

Business Unit & Req. # 1905 & TBD

ECCN: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount: \$1,000,000

Note: This Sole Source Certification will become a public document, open to public inspection; therefore, you should be certain all material facts are true, relevant and clearly understandable.

## SOLE SOURCE CERTIFICATION

Under the requirement of University of Florida Rule No. 6C1-3.020(5)(e)(2), the following is submitted in support of this request for authority to purchase, without bidding, the items available from only one source.

Note: Sole Source means that the item/service is unique and that the vendor is the only one from whom the item/service can be provided. Best Price alone cannot be used for sole source. If the item/service is available from more than one source of supply, best price must be determined through the competitive bid process.

A. Sole Source Vendor Company Name: Vanguard Automation Inc. (a Mycronic Company)

Contact Person: Sebastian Skacel

Address: Gablonz Strasse 10 76185 Karlsruhe, Germany

Telephone: +49 721 5966 063

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: sebastian.skacel@mycronic.com

B. Describe in lay language, what the item/service is and how it is to be used in your area of research. (cont. P2)

Vanguard Automation offers machines and processes for 3D nano-printing in the field of photonic integration and packaging. Unique to this machine is the offering of photonic wire bonding and ...

C. What feature or special condition of this commodity/service is unique and cannot be obtained from any other source? Why are these features or special conditions important to the research? (cont. P2)

Unique features including low loss and arbitrary optical chip-to-chip and chip-to-optical fiber connections, photonic wire bonding (PWB), and micro-lenses at chip facet interfaces are not available from other vendors to-date.

D. Is this product being purchased directly from the manufacturer? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If No, is it available from more than one dealer? ☐ Yes ☒ No

If Yes, it is available from more than one dealer, why can this item not be bid? (cont. P2)

This equipment is only available from this OEM providing the service of photonic wire bonding. A regular 3D printer has not the capability of writing optical low-loss micro structures suitable for optical coupling between fiber-to-chip and chip-to-chip. Vanguard Automation offers a unique value proposition.

E. Prior to submitting this requisition, did you investigate other possible sources? ☒ Yes ☐ No

If Yes: 1) Did you obtain quotes from the other sources? ☐ Yes ☒ No If Yes, attach copies.


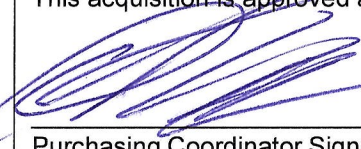
2) Is this Vendor's price lower than the other sources? ☐ Yes ☐ No If No, justify the additional cost below.

There is no other vendor worldwide that provides such capability (e.g. photonic wire bonds)

F. What efforts have been made to obtain the best price possible? Why do you feel this price is fair and reasonable? (cont. P2)

Several rounds of negotiations had occurred. We obtained two rounds of discount from the vendor. Several items are quote are offered free of charge, and others received steep discounts.

I / We, the undersigned, certify the above to be true and correct to the best of my / our knowledge and belief and the user and / or undersigned does not have a financial interest in the above named vendor.

DEPARTMENT APPROVAL	PURCHASING APPROVAL
<p>I hereby certify the validity of the information and feel confident the Sole Source Certification will meet University criteria and would withstand any audit or vendor protest.</p> <p></p> <p>Principal Investigator's Signature _____ Date <u>4/23/2025</u></p>	<p>This acquisition is approved as a non-competitive purchase.</p> <p></p> <p>Purchasing Coordinator Signature _____ Date <u>4-24-25</u></p>
<p>FAILURE TO FILE A PROTEST IN ACCORDANCE WITH BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) REGULATION 18.002 OR FAILURE TO POST THE BOND OR OTHER SECURITY AS REQUIRED IN THE BOG REGULATION 18.002 AND 18.003(3) SHALL CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF PROTEST PROCEEDING.</p>	<p><u>N.J. Heredia</u></p> <p>Purchasing Authorized Signature _____ Date <u>4-28-2025</u></p>

## Sole Source Certification (Continued)

Please use the following sections to continue documentation if needed.

### B. continued

... arbitrary photonic input/output (e.g. fiber to chip) connection modalities. The R&D with this equipment targets to minimize the optical losses of these to-be-established optical interfaces. In addition, advanced packaging concepts to connect arbitrary photonic chips (such as from IV and IIIV, and fibers) enables a novel design and packaging capability of photonic applications such as optical interconnects, optical transceivers and photonic AI accelerators. In order to form a usable unit, both tools are required for creating a symphony forming a stable, controllable, and high-fidelity process enabling top-of-line photonics research, especially for optical input-output.

### C. continued

The capability of designing and manufacturing optical and photonic arbitrary and low-loss input-output connectors between photonic chips and/or optical fibers, enables and opens up a variety of test parameters and projects of photonic accelerators and optical interconnects including optical transceivers. This accelerates research productivity such as research publications and IP inventions. Another intent is to build digital twins for emerging optical input-output solutions with the following features: i) pluggable connector solutions, ii) spectrally broadband connectors, iii) arbitrary shaped solutions for single- and multi optical modes, chips and fibers, and iv) that feature very low optical losses.

### D. continued

### E. continued

### F. continued