**1. Buyer**

**1.1 Buyer**

| | |
|---|---|
| Official name: | Universiteit Leiden |
| Legal type of the buyer: | Body governed by public law |
| Activity of the contracting authority: | Education |

**2. Procedure**

**2.1 Procedure**

| | |
|---|---|
| Title: | Substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns |
| Description: | This is a publication of our intent to award the contract for Substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns to Color Link Japan Ltd. If no representations are received within 20 days after the publication on Tenderned/TED, we intent to award the contract. For information you can use the message system or the Q&A module. The key liquid-crystal technology that enables this proposed R&D program was developed within the Geometric-phase Photonics Lab at North Carolina State University (PI Dr. Michael Escuti), and its spin-off company ImagineOptix. In particular, they have obtained patents on the direct-write technology (EP2906974B1 / US9690026B2) that is crucial to manufacture virtually any phase pattern with high accuracy, and on the self-aligning multi-twist retarder approach (EP2764402A4 / US9298041B2) that is crucial to minimize polarization leakage over large spectral bandwidths while maintaining pattern accuracy. Over the last 10 years, the Leiden/NOVA group, in collaboration with NCSU /ImagineOptix, have introduced these technologies to astronomy, designing, manufacturing, testing and commissioning coronagraphic (and other) optical components based on broadband patterned liquid-crystals at several ground-based telescopes. In 2019, the NCSU GPL group was disbanded, and all activities and patents transferred to ImagineOptix. In 2021, ImagineOptix was bought and fully absorbed by Meta (previously known as Facebook), and all of its public services were terminated. Recently, an exclusive license deal was signed between Meta and ColorLink Japan that provides the latter company with exclusive access to the aforementioned patents for commercial use in application areas that include astronomy and remote sensing. Hence, ColorLink Japan has become our single-source supplier for substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns based on MTR broadband coatings, which constitute essential sub-components for our proposed project. To the best of our knowledge, two other companies sell custom optics based on patterned retarders: BeamCo and Thorlabs. However, neither of these companies have access to the key technologies (direct-write and MTR) that are required to attain the pattern accuracy and polarization leakage spectral properties that are necessary to attain the extreme coronagraphic performance objectives that we foresee. |
| Procedure identifier: | c92015a0-649c-4084-960c-e513553c5c44 |
| Previous notice : | 635761-2023 |
| Internal identifier: | T55436 |
| Type of procedure: | Negotiated without prior call for competition |

**2.1.1 Purpose**

| | |
|---|---|
| Main nature of the contract: | Supplies |
| Main classification ( cpv): | 38630000 Astronomical and optical instruments |
| Additional classification ( cpv): | 38600000 Optical instruments |

**2.1.2 Place of performance**



Rijksoverheid

| | |
|---|---|
| Country: | Netherlands |

Anywhere in the given country

| | |
|---|---|
| Additional information: | See documentation |

**2.1.3 Value**

| | |
|---|---|
| Estimated value excluding VAT: | 300 000 US dollar |

**2.1.4 General information**

Call for competition is terminated

Legal basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

**5. Lot**

**5.1 Lot technical ID: LOT-0000**

| | |
|---|---|
| Title: | Substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns |
| Description: | This is a publication of our intent to award the contract for Substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns to Color Link Japan Ltd. If no representations are received within 20 days after the publication on Tenderned/TED, we intent to award the contract. For information you can use the message system or the Q&A module. The key liquid-crystal technology that enables this proposed R&D program was developed within the Geometric-phase Photonics Lab at North Carolina State University (PI Dr. Michael Escuti), and its spin-off company ImagineOptix. In particular, they have obtained patents on the direct-write technology (EP2906974B1 / US9690026B2) that is crucial to manufacture virtually any phase pattern with high accuracy, and on the self-aligning multi-twist retarder approach (EP2764402A4 / US9298041B2) that is crucial to minimize polarization leakage over large spectral bandwidths while maintaining pattern accuracy. Over the last 10 years, the Leiden/NOVA group, in collaboration with NCSU /ImagineOptix, have introduced these technologies to astronomy, designing, manufacturing, testing and commissioning coronagraphic (and other) optical components based on broadband patterned liquid-crystals at several ground-based telescopes. In 2019, the NCSU GPL group was disbanded, and all activities and patents transferred to ImagineOptix. In 2021, ImagineOptix was bought and fully absorbed by Meta (previously known as Facebook), and all of its public services were terminated. Recently, an exclusive license deal was signed between Meta and ColorLink Japan that provides the latter company with exclusive access to the aforementioned patents for commercial use in application areas that include astronomy and remote sensing. Hence, ColorLink Japan has become our single-source supplier for substates containing high-accuracy liquid-crystal patterns based on MTR broadband coatings, which constitute essential sub-components for our proposed project. To the best of our knowledge, two other companies sell custom optics based on patterned retarders: BeamCo and Thorlabs. However, neither of these companies have access to the key technologies (direct-write and MTR) that are required to attain the pattern accuracy and polarization leakage spectral properties that are necessary to attain the extreme coronagraphic performance objectives that we foresee. |
| Internal identifier: | T55436 |

**5.1.1 Purpose**

| | |
|---|---|
| Main nature of the contract: | Supplies |
| Main classification ( cpv): | 38630000 Astronomical and optical instruments |
| Additional classification ( cpv): | 38600000 Optical instruments |

**5.1.2 Place of performance**

| | |
|---|---|
| Country: | Netherlands |



Rijksoverheid

Anywhere in the given country

| | |
|---|---|
| Additional information: | See documentation |

**5.1.5 Value**

| | |
|---|---|
| Estimated value excluding VAT: | 300 000 US dollar |

**5.1.6 General information**

Procurement Project not financed with EU Funds.

| | |
|---|---|
| The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA): | yes |

**5.1.10 Award criteria**

Criterion:

| | |
|---|---|
| Type: | Price |
| Name: | Price |
| Description: | Price |
| Weight (percentage, exact): | 100 |

**5.1.12 Terms of procurement**

| | |
|---|---|
| Information about review deadlines: | Within 20 days after the Voluntary ex ante transparency notice. This period has lapsed. |

**5.1.15 Techniques**

Framework agreement:

No framework agreement

Information about the dynamic purchasing system:

No dynamic purchase system

**5.1.16 Further information, mediation and review**

| | |
|---|---|
| Review organisation: | Rechtbank Den Haag |
| Organisation whose budget is used to pay for the contract : | Universiteit Leiden |
| Organisation executing the payment: | Universiteit Leiden |
| Organisation signing the contract: | Universiteit Leiden |

**6. Results**

Value of all



Rijksoverheid

| | |
|---|---|
| contracts awarded in this notice: | 300 000 US dollar |

**6.1 Result lot Identifier: LOT-0000**

At least one winner was chosen.

**6.1.2 Information about winners**

Winner:

| | |
|---|---|
| Official name: | Color Link Japan Ltd |

Tender:

| | |
|---|---|
| Tender identifier: | T55436 |
| Identifier of lot or group of lots : | LOT-0000 |
| Value of the result: | 300 000 US dollar |
| The tender was ranked: | no |
| The tender is a variant: | no |
| Subcontracting value is known : | no |
| Subcontracting percentage is known: | no |

Contract information:

| | |
|---|---|
| Identifier of the contract: | T55436 |
| Title: | Contract |
| Date on which the winner was chosen: | 17/10/2023 |
| Date of the conclusion of the contract: | 24/11/2023 |
| The contract is awarded within a framework agreement: | no |
| Organisation signing the contract: | Universiteit Leiden |

**8. Organisations**

**8.1 ORG-0001**

| | |
|---|---|
| Official name: | Universiteit Leiden |
| Registration number: | 27368929 |
| Postal address : | Kolffpad 1 |



Rijksoverheid

| | |
|---|---|
| Town: | Leiden |
| Postcode: | 2333BN |
| Country subdivision (NUTS): | Agglomeratie Leiden en Bollenstreek (NL337) |
| Country: | Netherlands |
| Contact point: | Govert Schipperheijn |
| Email: | g.m.schipperheijn@ufb.leidenuniv.nl |
| Telephone: | +31715273304 |
| Internet address: | https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/ |
| Buyer profile: | https://s2c.mercell.com/buyer/19549 |

Roles of this organisation:

Buyer

Organisation signing the contract

Organisation whose budget is used to pay for the contract

Organisation executing the payment

**8.1 ORG-0002**

| | |
|---|---|
| Official name: | Rechtbank Den Haag |
| Registration number: | 82946175 |
| Department: | Civiel |
| Postal address : | Postbus 20303 |
| Town: | Den Haag |
| Postcode: | 2500 EH |
| Country subdivision (NUTS): | Agglomeratie 's-Gravenhage (NL332) |
| Country: | Netherlands |
| Contact point: | Informatie |
| Email: | info@rechtspraak.nl |
| Telephone: | +31883622200 |
| Internet address: | https://www.rechtspraak.nl/Organisatie-en-contact/Organisatie/Rechtbanken/Rechtbank-Den-Haag |

Roles of this organisation:

Review organisation

**8.1 ORG-0003**

| | |
|---|---|
| Official name: | Color Link Japan Ltd |
| Size of the economic operator: | Medium |
| Registration number: | 9110001019714 |
| Postal address : | 55 Nakadahara, Joetsu-City |
| Town: | Niigata |
| Postcode: | 943-0882 |



Rijksoverheid

| | |
|---|---|
| Country: | Japan |
| Contact point: | Production Department |
| Email: | contact@colorlink.co.jp |
| Telephone: | 81-25-524-2440 |
| Roles of this organisation: | |
| Tenderer | |
| Winner of these lots: | LOT-0000 |

**11. Notice information**

**11.1 Notice information**

| | |
|---|---|
| Notice identifier /version: | 342410c4-b3cd-41a3-8b6b-1226a0a34ec7 - 01 |
| Form type: | Result |
| Notice type: | Contract or concession award notice – standard regime |
| Notice dispatch date: | 17/01/2024 11:19 +00:00 |
| Notice dispatch date (eSender): | 17/01/2024 12:45 +00:00 |
| Languages in which this notice is officially available: | English |

**11.2 Publication information**



Rijksoverheid