



Welcome to the November issue of our newsletter. It covers updates on the contracting team's activities; CPD sessions, NVQ availability and commodity groups. If you require additional details regarding any items contained in this newsletter, please contact any member of staff.

Contracting Update

Contracting Team

Welcome to Helen Dodd-Williams who joined the Contracting Team during October, Helen, who previously worked at Manchester Metropolitan University is settling into her new role. Helen will be attending the various commodity group meetings and also working on framework agreements – welcome aboard Helen.

Furniture

The furniture contract has been awarded and the supplier implementation meetings held. The agreement commences on the 1st November 2010, full details will be available on our website with a link to CuPID for any additional details.

Fixed Wire Testing

The fixed wire testing framework agreement commenced on the 18 October 2010, and full details are available on our website.

Refuse Sacks

The evaluation of the PQQ stage for this agreement has been completed. The documents for the second stage ITT have been drafted and will be issued to the shortlisted suppliers on the 8th November 2010.

Tool Hire

Work has started on the tool hire agreement, the current agreement expires on the 30th June 2011. The new agreement will be advertised during January 2011 and is scheduled to commence on the 1st July 2011.

AV Equipment and Installations

Both the above framework agreements end on the 31st December 2010. Letters have been issued to the suppliers for both agreements extending them until the 31st December 2011.

Review Meetings

The review meetings for AV Equipment are being held on the 5th November 2010 at our Bloom Street offices, the AV Installations review meetings are on the 8th November at the University of Manchester. If you have any issues you would like raised at the meetings, please contact Jane Hargreaves on jane.hargreaves@manchester.ac.uk

Membership

A warm welcome to West Cheshire College who have joined the consortium, we look forward to working with them.

CPD Sessions

The end of October saw Jenny Radcliffe presenting our Managing Risk CPD session at Liverpool John Moores. The course covered the topic of risk management and gave the delegates practical advice and workable tools they can use in the workplace.

We have two CPD sessions during November, the first takes place on the 9th November at the University of Liverpool and covers assertiveness for supply chain professionals. The session is presented by Jenny Radcliffe and will cover aspects of assertive behaviour and body language.

Our second session is an introduction to project management presented by John Clews at the University of Manchester on the 24th November. The session is designed to introduce buyers to the project management process and give them an insight into successful project management.

Enrolment details are available on our website.

NVQs

The Supply Chain Management NVQ continues at levels 2, 3, 4, and 5, further information can be obtained by contacting David Lamb at david.lamb@liverpool.ac.uk

Commodity Groups

Commodity Groups have seen an increase in attendance this autumn term which is very encouraging. We have been fortunate enough to welcome new members to almost every meeting so far.

At Estates we had Paul Riley from Worcester; at the Catering meeting in Lancaster we welcomed Bruno Bessonies from Bangor, Tim Holmes from Lancaster and Sue Warrender from Keele. At the Computer meeting in Chester we welcomed Steve Grundy, new representative from the University of Manchester.

Sadly, on this occasion we had to say goodbye to Gordon Duerden, long time member (and former Chair) of the IT Group. We will miss Gordon from meetings, not just for his expertise but for his wonderful sense of humour. He has worked incredibly hard on behalf of the group over the years, most recently on the National Desktop and Notebook Agreement committee and we cannot thank him enough for his contribution. Thanks must also go at this point to Angus Rae from Salford for volunteering to take Gordon's place on the NDNA group

Our next meeting will be the Laboratory Group on Wednesday 3rd November at the scenic venue of the University of Cumbria's Newton Rigg campus. We are pleased to announce that David Johnson will be appearing for the final time to say goodbye to the group. Last chance to pick his brains before he finally disappears into the blissful state of retirement!!

Still with the Lab Group, our sincere condolences to the family of John Belcher (formerly of University of Manchester and valued member of the group until his retirement in 2006). John passed away last Monday and his funeral was held at his beloved family Church in Sale on Tuesday 26th October. He was presented with a special award for outstanding services to the university in 2008 and will be fondly remembered by all who had the good fortune to work with him.

AND FINALLY - Consortium Congratulations go to two of our members on their recent happy events – Marek Hammond from Harper Adams, whose wife gave birth to a son last Monday and Ian Ross from Chester who celebrates his Silver Wedding Anniversary at the beginning of November. Very Best Wishes to you both!!!