

Sole Source
Written Determination - Instructions

Agency Identification: Trident Technical College (TTC)

Description of the agency need that this procurement fulfills:

TTC's Future Ready Manufacturing Skills course requires a solution that will educate students on electrical-mechanical learning concepts. The solution should offer students hands-on experience applying the EV efficiency, aerodynamics, circuitry and electromagnetic force concepts they learned in class.

The solution must include an engine and chassis kit, align with current curriculum, not require full-prepayment and have a lead time 1 month or less.

The solution must come with an engine and chassis kit and be complex enough to demonstrate EV efficiency, aerodynamics, circuitry and electromagnetic force - core principles of the class.

To ensure alignment with current curriculum, using the same MM Stem EV kit already employed in TTC's Future Ready courses ensures full alignment with the existing curriculum while providing consistent, standardized training experience for all students. It also supports instructor efficiency, as faculty are already familiar with the equipment, reducing the need for additional training and enabling smooth, uninterrupted course delivery.

A full prepayment would cause an unacceptable financial risk to the college. Classes will start in August, so a lead time of 1 month or less will allow the EV kits to be received and ready to go for when classes begin without delays.

Describe the Market Based on Research Performed:

TTC's Manufacturing and Maintenance Dean looked for a solution that would give students hands-on experience applying course concepts. He determined that a full-size vehicle would be too complex for the scope of the class, a fully electric vehicle would demonstrate the electrical learning concepts and that buying a kit rather than a finished chassis and cart would demonstrate mechanical learning concepts.

The Dean searched on the web for EV Kart Kits and found several vendors. However, there was only one vendor that could meet all the needs of the course. 2 complete kart kits were ordered 1/17/25 from that vendor due to budgetary restrictions and so that the karts could be trialed in a class to see how they improved learning objectives. On 05/29/25 3 additional kart kits were purchased with more secured funding to expand the class.

The kart kits continue to perform as intended which has led TTC to add a second Manufacturing Skills class. More funding has been secured so 8 more kart kits are desired to give more students the opportunity to work on the karts.

TTC's Associate Deans of Manufacturing and Maintenance performed a web search for EV kart chassis 6/3/26 which determined that the market conditions have not changed since 05/29/25.

Sole Source Vendor Name: Top Kart USA

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Based upon the following determination, Agency proposes to acquire the supplies, construction, information technology, and/or services described herein from the vendor named above per SC Code Ann § 11-35-1560 and SC Regulation 19-445.2105, Sole Source Procurement.

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

- Eight complete EV MStem I Kart Kits
- Tire Changing Scissors Tool
- Tire Bead Breaker
- Seat Mounting Tool
- Shipping of the kart kits to Trident Technical College

The EV kart kits will include:

- Electronic speed governing circuitry
- EV Engine kit
- Complete electric wiring and mechanical parts and accessories package for the cart assembly including cabling for the braking system and fasteners for assembly
- Full mechanical and electrical schematics
- Driver's seat
- Steering wheel
- Speed and Brake Pedals
- Instructional manual
- Chassis Kit
- Engine Kit
- 4 Tires

Explain why the described solution is the only solution that meets the agency's need and how no other identified solutions were sufficient.

Top Kart USA's EV Mstem Kit is the only kart compatible with the existing karts, that is deliverable within a month that does not require full prepayment and that will allow students to assemble a kart complex enough to demonstrate EV efficiency, aerodynamics, circuitry and electromagnetic force.

Top Kart USA is the only authorized distributor of the full Kart Kit

Contract Period: N/A

Contract Amount: \$94,000

Commodity Code: 503

Required Signatures:

Prepared by: Sean McGowan

Date: 06/04/26

Printed Name: Sean McGowan

Title: Procurement Manager

Approved by: Vicky Wood, Ph.D. Digitally signed by Vicky Wood, Ph.D.
Date: 2026.06.05 08:48:35 -04'00'

Approval Date: 6 / 5 / 2026

Printed Name: Vicky Wood, Ph.D

Title: President

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Or Designee:

Approved by: _____ Approval Date: _____/_____/_____

Printed Name: Kevin Beck

Title: Vice President Finance & Business Affairs

Blanket Sole Source Yes No

Contract \$50,000 or greater. Drug Free Workplace Act Form Yes No

Signed Drug Free Workplace Certification form attached: Yes No

Open Trade Certification Attached Yes No