

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE
RFx 3150003820**

The Mississippi Department of Human Services (MDHS) anticipates purchasing the products listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

Description	Quantity
SC 2 P Double Door Sanitization Machine w/ Drying and also Heat Options (76" H x 52" W x 31" D)	2
RR 10 Carts (10 Bin Cart)	4
4S M UC (4-Shelf Medium Utility Cart)	2

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how is it unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

MDHS' Division of Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) desires to purchase sanitization cabinets for MDHS designated Resource and Referral (R&R) sites. The necessity to sanitize items commonly used by the R & R sites and general public is critical to safely operating the R & R site which routinely engages with the public especially during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Not only are the sites open to the public for use, but the resources (individual items) within the sites will be loaned out to the public and in childcare facilities on a routine basis. As the items are returned from outside the sites, they will each need to be sanitized thoroughly and quickly prior to redistributing.

The cabinets needed must be large enough to sanitize the largest items in the R&R centers that will be used daily. However, the tiny pieces, cloth-based items, and books that are used and handled by the public daily will also need to be sanitized in the most efficient manner possible. The Zono cabinets are specifically made for childcare centers and are widely used by Head Start locations. Zono cabinets come with several accessory cart options. The 10-bin carts requested allow for all the small items to be placed and sanitized at once without being individually placed on shelves, falling through the cracks of the shelves, and are able to stay organized based on sorting into individual trays (bins). The removal of the carts allows for the large items to be placed without the hindrance of shelves.

The larger, double-door cabinets allow for multiple carts to be placed and sanitized at the same time. Examples of materials at the R&R Sites:

Examples of Items	Size	Material
Large Books	16”H x 22”W	Paper
Plush Mats	48”L x 54”W	Fabric
Hula Hoop	29”	Plastic
Bean Bag	24” x 32”	Fabric
Writing Easel	17 ½”W x 19”H	Plastic
Directional Signs	31”	Plastic
Flex Space Seats	22”	Rubber
Comfy Couch	33 ¾”W x 17 ½”D x 19 ½”H	Fabric
Table	28”W x 21”H	Wood
Kitchen	50”W x 16”D x 44”H	Wood
Magnetic Stand with Tray	22”W x 11 ¾”D x 33”H	Wood/ Dry Erase
STEM Cart	38”W x 19”D x 24”H	Wood
Pattern Blocks	1 ¾” (largest)	Styrofoam
Magna-Tiles	6” (largest)	Plastic
Small figurines	5 ½” (largest)	Vinyl
Liquid Floor Tiles	19 ¾” x 19 ¾”	Plastic

ZONO SC2 WD DOUBLE DOOR MACHINE WITH DRYING OPTION AND HEAT OPTION

The double door machine weighs 284 lbs. and offers 56.8 cubic feet of space. The dimensions are 76 3/16”H x 52 5/8”W x 31 1/16”D. The SC 2 WD allows for a 7-bin or 10-bin cart, an 8-mat cart, a 4-shelf utility cart, 4-shlef medium cart, or a 4-shelf wide utility cart. The proposed purchase includes two of the 10-bin and 4-shelf medium utility carts. This would allow for multiple carts to be cycled simultaneously.

CARTS/ BINS

The utility carts are commercial grade holding up to 600 lbs. per shelf and 5” casters will support up to 1,320 lbs. Shelves are adjustable in height and are wired to promote airflow. Utility carts are ideal for toys, helmets, books, games, and more. When carts are not in use they can also be used for storage. The Bin carts are great for smaller items such as blocks, game pieces, crayons, doll accessories, etc. Bins are 4” deep and vented at top and bottom. Bins can be removed if extra space is needed.

Other sanitizing models do not offer the needed specifications that Zono offers. Most machines are stationary with a few models that are on wheels. However, they do not offer the capacity needed for the larger items. Additionally, the shelving configuration is not ideal for the small pieces needed to be sanitized routinely. Most of the units do have adjustable shelves but will cost extra or will not accommodate some of the larger items.

ERGONOMICALLY EFFICIENT

ZONO is ergonomically conscious using rolling carts that avoiding bending and lifting, thus greatly eliminating potential work-related injuries. The Zono allows for the carts to provide full range of mobility throughout facility. Items can be loaded from anywhere, and then placed in machine for the cycle. The other available options have stationary shelves which do not allow for flexibility and efficient loading. The Zono cabinets are specifically made for childcare centers and come with several accessory cart options. As items are returned to the sites, they can be placed on the cart(s), then run through the machine upon capacity or at the end of the day. Once the cycle is complete, the carts can then be rolled through site to place items in their respectable places. Not only will the carts provide for agronomical practices but will allow for better time management and efficiency.

SANITIZATION METHODS

Zono kills 99.9% of bacteria and viruses. It disinfects and sanitizes many different surfaces including plastics, cloth, and electronics without the use of harsh liquid chemicals. Zono is the centerpiece of a comprehensive sanitization program. Sanitizing helps keep children, staff, and their families healthy, present, and performing at their best. Zono is safe to use. It uses ozone, which disinfects/ sanitizes much of the food we eat and water we drink.

Zono has been tested and certified to kill 99.99% of sanitized non-porous and porous surfaces including, bacteria and viruses commonly known as, Staph, MRSA, E. coli, S. pyogenes, Shigella, Salmonella, and P. aeruginosa. Zono also kills 99.99% of Norovirus on non-porous surfaces.

The use of humidity boosts Zono's efficacy of killing dangerous pathogens. The heat option at 140°F kills lice larvae and bedbugs and drying option at 120°F will dry apparel.

The only other option for Ozone is QLZONE which is made and shipped from China and lacks the space and capacity needed. All other options use UV lighting as a means of disinfecting and no other options offer the heating element to kill lice and bed bugs.

ENERGY AND SAFETY BENEFITS

Zono is environmentally friendly. It uses very small amounts of water and electricity and reduces the need to bring toxic chemicals into your environment. The exterior meets ASTM

C155 relations making it safe to touch during operation. The SC1 WH uses 306 watts (less than 3 cents per cycle).

Numerous safety features exist inside and outside the units, which are safe to operate in work/play areas. ZONO exceeds NIOSH and OSHA safety and health standards and conforms to EPA's and FIFRA standards for Pest Control devices.

DELIVERY, SETUP, AND OPERATION

ZONO ships products from Livonia, MI after a 4-week lead time. The shipping costs include a "white glove delivery" where carrier sets up unit, by appointment. The service removes crate and shipping materials and assembles carts. Operation only requires plug-in to ordinary 120-volt electrical outlet and has a simple operating panel. The SC 2 WD unit uses 1500 watts and requires a dedicated 120-volt circuit. The sanitization cycle only lasts 30 minutes, and there are no delays between cycles.

WARRANTY AND MAINTENANCE/ SERVICE

Zono comes with a 3-year standard warranty for parts and labor. There are options for additional extended warranties. An ozone sensor is required to be changed each year for approximately \$200. The replacement cost is covered for units under warranty. ZONO Technologies is based out of Atlanta, GA. A Zono Advisor will work with the Agency to plan for optimal replacement and operation of your machines. Their nationwide service network is available to address any issues. Zono is currently operating in over 500 childcare, Head Start and sports facilities.

Most of the other machines offer warranties from 12 months to 2 years. The units using UV-C lighting requires bulb replacement approximately every 2 years. The bulbs average around \$100 each, and units use between 4 and 8 bulbs per unit. With only one other company being USA based, the service and replacement parts may be difficult to obtain.

3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

ZONO Technologies. The sanitizing cabinets offered by Zono are specifically designed to meet the sanitization needs of childcare centers. Also, the sizes of cabinets offered by Zono allow for relative ease in cleaning larger items found in and utilized by childcare centers and also include shelving and bin attachments to effectively clean smaller items typically found in and utilized by child care centers.

4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total Price
SC 2 P Double Door Sanitization Machine w/ Drying and also Heat Options (76" H x 52" W x 31" D)	20,437	2	\$40,874
RR 10 Carts	600	4	\$2,400
4S M UC	300	2	\$600
Inside Delivery with Cart Assembly (refer to Delivery, Setup, & Operation under No. 2. Additionally, the delivery sites are Jackson, MS & Durant, MS)	1,400	2	\$2,800
3 Year Warranty (refer to Warranty and Maintenance/Services under No. 2)			Included

The amount to be expended is considered reasonable due to the following:

The purchase of the sanitizing cabinet will alleviate the time and effort the staff must devote to purchase sanitizing chemicals and manually sanitizing the materials; thus, allowing the staff to focus on other projects/work assignments that serve to fulfill the mission of the agency. The cabinet will reduce man-hours needed for sanitizing and will properly sanitize the items without chemicals that could pose health risk to children and staff.

- Explanation of the efforts taken by the department to determine this is the only source and the efforts used to obtain the best possible price:

In an effort to ensure the best possible price, MDHS compared the size and options, including sanitization methods, to other brands and no other sanitizing cabinet compared in size or efficient/cost-saving sanitization method that is needed for the R&R sites.

- Timeline and Contact Information

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	September 3, 2021
Second Advertisement Date	September 10, 2021
Response Deadline from Objectors	September 17, 2021 at 3:00 PM, CT
Anticipated Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before September 17, 2021

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice by mail, hand-delivery or e-mail to:

MDHS, Procurement Services
Jennifer Austin, Purchasing Agent
200 South Lamar Street
Jackson, Mississippi 39201

Procurement.Services@mdhs.ms.gov

Subject Line must read “RFx **3150003820** Sole Source Objection”

MDHS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach MDHS on time. Responses received after the deadline and responses that lack all required information will be rejected. MDHS reserves the right to inspect Interested Party’s commodity for comparison purposes.

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the services/products is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable. Vendor shall submit the attached Objection to Sole Source Form.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MDHS determines that the services/products in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MDHS will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If MDHS determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MDHS will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MDHS will have the burden of proving that the services/products are only provided by one (1) source.