

Executive Summary

Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments, Inc.

Background/Purpose:

This legislation authorizes the Director of Public Health to enter into a direct award with Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments, Inc. as a sole source without competitive bidding to purchase five Thermo Scientific Niton x-ray fluorescence (XRF) Analyzers, manufactured by Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$115,000 to perform public health lead investigations.

We have researched and used the following XRF analyzers over twelve years:

- LPA-1 lead paint analyzer - manufactured by PROTEC Instrument Corporation
- Pb200i lead paint analyzer - manufactured by Heresies
- Niton XLp 300 lead paint analyzer - manufactured by Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments, Inc.

The LPA-1 and Pb200i lead paint analyzers have deficiencies that inhibit efficient and accurate lead inspections, lead report generation, and operation.

Deficiencies

- The data output for both PROTEC Instrument LPA-1 and Heuresis Pb200i lead paint analyzer are inconsistent. Once the data is downloaded it has to be reformatted to meet current program report criteria.
- The PROTEC LPA-1 electronic data entry is only available through an optional attached Personal Data Assistant. The purchase and use of an attached Personal Data Assistant would be impractical and burdensome.
- The Heuresis Pb200i lead paint analyzer uses six AA batteries, Ni-MH rechargeable (or off-the-shelf Energizer Ultimate Lithium™ disposable may be used). We found the use of these batteries to have been inefficient causing delays during inspections. The battery life does meet program standards.

Thermo Scientific Portable Analytical Instruments, Inc. is the worldwide market leader in handheld XRF analysis, outstanding services and support, high strength, rugged, environmentally sealed housing protects internal components from unwanted dust, dirt, heat, and moisture, they are the fastest throughout of any hand held XRF analyzer on the market, the unmatched battery use time 8 – 12 hours between charges, and their Free Radiation Safety and Operational Training at any Thermo Scientific Niton analyzer class for the life of the analyzer.

Our current program procedures and training was developed for the use of the Niton XLp 300 lead paint analyzer, therefore the use of a different XRF lead paint analyzer would cause additional costs and time for training.