel delivery timeline, Respondents without a current and valid (not expired) JCP Certification will not be allowed to receive the data necessary to respond to this solicitation.

1.3.3 Non-Disclosure Agreement Process

1.3.3.1 After JCP Certification has been verified, Respondents will be required to sign a NDA with the University of Maine for this RFQ process that is consistent with the template found at:

<https://umaine.edu/econdev/wp-content/uploads/sites/373/2020/02/NDA-UMaine-SAMPLE.pdf>.

The description of information to be shared will be “University of Maine proprietary advanced manufacturing and R&D methods, materials, and concepts.”

1.3.3.2 Interested Respondents shall provide the University the following information:

- a. Organization legal name and address
- b. Name and title of signatory at Organization
- c. Address, phone number, and email address of signatory at Organization

1.3.3.3 The University will provide an NDA document via DocuSign for signature by email to the signatory.

1.3.3.4 The University will provide a fully executed NDA document via DocuSign by email to the signatory.

1.3.4 Eligibility to Submit Responses

Public entities, private for-profit companies, and non-profit companies and institutions are invited to submit a response to this document.

1.3.5 Debarment

Respondents must complete and submit the “Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification Form provided in Appendix B. Failure to provide this certification may result in the disqualification of the Respondent’s proposal, at the University’s discretion.

Submission of a signed response in response to this solicitation is certification that your firm (or any subcontractor) is not currently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any State or Federal department or agency. Submission is also agreement that the University will be notified of any change in this status.

1.3.6 Response Understanding

By submitting a response, the Respondent agrees and assures that the specifications are adequate, and the Respondent accepts the terms and conditions herein. Any exceptions should be noted in your response

1.3.7 Response Validity

Unless specified otherwise, all responses shall be valid for ninety (90) days from the due date of the response.

1.3.8 Non-Response Submission

The University will not consider non-responsive submissions, i.e., those with material deficiencies, omissions, errors or inconsistencies or that otherwise do not follow instructions. The University in its sole discretion will determine what is Non-Responsive.

1.3.9 Respondents’ Presentations

Presentations may be requested of two or more Respondents deemed by the University to be the best suited among those submitting responses on the basis of the selection criteria. After presentations have been conducted, the University may select the Respondent(s) which, in its opinion, has made the response that is the most responsive and most responsible and may award the Agreement to that/those Respondent(s).

1.3.10 Response Submission

A **SIGNED** virus-free electronic copy must be submitted as follows:

- The response must be received electronically to the E-Mail shown in the **Response Submission Information** section of the cover page of this document.
- Electronic submission must be received by the required **Response Deadline Date/Time** reflected on the cover page of this document.

- Response submissions that exceed 20 MB will be submitted with multiple emails modifying email subject line shown in the **Response Submission Information** section of the cover page of this document to include: Submission 1 of X ('X' representing the number of files being submitted).

2.0 EVALUATION AND AWARD PROCESS

2.1 Evaluation Criteria

2.1.1 Scoring Weights

The score will be based on a 100-point scale and will measure the degree to which each response meets the following criteria:

Evaluation Appendices	Category	Points
Appendix C	Cost Evaluation	25
Appendix D	Purchase Agreement	5
Appendix E	References	5
Appendix F	Organization, Qualifications, Experience	25
Appendix G	Proposed Solution	40
Total Points		100

2.1.2 Scoring Section Descriptions

2.1.2.1 Cost Evaluation

The total cost proposed for conducting all the functions specified in this document will be assigned a score according to a mathematical formula. The lowest cost response will be awarded the total points. Responses with higher cost response values will be awarded proportionately fewer points calculated in comparison with the lowest cost response.

The scoring formula is:

$$\text{Points} = \frac{\text{Lowest submitted cost response}}{\text{cost of response being scored}} \times \text{pro-rated score}$$

The University will NOT seek a best and final offer (BAFO) from any Respondent in this procurement process. All Respondents are expected to provide their best value pricing with the submission of their response. Respondents will NOT be given another opportunity to modify pricing once submitted.

2.1.2.2 Purchase Agreement (Appendix D)

The evaluation team will use a consensus approach to evaluate and assign evaluation based on pass/fail decision based on University risk assessment. The University reserves the right to reject any or all responses, in whole or in part, for any response receiving no points in this section in accordance with Section 2.2 Award.

Responses will be evaluated using the following guidelines:

- a. Full acceptance of the terms and conditions with the Respondents signature on the Agreement signature page, will receive the total points noted in Table 2.1.1.
- b. Revisions to the Agreement provisions specified in Section 1.2.1.2 will receive point reductions based on the University's risk assessment.

- c. Revisions to the Agreement provisions other than those specified in Section 1.2.1.2 will be evaluated at the University's discretion based on the University's risk assessment.

2.1.2.3 Organization, Qualifications, Experience and References

The evaluation team will use a consensus approach to evaluate and assign evaluation points. Reference checks will be performed on the top Respondent(s) only as determined by consensus scoring in the other categories.

2.1.2.4 Proposed Solution

The evaluation team will use a consensus approach to evaluate and assign evaluation points.

2.2 Award

While the University prefers a single solution that is scalable to meet the needs of both large and small institutions, it reserves the right to award Agreement(s) to one or multiple Respondents, which may include awards to Respondents for a geographical area, if such award is in the best interest of the University.

The University reserves the right to waive minor irregularities, which may include contacting the Respondent to resolve the irregularity. Scholarships, donations, or gifts to the University, will not be considered in the evaluation of responses. The University reserves the right to reject any or all responses, in whole or in part, and is not necessarily bound to accept the lowest cost response if that response is contrary to the best interests of the University. The University may cancel this request or reject any or all responses in whole or in part. Should the University determine in its sole discretion that only one Respondent is fully qualified, or that one Respondent is clearly more qualified than any other under consideration, an Agreement may be awarded to that Respondent without further action.

2.3 Negotiations

The University reserves the right to negotiate with the successful Respondent to finalize a contract. Such negotiations may not significantly vary the content, nature or requirements of the proposal or the University's Request for Proposals to an extent that may affect the price of goods or services requested. The University reserves the right to terminate contract negotiations with a selected respondent who submits a proposed contract significantly different from the response they submitted in response to the advertised RFP. In the event that an acceptable contract cannot be negotiated with the highest ranked Respondent, the University may withdraw its award and negotiate with the next-highest ranked Respondent, and so on, until an acceptable contract has been finalized. Alternatively, the University may cancel the RFP, at its sole discretion.

2.4 Award Protest

Respondents may appeal the award decision by submitting a written protest to the University of Maine System's Chief General Services Officer within five (5) business days of the date of the award notice, with a copy of the protest to the successful Respondent. The protest must contain a statement of the basis for the challenge. Further information regarding the appeal process can be found at

http://staticweb.maine.edu/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/APL_VII-A_20150630-FINAL.pdf?565a1d

If this RFP results in the creation of a pre-qualified or pre-approved list of vendors, then the appeal procedures mentioned above are available upon the original determination of that vendor list, but not during subsequent competitive procedures involving only the pre-qualified or pre-approved list participants.

3.0 RESPONSE FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

3.1 General Format Instructions

3.1.1 Electronic Submissions

Documents submitted as part of the electronic response are to be prepared on standard electronic formats of 8-1/2” x 11” and of PDF file type. Submissions requiring additional supporting information, such as, foldouts containing charts, spreadsheets, and oversize exhibits are permissible and must be submitted as Appendices, clearly numbered and referencing the Section in which they provide supporting information.

For clarity, the Respondent’s name should appear on every document page, including Appendices. Each Appendix must reference the section or subsection number to which it corresponds.

3.1.2 Respondents Responsibility

It is the responsibility of the Respondent to provide all information requested in the document package at the time of submission. Failure to provide information requested in this document may, at the discretion of the University’s evaluation review team, result in a lower rating for the incomplete sections and may result in the response being disqualified for consideration. Include any forms provided in the application package or reproduce those forms as closely as possible. All information should be presented in the same order and format as described in this document.

3.1.3 Brief Response

Respondents are asked to be brief and to respond to each question listed in the “Response to Questions” section of this document. Number each response in the response to correspond to the relevant question in this document.

3.1.4 Additional Attachments Prohibited

The Respondent may not provide additional attachments beyond those specified in the document for the purpose of extending their response. Any material exceeding the response limit will not be considered in rating the response and will not be returned. Respondents shall not include brochures or other promotional material with their response. Additional materials will not be considered part of the response and will not be evaluated.

3.2 Response Format Instructions

This section contains instructions for Respondents to use in preparing their response. The Respondent’s submission must follow the outline used below, including the numbering of section and sub-section headings. Failure to use the outline specified in this section or to respond to all questions and instructions throughout this document may result in the response being disqualified as non-responsive or receiving a reduced score.

The University and its evaluation team for this document have sole discretion to determine whether a variance from the document specifications should result in either disqualification or reduction in scoring of a response.

Re-phrasing of the content provided in this document will, at best, be considered minimally responsive. The University seeks detailed yet succinct responses that demonstrate the Respondent’s experience and ability to perform the requirements specified throughout this document.

3.2.1 Section 1 - Response Cover Page

- 3.2.1.1 Insert Appendix A – University of Maine System Response Cover Page
- 3.2.1.2 Insert Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification

3.2.2 Section 2 - Cost Response

- 3.2.2.1 Insert Appendix C – Required Cost Evaluation Exhibit

3.2.3 Section 3 - Master Agreement

- 3.2.3.1 Insert Appendix D – Provide a response to the opening multiple choice question

3.2.4 Section 4 - Response to Questions

- 3.2.4.1 Insert Appendix E – Organization Reference Form
- 3.2.4.2 Insert Appendix F – Evaluation Question(s) - Organization, Qualifications and Experience
- 3.2.4.3 Insert Appendix G – Evaluation Question(s) –Proposed Solution

Appendix A – University of Maine System Response Cover Page

RFP #2023-079
Dropstitch Bladder Purchase

Organization Name:	
Chief Executive – Name/Title:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Headquarters Street Address:	
Headquarters City/State/Zip:	
Lead Point of Contact for Quote – Name/Title:	
Telephone:	
Fax:	
Email:	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	

1. This pricing structure contained herein will remain firm for a period of 90 days from the date and time of the quote deadline date.
2. No personnel currently employed by the University or any other University agency participated, either directly or indirectly, in any activities relating to the preparation of the Respondent’s response.
3. No attempt has been made or will be made by the Respondent to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a response.
4. The undersigned is authorized to enter into contractual obligations on behalf of the above-named organization.
5. By submitting a response to a Request for Proposal, bid or other offer to do business with the University your entity understands and agrees that:
 - a. The Agreement provisions in **Section 1.2.1.2** of this document will not be modified and are thereby incorporated into any agreement entered into between University and your entity; that such terms and condition shall control in the event of any conflict with such agreement; and that your entity will not propose or demand any contrary terms;
 - b. The above Agreement provisions in **Section 1.2.1.2** of this document will govern the interpretation of such agreement notwithstanding the expression of any other term and/or condition to the contrary;
 - c. Your entity agrees that the resulting Agreement will be the entire agreement between the University (including University’s employees and other End Users) and Respondent and in the event that the Respondent requires terms of use agreements or other agreements, policies or understanding, whether on an order form, invoice, website, electronic, click-through, verbal or in writing, with University’s employees or other End Users, such agreements shall be null, void and without effect, and the terms of the Agreement shall apply.
 - d. Your entity will identify at the time of submission which, if any, portion or your submitted materials are entitled to "trade secret" exemption from disclosure under Maine’s Freedom of Access Act; that failure to so identify will authorize UMS to conclude that no portions are so exempt; and that your entity will defend, indemnify and hold harmless UMS in any and all legal actions that seek to compel UMS to disclose under Maine’s Freedom of Access Act some or all of your submitted materials and/or contract, if any, executed between UMS and your entity.

To the best of my knowledge all information provided in the enclosed response, both programmatic and financial, is complete and accurate at the time of submission.

Date: _____

Name and Title (Printed)

Authorized Signature

Appendix B – Debarment, Performance and Non-Collusion Certification

University of Maine System
DEBARMENT, PERFORMANCE and NON-COLLUSION
CERTIFICATION
RFP #2023-079
Dropstitch Bladder Purchase

By signing this document, I certify to the best of my knowledge and belief that the aforementioned organization, its principals and any subcontractors named in this proposal:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, and declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from bidding or working on contracts issued by any governmental agency.
- b. Have not within three years of submitting the proposal for this contract been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
 - i. Fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a federal, state or local government transaction or contract.
 - ii. Violating Federal or State antitrust statutes or committing embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - iii. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (b) of this certification; and
 - iv. Have not within a three (3) year period preceding this proposal had one or more federal, state or local government transactions terminated for cause or default.
- c. Have not entered into a prior understanding, agreement, or connection with any corporation, firm, or person submitting a response for the same materials, supplies, equipment, or services and this proposal is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. The above mentioned entities understand and agree that collusive bidding is a violation of state and federal law and can result in fines, prison sentences, and civil damage awards.

Failure to provide this certification may result in the disqualification of the Respondent’s proposal, at the University’s discretion.

Date: _____

Name and Title (Printed)

Authorized Signature

Appendix C – Required Cost Evaluation Exhibits

University of Maine System
COST EVALUATION
RFP #2023-079
Dropstitch Bladder Purchase

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. The cost response shall include the costs necessary for the Respondent to fully comply with the Agreement terms and conditions and requirements. **Note regarding total cost of ownership:** This “cost” will encompass the entire solution pricing along with all products and services offered as part of the solution.
2. No costs related to the preparation of the Response for this document or to the negotiation of the Agreement with the University may be included in the Response. Only costs to be incurred after the Agreement effective date that are specifically related to the implementation or operation of contracted services may be included.
3. If there are additional options or services that are not included in the offering, they must be identified and itemized as “optional” and include a description of the product or service and the costs of the option. All items identified in the response (including third party items required) will be considered free add-ons to the proposed solution at the prices included in this response unless expressly stated otherwise.
4. The University will NOT seek a best and final offer (BAFO) from any Respondent in this procurement process. All Respondents are expected to provide their best value pricing with the submission of their response. Respondents will NOT be given another opportunity to modify pricing once submitted.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR – Exhibit 1 (Table 5) – Pricing for Equipment/Materials

The University needs to understand the associated lifecycle costs for your proposed system or service. This pricing table provides a list of equipment needed. The Required Equipment Receive Date is noted in the table to reflect when equipment is needed.

Description – Brief description of the component.

Quantity – Quantity provided by the University.

Unit Price - Price per unit for the Agreement period, and anticipated future rates.

Extended Cost – Price per unit minus Respondents per unit discount for the Agreement period, and anticipated future rates.

Subtotal – Subtotal of the Extended Cost figures.

Total – Subtotal less Discount.

Exhibit 1 (Table 5) – Respondents will use this attachment to record all costs associated with this section.

Respondent's Name:							
#		Description	Quantity	Unit Price		Extended Cost	
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
		Subtotal					0.00
		Total					0.00
Include additional explanation of costs and list assumptions that could influence the cost.							
List explanations and assumptions here:							
		-					
		-					

Appendix D – Purchase Agreement

Review the contract below and select one of the three options below:

1. Respondent is willing to use the Contract for Purchase of Products with no modifications.
2. Respondent is willing to use the Contract for Purchase of Products and will request some modifications to the contract language. (Section 2.3 lists terms that the University is unwilling to change or agree to)
3. Respondent will not use the contract below and will require the University to use their own purchase agreement.

**UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM
CONTRACT FOR PURCHASE OF PRODUCTS**

This Contract entered into this _____ day of _____, _____, by and between the University of Maine System, hereinafter referred to as the "University", and _____, hereinafter referred to as "Vendor".

WHEREAS, the University desires to purchase products, supplies, and/or equipment (collectively referred to herein as "Products"), and the Vendor represents itself as competent and qualified to accomplish the specific requirements of this Contract to the satisfaction of the University;

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises contained herein, the parties hereby agree as follows:

- A, 1. **Specifications of Work:** The Vendor agrees to deliver the Products listed in **Attachment** hereby incorporated by reference.
2. **Time for Delivery:** All Products subject to this Contract shall be delivered no later than _____, 20__.
3. **Payment :** The total of **all** payments made against this Contract shall not exceed \$_____. Orders in excess of this amount will not be paid by the University unless it has provided prior written consent to the pricing change. Payments for Products shall be made within thirty (30) days of University’s receipt and approval of Vendor-supplied invoices. University is tax exempt and shall not be responsible for any taxes or duties incurred in connection with the Products.
4. **Warranty and Returns:** Vendor hereby warrants that the Products shall be in full conformity with the specification, drawing, or sample provided by the University or as described in **Attachment A** and shall be free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service. Vendor shall cause Products to be repaired or replaced, to the University’s reasonable satisfaction, for any claim that Products violate this warranty within twelve (12) months from the date of delivery. Additionally, University reserves the right inspect the Products for any loss or damage and reject and return Products within thirty (30) days of delivery to the University’s facility. Vendor shall carry all risk of loss or damage until University has accepted the Products. Products shall be deemed accepted if University has not rejected Products within the thirty (30) day inspection period.
5. **Shipment and Delivery:** Unless otherwise agreed in a writing signed by both parties, all shipments of Products shall be made FOB Destination (University’s Facility), freight prepaid and allowed. Shipping charges shall be included on the Vendor’s invoice and the original freight/shipping bill attached thereto. Except as provided in Section 18 “Force Majeure”, if shipments are delayed or unable to be made

within the time for delivery specified in Section 2 herein, the University shall have the right, but not the obligation, to terminate this Contract without prejudice or penalty to the University.

6. **Recyclable Materials:** The State of Maine has adopted laws requiring the reduction of waste prior to recycling or disposal. In accordance with the intent of these laws, the University requests that Vendor not use Styrofoam packing materials for any Products to the extent reasonably practicable and that packing boxes and materials be readily recyclable in Maine.

7. **Conflict of Interest:** No officer or employee of the University shall participate in any decision relating to this contract which affects his or her personal interest in any entity in which he or she directly or indirectly has interest. No employee of the University shall have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contract or proceeds thereof.

8. **Modification:** This Contract may be modified or amended only in a writing signed by both parties.

9. **Assignment:** This Contract, or any part thereof, may not be assigned, transferred or subcontracted by the Vendor without the prior written consent of the University.

10. **Applicable Law:** This Contract shall be governed and interpreted according to the laws of the State of Maine.

11. **Administration:** _____ shall be the University's authorized representative in all matters pertaining to the administration of the terms and conditions of this Contract and to whom all notices must be sent.

12. **NonDiscrimination:** In the execution of the Contract, the Vendor shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, transgender status or gender expression, national origin or citizenship status, age, disability, genetic information, or veteran status and shall provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. The University encourages the employment of qualified individuals with disabilities.

13. **Indemnification:** The Vendor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders relating to the services provided under this Contract. Vendor shall indemnify, defend and hold the University, its Trustees, officers, employees, and agents, harmless from and against any and all loss, liability, claims, damages, actions, lawsuits, judgments and costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, that the University may become liable to pay or defend arising from or attributable to any acts or omissions of the Vendor, its agents, employees or subcontractors, in performing its obligations under this Contract, including, without limitation, for violation of proprietary rights, copyrights, or rights of privacy, arising out of a publication, translation, reproduction, delivery, performance, use or disposition of any data furnished under the Contract or based on any libelous or other unlawful matter contained in such data.

14. **Compliance:** Vendor certifies that neither it, nor its principals, is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or otherwise legally prohibited or restricted from providing the Products to the University. Vendor, in its own name and at its sole expense, shall procure and maintain any license, certification, or authorization required by applicable law or governing authority for shipment or delivery of the Products, including without limitation as required under the Export Administration Act of 1979 (50 U.S.C. §§ 2401-2410), the Export Administration Regulations promulgated thereunder (15 C.F.R. §§ 768-799), the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 C.F.R. §§ 120-128 and 130), and the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act and their successor and supplemental laws and regulations.

15. **Contract Validity:** In the event one or more clauses of this Contract are declared invalid, void, unenforceable or illegal, that shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Contract.

16. **Independent Vendor:** Vendor is an independent contractor of the University, not a partner, agent or joint venture of the University and neither Party shall hold itself out contrary to these terms by advertising or otherwise, nor shall either party be bound by any representation, act or omission whatsoever of the other. For U.S. entities, Vendor, its employees and subcontractors if any, is/are independent contractors for whom no Federal or State Income Tax will be deducted by the University, and for whom no retirement benefits, social security benefits, group health or life insurance, vacation and sick leave, Worker's Compensation and similar benefits available to University's employees will accrue. Vendor will be responsible for compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations involving but not limited to, employment, labor, Workers Compensation, hours of work, working conditions, payment of wages, and payment of taxes, such as unemployment, social security and other payroll taxes, including other applicable contributions from such persons when required by law.

17. **Entire Contract:** This Contract sets forth the entire agreement between the parties on the subject matter hereof and replaces and supersedes all prior agreements on the subject, whether oral or written, express or implied. Unless otherwise set forth herein, all terms and conditions appearing on Vendor's purchase order, website, or any other documentation submitted or referenced by Vendor in connection with the University's purchase of the Products shall be considered null, void, and without effect as pertaining to the Products and the University's purchase thereof.

18. **Publicity, Publication, Reproduction and use of Contract's Products or Materials:** Unless otherwise provided by law or the University, title and possession of all data, reports, programs, software, equipment, furnishings and any other documentation or product paid for with University funds shall vest with the University. The Vendor shall at all times obtain the prior written approval of the University before it, any of its officers, agents, employees or subcontractors, either during or after termination of the Contract, makes any statement bearing on the work performed or data collected under this Contract to the press or issues any material for publication through any medium of communication. If the Vendor or any of its subcontractors publishes a work dealing with any aspect of performance under the Contract, or of the results and accomplishments attained in such performance, the University shall have a royalty free, non-exclusive and irrevocable license to reproduce, publish or otherwise use and to authorize others to use the publication.

19. **Confidentiality:** The contractor shall comply with all laws and regulations relating to confidentiality and privacy including but not limited to any rules or regulations of the University.

20. **Force Majeure:** Neither party shall be liable to the other or be deemed to be in breach of this Contract for any failure or delay in rendering performance arising out of causes beyond its reasonable control and without its fault or negligence. Such causes may include, but are not limited to, acts of God or of a public enemy, fires, flood, pandemics and epidemics (including changes to operations necessitated by government acts or guidance of public health authorities in connection with the COVID-19 pandemic), strikes, embargoes or unusually severe weather. Dates or time of performance shall be extended to the extent of delays excused by this section provided that the party whose performance is affected notifies the other promptly of the existence and nature of such delay.

21. **Notices:** Unless otherwise specified in an attachment hereto, any notice hereunder shall be in writing and addressed to the persons and addresses below.

22. **Counterparts and Authority:** This Contract may be signed in any number counterparts, each of which is an original copy of this Contract and all of which taken together shall constitute one agreement. The person signing on behalf of each Party represents that he or she has the right and power to execute this Contract on behalf of such Party. Signatures delivered via email in PDF format or by fax shall be effective.

23. **Order of Precedence:** In the event of any conflict among the documents in this agreement, the following order of precedence shall apply:

- a. **Terms and conditions of this Agreement**
- b. **Rider B** – Insurance Requirements
- c. **Rider A** – Contractor’s Quote
- d. **Agreement Amendments** as required

24. **Signatures:**

FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM:

FOR THE VENDOR:

BY:

(signature)

BY:

(signature)

Name: _____
(print or type)

Name: _____
(print or type)

Title:

Title:

Address:

Address:

Telephone:

Telephone:

Fax:

Fax:

Date:

Date:

Univ.
Acct.# _____

Tax ID #:

Per University policy, “Any contract or agreement for services that will, or may, result in the expenditure by the University of \$50,000 or more must be approved in writing by the Executive Director of Strategic Procurement & Services, or designee, and it is not approved, valid or effective until such written approval is granted.”

BY: _____

Title:
Executive Director of Strategic Procurement & Services or designee

Date: _____

Attachment A

Contractor's Quote

The Vendor agrees to provide the following Products to the University:

RIDER B INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Contractor's Liability Insurance: During the term of this agreement, the Contractor shall maintain the following insurance:

#	Insurance Type	Coverage Limit
1	Commercial General Liability, including Product's and Completed Operations (Written on an Occurrence-based form) (Bodily Injury and Property Damage)	\$1,000,000 per occurrence or more
2	Vehicle Liability (Including Hired & Non-Owned) (Bodily Injury and Property Damage)	\$1,000,000 per occurrence or more
3	Workers Compensation (In Compliance with Maine and Federal Law)	Required for all personnel
4	Professional Liability Insurance (Agents, Consultants, Brokers, Lawyers, Financial, Engineers, or Medical Services)	\$1,000,000 per occurrence or more
5	Marine General Liability (Any maritime or marine services)	\$1,000,000 per occurrence or more

Coverage limit requirements can be met with a single underlying insurance policy or through the combination of an underlying insurance policy plus an Umbrella insurance policy.

The University of Maine System shall be named as Additional Insured on the Commercial General Liability insurance.

Certificates of Insurance for all of the above insurance shall be filed with:

**University of Maine System
Risk Manager
Robinson Hall
46 University Drive
Augusta, Maine 04330**

Certificates shall be filed prior to the date of performance under this Agreement. Said certificates, in addition to proof of coverage, shall contain the standard statement pertaining to written notification in the event of cancellation, with a thirty (30) day notification period.

The University reserves the right to change the insurance requirement or to approve alternative insurances or limits, at the University's discretion.

Appendix E – Organization Reference Form

Respondent's Organization Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Provide a minimum of three (3) current professional references who may be contacted for verification of the Respondent's professional qualifications to meet the requirements set forth herein. We strongly prefer references from higher education institutions similar in size and requirements to the University of Maine System, including those with multi-campus integrated solutions.

We request that the references include one long-standing customer (minimum of 3 year engagement) and one new customer (one who has been engaged with Respondent for less than one year).

REFERENCE #1	
Institution/Company Name	
Contact Name	
Contact Title	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact eMail Address	
Relationship Length	

REFERENCE #2	
Institution/Company Name	
Contact Name	
Contact Title	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact eMail Address	
Relationship Length	

REFERENCE #3	
Institution/Company Name	
Contact Name	
Contact Title	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact eMail Address	
Relationship Length	

REFERENCE #4	
Institution/Company Name	
Contact Name	
Contact Title	
Contact Phone Number	
Contact eMail Address	
Relationship Length	

Appendix F – Evaluation Question(s) - Organization, Qualifications and Experience

Respondent's Organization Name: _____

INSTRUCTIONS: Respondents shall ensure that all information required herein is submitted with the response. All information provided should be verifiable by documentation requested by the University. Failure to provide all information, inaccuracy or misstatement may be sufficient cause for rejection of the response or rescission of an award. Respondents are encouraged to provide any additional information describing operational abilities.

Evaluation Question(s)

1. Provide a statement describing your company to include name, number of employees, locations, number of years in business, number of years offering/supporting the proposed solution, and any and all acquisitions or mergers in the last five years. Is the company publicly or privately held?
2. Please indicate if your company either self identifies or holds certification as a LGBTQ+ BE, MBE, SDVBE, SBE, veteran-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, HUBZone, small disadvantaged business, women-owned, minority-owned, WBE, VBE etc. If appropriate, please indicate if you hold a certification. If certified, prior to an award the University may request a copy of the certification from your company.
3. Describe your experience offering a solution for the requirements identified in this document.
4. Provide a statement that explains why your company would be most qualified to provide these specific products. What differentiates you from your competitors?
5. Financial Stability

No financial statements are required to be submitted with your responses, however, prior to an award the University may request audited financial statements from your company, credit reports and letters from your bank and suppliers.

Appendix G – Proposed Solution

INSTRUCTIONS: Provide a comprehensive proposal to meet the requirements of the “Specifications for Dropstitch Panels’ Purchase.” The ASCC needs these articles delivered as soon as possible. As part of respondent’s Proposed Solution, include a timeline for delivery after receipt of PO.