

SOLE SOURCE DETERMINATION

The Purchasing Division has been requested to approve a sole source purchase for the commodity or service described below. Pursuant to West Virginia Code 5A-3-10c, the Purchasing Division is attempting to determine whether the commodity or service is a sole source procurement. If you believe your company meets the required experience and qualification criteria stated below, please e-mail the Purchasing Division Buyer at frank.m.whittaker@wv.gov with a copy to w.michael.sheets@wv.gov to express your interest in the project. Please forward any and all information that will support your company's compliance with required qualification and eligibility criteria along with any other pertinent information relative to this project to the Purchasing Division no later than 1:30 pm on 03/05/2012

Requisition Number: AGR1220

Department/Agency: West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Detailed Description of Project:

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture Meat Microbiology Laboratory performs surveillance testing on raw meat products for pathogenic bacteria.

After the laboratory isolates a pathogenic organism that will implicate a recall, it has to be sent to USDA for confirmation. Confirmation usually takes about a month, so the West Virginia Department of Agriculture has to make a quick decision on conducting a recall before these results are completed. Currently, the food laboratory is taking the isolates to the Animal Health Division to identify on the BioLog, which is not specific for food testing.

Proposed Sole Source Vendor: BioMeriuex

Specific Eligibility Criteria:

The Vitek 2 is the only instrument that can upgrade to a capacity of 120 organisms and can provide immediate access for loading additional tests as on-board tests are completed. It is unique in the following automations: test filling; sealing of disposable tests; on-board test incubation; barcode entry of tests and authentication of lot number, expiration date, and test type; internal test tracking and traceability via internal barcode scanning of tests, to assure positive identification throughout processing; and calibration of on-board temperature and optical parameters. It is the only instrument that has an on-board library of microorganisms can be expanded by the user as new emerging organisms of

interest are isolated. All these automations will be necessary in the event of a food-borne outbreak to reach maximum capacity of samples.

Specific Qualification Criteria:

The Vitek 2 is listed in the approved methods for testing are in the Microbiology Laboratory Guidebook created by the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), and the Food Emergency Response Network (FERN) protocols. In these methods, it is recommended for biochemical testing after an organism is isolated for confirmation. Due to its approval by USDA, high throughput and large capacity testing, Vitek qualifies as an instrument to be used for organism identification.