

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

Patrick S. Mitchell
Chief of Police

Robert Fletcher
Deputy Chief of Police

Christopher Botsch
Deputy Chief of Police



07 August 2017

Board of Police and Fire Commissioners
West Allis, Wisconsin

RE: 'Throwbot XT' Tactical Robot System – Sole Source Purchase Approval

Dear Commissioners,

In May 2017, the West Allis Police Department was notified of potential funding opportunities through the Joint Law Enforcement Operations (JLEO), provided by the Department of Justice's Assets Forfeiture Fund (AFF). If approved, purchases made would be eligible for reimbursement as one-time Fiscal Year 2017 equipment purchases. Participation for the West Allis Police Department resulted from Detective Christina Porter being assigned to the FBI's Child Exploitation Task Force (CETF). In mid-July 2017, we received approval for purchases of equipment, not to exceed \$33,950.00.

A list of equipment items that would be approved for purchase/reimbursement under this program was reviewed by administrative members of the police department. Several items were earmarked for purchase by way of need in the Criminal Investigations Unit, Forensic and Technical Services Unit, Special Investigations Unit and S.W.A.T. Team. These Units frequently assist Det. Christina Porter in her role as a FBI-Task Force Officer (TFO), and equipment purchased would directly benefit Det. Porter and the FBI Task Force. In addition, the WAPD would benefit from having access to the equipment for non-Task Force related activity.

One of the items approved for purchase is the ReconRobotics 'Throwbot XT' Tactical Robot System. This is a small, remote controlled 'robot' unit that gives officers visual and audio capabilities in areas they typically would not have access. Taken directly from the ReconRobotics webpage (<http://www.reconrobotics.com/products/throwbot-xt/> Retrieved 07 August 2017), the description of the item is as follows;

The Throwbot® XT is, pound-for-pound, the most versatile, robust, stealthy and easy-to-deploy tactical robot system in the world.

Inherently water and dust resistant, the Throwbot XT is a personal sensor system for tactical operators. It weighs just 1.2lbs (540g) and can be thrown up to 120 feet (36m). The sensor is also exceptionally quiet (operating at just 22 decibels) and is equipped with an infrared optical system that activates automatically when the ambient light is low, enabling the operator to see in complete darkness.

Once deployed, the micro-robot can be directed by the operator to quietly move through a structure and transmit video and audio to the handheld Operator Control Unit II (OCU II). These stealth capabilities can be utilized to locate armed subjects, confirm the presence of hostages or innocent civilians, listen in on conversations, and reveal the layout of rooms – information that can save lives and increase the success of high-risk operations.

The robot may be purchased with or without audio (listening) capabilities, or upgraded to listening-enabled at a later date. The Throwbot XT may also be specified in any of three predetermined transmitting frequencies, enabling operators to use up to three robots in the same environment at the same time.

The primary use of this item would be clearing an area that is too small or potentially unsafe for officers to check themselves, from a safe distance. It can also be used to collect intelligence from these questionable areas prior to officers being forced to enter and face potential dangers. The department's S.W.A.T. team currently has a 'pole-cam' that is used in similar situations, with significant drawbacks. The camera is mounted on a pole and monitored from wrist-mounted video screen. There is no audio capability with this camera. Additionally, operators must be within a few feet of the 'danger area,' as the extendable pole is only approximately five (5) feet in length. In reality, this still exposes the operator holding the pole to any hazards in that immediate area. This current pole-cam system was obtained by winning it as a used piece of demonstration equipment by a vendor in a raffle.

The 'Throwbot XT' was chosen over similar units offered by ReconRobotics after careful review by our S.W.A.T Team Commanders. The price for this unit is \$14,995.00 or \$14,655.00 with GSA pricing. This amount includes the 'robot' unit, controller, battery chargers and a Pelican case.

In speaking with Robert Barwick from the City of West Allis Purchasing Department, the purchase of the item through a GSA contract fulfills the City of West Allis purchasing requirements. The full amount will need to be paid up front through a city account; however, we will be reimbursed for the full cost through the aforementioned JLEO AFF funding.

According to City of West Allis policy, the Police and Fire Commission must approve all purchases over \$10,000.00. We respectfully request approval to expend \$14,655.00 from the Future Upgrades Account #100-2101-521-70-05 for this acquisition.


Description of Item from 2017 Department Budget Account #100-2101-521-70-05	Approximate Expenditure Amount
Throwbot XT – Tactical Robot System	\$14,655.00

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Christopher Botsch
Deputy Chief of Police

Formal Approval	Date
 Amy Skron	8/17/17
President, Police and Fire Commission	



WORLD LEADER IN TACTICAL MICRO-ROBOT SYSTEMS

GSA Sales Quote

5251 W 73rd St, Suite A, Edina, MN 55439

TEL 952-935-5515 FAX 952-935-5508

www.reconrobotics.com

reconscout-orders@reconrobotics.com

Date: 08/18/2017

Sales Quote #: 17-0259

Customer #: NA-C-2321-1

MN Tax ID: 9403924 FEIN: 26-2183823

GSA Contract #: GS-07F-0075U

BILLING ADDRESS

West Allis PD
 Lt. Brian Saftig
 11301 W. Lincoln Ave
 West Allis, WI 53227
 USA
 414-302-8074
 BSaftig@westalliswi.gov

SHIPPING ADDRESS

Same

SALES REP	TERMS	SHIP VIA	FOB	ESTIMATED DELIVERY TIME
Katie Sisco	Net30	UPS Ground	Destination	4 - 6 weeks from receipt of purchase order

[all prices in US Dollars]

QTY	MODEL #	ITEM DESCRIPTION	UNIT COST	EXTENDED COST
1	RSK-TXTa-01-1100-2	Throwbot XT Audio Kit - Channel C.2 with OCU II	14,655.06	\$ 14,655.06
1		GSA Shipping & Handling		Included above
TOTAL			\$	14,655.06

For sales of the Recon Scout to non-federal and non-military entities, license eligibility is limited to state and local police and firefighters eligible under 47 C.F.R. § 90.20(a)(1) of the FCC Rules, and security personnel in Critical Infrastructure Industries as defined in the FCC Rules, 47 C.F.R. § 90.7. By accepting this quote, the purchasing agency attests they are eligible to license this product. Operation of this product by non-federal and non-military entities requires an FCC license. This sales quote is valid for 90 days after the above date.



ATTN: U.S. Law Enforcement and First Responder Customers

This FCC contact form must be completed and received before a Purchase Order may be processed for orders of Recon Scout or Throwbot robots. Please submit this form with your Purchase Order, or submit in advance to speed up processing. Submission of this form does not create an obligation to purchase any equipment from ReconRobotics.

End User

Entity Name: _____

Contact Information

FCC licensing paperwork will be emailed at time of shipment to the person provided below. Please provide contact information for the appropriate FCC coordinator with the agency that will be using this equipment. If the equipment will be shipped to multiple agencies, you must submit one copy of this form for each end user.

Communications Director: _____

Phone: () _____ E-mail: _____

Attestation

By signing below, I attest that the end user entity named above is eligible to license this equipment, and agree to abide by all FCC requirements.

Name (printed): _____ Title: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FCC Eligibility

The usage of the Recon Scout robot and related equipment is subject to the following conditions:

- Eligibility is limited to state and local police and firefighters eligible for licensing under Section 90.20(a)(1) of the Commission's Rules, and security personnel in critical infrastructure industries.
- The Recon Scout robot may be used only during actual emergencies involving threats to safety of life, and for necessary training related to such operations.
- Security personnel in critical infrastructure industries may operate the Recon Scout robot only in areas that are environmentally hazardous for entry by human personnel, and for necessary training related to such operations.
- The Recon Scout robot will operate on a secondary basis (cannot cause interference and is not protected from interference) to all Federal users and licensed non-Federal users. This device may not interfere with Federal stations operating in the 420-450 MHz band and must accept any interference received.
- Training operations are not permitted within thirty kilometers of the following Federal radiolocation sites:
 - **Site Coordinates (degrees-minutes-seconds)**
 - Beale Air Force Base 39-08-10 N / 121-21-04 W
 - Cape Cod Air Force Station 41-45-07 N / 70-32-17 W
 - Clear Air Force Station 64-55-16 N / 143-05-02 W
 - Cavalier Air Force Station 48-43-12 N / 97-54-00 W
 - Eglin Air Force Base 30-43-12 N / 86-12-36 W
- The operation of the Recon Scout may be impacted in the vicinity of the following radar and ionospheric research sites:
 - **Site Coordinates (degrees-minutes-seconds)**
 - Arecibo, Puerto Rico 18-20-37 N / 66-45-11 W
 - Westford, Massachusetts 42-37-24 N / 71-29-18 W
 - Poker Flats, Arkansas 65-07-47 N / 147-28-14 W



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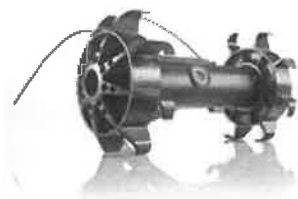
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THROWBOT XT AUDIO KIT - CHANNEL C.2 0



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\$14,655.06 EA

sold and shipped by RECONROBOTICS, INC.

Mfr Part No.: RSK-TXTA-01-1100-2
Manufacturer: RECONROBOTICS, INC.
Contract No.: GS-07F-0075U (ends: Nov 1, 2017)
MAS Schedule/SIN: 084/426 4S
Warranty: 1 YR
Made In: UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Weight: 16.000 LB

Cooperative Purchasing items

• Desc

20L X 16W (IN),
Throwbot XT Audio Kit - Channel C.2 with OCU II This kit includes one Throwbot XTa (audio enabled), one OCU, and one charger in a carrying case. Sale of the Recon Scout or Throwbot systems to non-federal and non-military entities is limited to state and local police and firefighters eligible for licensing under 47 C.F.R. 90.20(a)(1) of the FCC Rules, and security personnel in critical infrastructure Industries as defined in the FCC Rules, 47 C.F.R. 90.7. Operation of this product by non-federal and non-military entities requires an FCC license. Origin, freight prepaid and allowed (no additional freight charges) for CONUS destinations, including prepaid insurance (as appropriate).

