

Berkeley-Green Bank VEGAS Spectrometer Project
Justification of Vendor Selections Statement
August 10, 2011

Mini-Circuits

The JDC-20-5+ Directional Coupler is a unique item only produced by Mini-Circuits. Similar couplers are offered by many other companies but only this coupler meets the specifications for the project.

The ANNE-50CN+ 50 ohm Termination with chain is an item offered by other companies, Mini-Circuits had the lowest price compared to at least four other vendors.

Coilcraft

The two Coilcraft items are specified by Avago for use in circuitry associated with their ABA54563 and MGA30869 RF amplifiers. We decided to follow Avago's recommendation so as to meet their amplifier's specified performance.

Hittite

The single item desired from Hittite is only made by Hittite. Similar components are available from other vendors including Mini-Circuits but Hittite has the lowest price compared to at least four other vendors.

Mouser and Digi-Key

These two vendors are very similar in their product offerings, frequently offering the same item at a price difference of a few cents. In the case of the SMA-F PC Mount Connector, Mouser's price is about ¼ that of Digi-Key's and other vendors' prices such as Newark, Avnet and Allied. The Avago amplifiers are not offered by Digi-Key, are offered at a lower price by other vendors but they state 'no stock' and lead times too long for timely completion of the project, or list the item at a lower cost but with minimum quantities in the 1000's, too many for our purpose. Other items were compared between Mouser, Digi-Key and other vendors and the vendor with the lowest price, optimum minimum quantities or quantities in stock was chosen.

Galen Watts



NRAO, Green Bank, West Virginia
304-456-2134
gwatts@nrao.edu