

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT NO. 508

COUNTY OF COOK AND STATE OF ILLINOIS

LINCOLN ELECTRIC VRTEX 360 VIRTUAL REALITY ARC WELDING TRAINING SYSTEM

LINCOLN ELECTRIC COMPANY

RICHARD J. DALEY COLLEGE

THE CHANCELLOR RECOMMENDS:

that the Board of Trustees authorizes the issuance of purchase orders for the purchase of the Lincoln Electric VRTEX 360 to assist in training welding students at Daley College at a total cost not to exceed \$49,000.

VENDOR: Lincoln Electric Company
115 East Crossroads Parkway, Suite A
Bolingbrook, Illinois 60440

USER: Daley College

DESCRIPTION:

The VRTEX 360 training system is a machine and software that simulates several processes of welding, allowing students to practice their technique and to have their technique assessed by the virtual reality engineering software.

BENEFIT TO CITY COLLEGES OF CHICAGO:

This system so accurately replicates the welding process that students feel, see and hear the electric arc which they must control in order to weld properly and skillfully. Moreover, since no actual welds are produced, the College incurs no cost for materials such as metal, gases and flux. The cost of metal in particular is a considerable expense.

The VRTEX 360 welding trainer can be operated safely by students without instructor supervision. Students can access this machine for extended periods of time and develop the skills needed for multiple American Welding Society (AWS) certifications.

Currently most City Colleges of Chicago students in this program are able to develop the manual dexterity to produce a certifiable weld under AWS 1.1, but some students need more practice time than is available in class. The VRTEX 360 welding system would allow such students to fully master the technique and potentially earn multiple welding credentials.

VENDOR SELECTION CRITERIA:

Lincoln Electric is the sole source vendor for the acquisition of the VRTEX 360 VRAW Simulation Training System. This system uniquely meets the requirements of student training and student assessment for multiple welding processes with realistic feel, sound and sight. Pursuant to State Law, goods that are economically procurable from only a single source are exempt from the District's competitive bidding requirements. Furthermore, this system is computer-based and the law provides that all contracts for the purchase and delivery of data processing equipment, software and services are also exempt from the District's competitive bidding requirements.

MBE/WBE CONTRACT COMPLIANCE:

The Office of MBE / WBE Contract Compliance has reviewed the above request and Lincoln Electric Company, with its headquarters located in Cleveland, Ohio and an office in Chicago to serve as the local authorized installer and service provider for this system, with no opportunities to subcontract to certified MBE or WBE vendors without violation of equipment warranty, is recommending a waiver of direct participation be granted in compliance with the Board Approved Participation Plan.

GENERAL CONDITIONS:

Inspector General- It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to cooperate with the Inspector General for City Colleges of Chicago in any investigation conducted pursuant to the Inspector General's authority under Article 2, Section 2.7.4(b) of the Board Bylaws.

Ethics – It shall be the duty of each party to the agreement to comply with the applicable provisions of the Board's Ethics Policy adopted January 7, 1993, and as amended by the Board.

FINANCIAL:

Charge to: Academic Affairs

Sources of Funds: Capital Fund

Restricted Fund

FY12: 92015-6005031-00079-00000-580000

Total: \$49,000.

Respectfully submitted,

Cheryl L. Hyman
Chancellor

May 3, 2012 – Office of Academic Affairs