


**JUSTIFICATION FOR SINGLE SOURCE AWARDS IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)  
 (OVER MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD(\$3.5K) BUT NOT EXCEEDING THE SAT (\$150K))**

IAW [FAR13.104](#), COs must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. When competition is not practicable, IAW [FAR13.106-1\(b\)](#), COs solicit from a single source for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold. COs may solicit from one source if the CO determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand-name or industrial mobilization). IAW [FAR13.106-3\(b\)\(3\)](#), COs are required to include additional statements **explaining the absence of competition** (see [13.106-1](#) for brand name purchases) if only one source is solicited and the acquisition does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (does not apply to an acquisition of utility services available from only one source) or supporting the award decision if other than price-related factors were considered in selecting the supplier. This template when completed can be used to document single source awards IAW [FAR13.106-3\(b\)\(3\)](#). Note: Statements such as "only known source" or "only source which can meet the required delivery date" are inadequate to support a sole source purchase.

<b>1. ACQUISITION PLAN ACTION ID:</b> <b>2. 541-17-3-726-0193</b>	<b>1A. PROJECT/TASK No.</b>	<b>1B. ESTIMATED AMOUNT:</b> 
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**2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED AND THE INTENDED USE:**  
 There is a need for 355 (85 medium, 117 large, 105 extra-large, and 28 – extra extra large) Sit On Comfort Mesh Transfer Slings and 26 Stiffeners for Twin Turner sling placement for 15 different patient care areas (TCU, 4A, 4B, PCU, Sleep Lab, Hospice, CTB, 5B, 5A, CT3, CT4, CT5, SICU, MICU and 6B) in our Medical Center. The slings must be made of spacer fabric, which is defined as two separate fabrics faces knitted independently and then connected by a separate spacer yarn. The sling must be able to stay under the patient for long periods of time without causing pressure ulcers.

**3. UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS THAT LIMIT AVAILABILITY TO ONLY ONE SOURCE, WITH THE REASON NO OTHER SUPPLIES OR SERVICES CAN BE USED:**

- The Sit-On transfer slings must have the following characteristics:
- Launderable
  - Spacer fabric (see above definition)
  - Seamless fabric design without pressure points
  - Clearly visible alpha lettering to indicate size-minimum lettering size 3/4"
  - Compatible with Guldmann ceiling lifts, with two strap attachment points
  - Two year warranty
  - Minimum 560 pound weight capacity
  - Staff education included

After completing a market research, the Guldmann Sit On Comfort slings are the only ones that meet all requirements. Other transfer slings with spacer fabric were either not compatible with the Guldmann ceiling lifts or did not meet the minimal weight capacity.

Varied sizes are needed to supplement current slings on the unit to maintain par and meet diverse patient needs. To facilitate ease in patient care and protect the patient against ill-sized slings, the sling sizing must be clearly labelled with standardized alpha lettering (minimum height 3/4") and not rely on color coding, require staff memorization of sizing or which may lead to delay of care while staff reference sizing charts. Remaining with the same style and make of slings maintains conformity in use; promotes patient safety by improving staff comfort level and mitigates patient/staff injury risk by not using a sling they are familiar with.

The slings must be made of spacer fabric, which is defined as two separate fabrics faces knitted independently and then connected by a separate spacer yarn. These fabrics can be produced on both circular and flat knitting machines. Spacer fabrics have the properties of good breathability, crush resistance, and a 3D appearance; therefore, they are skin friendly. Spacer fabrics are also defined as knitted polyester fabric manufactured with an internal air gap, with a slight stretch in all directions to allow the fabric to mold to the patient's body. These slings must have a seamless or continuous fabric design eliminating potential pressure points from seams or stitching. Regular transfer slings cannot be left under patients due to risk of pressure ulcers, and must be placed/removed immediately prior to or after transfer. Many times, patients are frequently transferred from chair/bed for short periods of time throughout the day. They may also need to sit on the transfer slings for prolonged periods of time, as they await procedures or transfer to other areas. Our patient population averages a BMI of 41, which is defined as obese. A wider girth causes caregiver strain and possible injury as they place and remove transfer slings while the patient is sitting in a chair/wheelchair. The sling must be able to stay under the patient for long periods of time without causing pressure ulcers.

To facilitate ease in patient care and protect the patient against ill sized slings, the sling sizing must be clearly labelled with standardized alpha lettering (minimum height ¾") and not rely on color coding memorization or require staff to reference sizing charts

The slings need to be compatible with our current Guldmann ceiling lift systems, be re-usable (launderable or, if lightly soiled, able to be disinfected with hospital approved anti-bacterial or anti-viral products). To adhere to our GEMS initiative to prevent solid waste from entering landfills, the slings cannot be single-patient use or disposable. The slings must have a weight capacity of 560 pounds or more to address variations in patient size, weight and height.

Guldmann Twin Turner slings are slings already purchased by the MC, and used by patient care units for turning and repositioning patients, while having enough access to patient skin to allow for bathing and perineal care. Placement of these slings has proven to be difficult for most of our staff, requiring them to handle more than 35 lbs. of patient weight (which does not comply with the Medical Center's SPHM directive and/or policy). Guldmann now offers "stiffeners" as a solution to this problem.

The slings must have at least a two year warranty on manufacture and material defects, which may occur with normal use. Staff education must be included in the purchase of the slings. Staff has just been trained on the above slings; therefore maintaining conformity and standardization promotes patient safety and staff utilization, comfort level, mitigates patient safety concerns/issues and makes the most efficient and economical sense.

#### **4. DESCRIPTION OF MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AND RESULTS OR STATEMENT WHY IT WAS NOT CONDUCTED:**

##### **Search Engines:**

1. GSA Advantage

<https://www.gsaadvantage.gov/>

- Key words used were "patient sling" and a variety of slings of all types were displayed, including automotive slings; however, if I attempted to narrow down the search by using words such as "ceiling lift", "spacer fabric", "patient lift slings", "ceiling lift slings" or "sit on slings" the query would yield no results. I looked through each sling on ten pages and did not see any with all the requirements listed

2. Google

<https://www.google.com>

- Key words: patient sling with spacer fabric
  - **Invacare** makes a sling w/spacer fabric for portable lifts (not ceiling), geared for amputee patients and those with chronic postural pain (not specifically those with spinal cord injuries). Recommended for Invacare portable lifts and those with 4 strap attachment points (Guldmann lifts are 2-point). Max. weight capacity #500
  - **Prism Medical** makes a ceiling lift sling with spacer fabric, but is rated to #440 max. working load

##### **Market Research Results:**

Of the data reviewed, none met all the requirements for a Sit On transfer sling with spacer fabric needed for the 15 patient care areas in the Louis Stokes Cleveland VAMC, except for the Guldmann Sit-On Comfort sling. The only two other transfer slings were found with integrated spacer fabric. Invacare makes a sling with spacer fabric, but it is specifically designed for their portable lift. They are not compatible with the Guldmann ceiling lift. Prism Medical also makes a sling with spacer fabric, but it

does not meet the minimum weight capacity requirement.

**5. Contracting Officer's Certification:** *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Note: COs are required to make a determination of price reasonableness IAW FAR 13.106-3. See the [Commercial Supply and Service SOP](#) for Price Reasonableness templates.*

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_ **NCO:** \_\_\_\_\_