

Scope of Work

Water Activity Meter

Background

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Northeast Food & Feed Laboratory (NFFL) require a new Water Activity Meter to determine the water activity levels of low acid and acidified canned food samples.

Purpose

NFFL requires a new Water Activity Meter for the Microbiological Sciences Branch (MSB). Each year, NFFL analyzes the most samples in the Acidified Canned Foods (ACD) area of any lab in the Office of Regulatory Science. At roughly 150-200 samples per year, this figure is 1.5 to three times the amount of the other Field Lab doing this testing. A number of these "ACD" samples call for a determination of the Water Activity of the product performed on a Water Activity Meter. This is a data point that is frequently needed on products that are in violation of the canned foods regulations. With this bulk of work, we are in need of multiple meters to be available at all times to ensure that we have one on hand for an original analysis and one for a check analysis. Acquisition of a third meter will allow for two meters to always be available in the event that one meter is out of order or out for calibration. Both scenarios occur regularly so the need for another meter is critical to keep this testing timely.

Scope

The Contractor shall provide all resources necessary to accomplish the tasks and deliverables described in this Statement of Work (SOW). The Contractor shall provide one Water Activity Meter that meet the requirements set forth below:

I. Requirements

Minimum Technical Requirements:

The Water Activity Meter shall:

- Shall have the ability to measure water activity of a food product in five minutes or less
- Shall have the ability to provide an accuracy of +/-0.003 on water activity readings
- Shall feature internal temperature control of at least 15-40 degrees Celsius
- Shall ship with a calibration certificate and disposable cups and lids needed for sample analysis
- Shall ship with a power cord and a cleaning kit
- Shall come with an one year warranty
- Shall have electrical specifications of 110-220 with 50/60 Hz

- Shall weigh no more than 7 lbs and measure no more than 11 inches in any dimension (length, height, or width)
 - Shall feature a graphical display
1. The equipment must be a newly manufactured unit, not used and refurbished or previously used for demonstration.
 2. FOB Point destination to include delivery to NFFL loading dock.
 3. The entire system must be warranted for parts and labor for 12 months from the date of formal government acceptance. The vendor must also be capable of servicing the instrument through the covered warranty period. The system must include at least a one (1) year warranty and shall include at a minimum: coverage on all non-consumable items and parts supplied including base instrument, factory-certified replacement parts, engineer labor and travel costs.

Deliverables

Table 1. Deliverables / Schedule

Description	Qty	Due Date
Water Activity Meter	1	Not later than September 1, 2022

Shipping Destination

POC: To Be Identified at time of award
 Food and Drug Administration,
 Northeast Food & Feed Laboratory
 158-15 Liberty Avenue
 Jamaica, NY 11433-1034

The delivery or services must be during regular business hours (Monday-Friday) during the times of 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM, excluding holidays.

Period of Performance

The period of performance begins the date of contract award execution.

The anticipated Period of Performance is as follows:

Base Period: 09/01/2022 – 08/31/2023

Quotation Instructions

All quotes are due by e-mail to Nina Montgomery, Nina.Montgomery@fda.hhs.gov on or before July 6, 2022 at 10:00 am (Eastern Standard Time).