

Intent to Sole Source

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College

September 21, 2026

In accordance with Section 11-35-1560(a) of the SC Consolidated Procurement Code, and Section 19-445.2015 of the SC Code of State Regulations, Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College intends to enter into a sole source contract for: Technical Training Aids

Description of the Agency need that this procurement meets:

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is preparing to launch its new training site in Holly Hill, where we plan to offer non-credit advanced manufacturing programs designed to meet the workforce needs of local employers. Because the facility currently has no training equipment, we are seeking the necessary resources to establish functional, industry-aligned instructional labs. This equipment will enable us to provide students and incumbent workers with hands-on training in areas such as programmable logic controllers (PLCs), industrial maintenance, electrical systems, and manufacturing operations. Equipping the site is essential to preparing a skilled workforce, supporting regional economic development, and expanding access to high-quality training opportunities in the Holly Hill community.

Description of market research Agency performed to determine the availability of products or services that would meet the Agency's needs.

The end user conducted extensive market research to identify vendors that manufacture and supply programmable logic controller (PLC) training systems. The review included an evaluation of available equipment, technical specifications, instructional capabilities, compatibility with industry-standard technology, vendor support, and pricing. Based on this research, Amatrol was determined to offer the PLC trainers that best meet the College's instructional and workforce-training needs at a competitive price point. Amatrol's equipment provides the functionality and hands-on learning capabilities needed to deliver relevant, industry-aligned training for students and incumbent workers at the College's new Holly Hill site.

Description of supplies, construction, information technology, and/or service Vendor will provide under the contract:

Supply and deliver the following Amatrol products: Portable PLC Troubleshooting Learning System – AB CompactLogix L16, Studio 5000 Mini PLC Programming Software – 1 Seat License.

Detailed explanation why no other vendor's supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services will meet the needs of the Agency:

Amatrol's PLC training systems are built using the AB CompactLogix PLC platform. This is the standard PLC platform used at the College, and the same platform that is utilized in the PLC labs used for instruction for credit programs. The software supported by Amatrol's PLC training systems also match existing software used in the existing PLC lab, including Studio 5000 and FactoryTalk View. The training systems include standard input/output devices, communication connections, and control devices to support complete PLC training options, from introduction to advanced training. The systems will be used for workforce development training and supported by program faculty as subject matter experts in developing training resources for students. Utilizing the Amatrol's PLC training systems will provide a seamless transition for instructors as well as provide the needed training applications that will provide opportunities for workforce development training completers to transition to credit programs with the experience of using the same PLC training platforms.

Please send questions or concerns via e-mail to Scarlet Geddings @ geddingss@octech.edu for this Intent to Sole Source no later than 5:00 PM on September 28, 2026, EDT.

This notice will be posted in the South Carolina Business Opportunities (SCBO) as required by SC Code 11-35-1560.

PROTESTS:

If you are aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of the contract, you may be entitled to protest, but only as provided in Section 11-35-4210. To protest an award, you must (i) submit notice of your intent to protest within five (5) business days of the date this notice is posted, and (ii) submit your actual protest within fifteen days of the date this notice is posted. Days are calculated as provided in Section 11-35-310(13). Both protests and notices of intent to protest must be in writing and must be received by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer within the time provided. The grounds of the protest and the relief requested must be set forth with enough particularity to give notice of the issues to be decided. Any protest or notice of intent to protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Information Technology Management Office, and submitted in writing

(a) by email to: protest-itmo@itmo.sc.gov, or

(b) by post or delivery to: 1201 Main Street, Suite 600, Columbia, SC 29201.