



Welcome to the February 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

Office Furniture

The tender documents are due to be released, and the agreement is scheduled to start on the 1 June 2010.

Examination Answer Books

The deadline for the return of the completed supplier PQQ's was the 22 January 2010 and the evaluation process is underway and should be completed by the 19 February 2010.

Fixed Wire Testing

The sub group is in the final stages of approving the specification; once they have completed this the agreement will be advertised.

Computer Consumables

The framework agreement has now been awarded. It started on the 1 January 2010 and was awarded to three suppliers, details can be found on our website.

Toilet Tissue

Work has now started on the documents for the re-tender of the toilet tissue and related products framework agreement. Once in place the new agreement will start on 1 September 2010.

CPD Training Sessions

Managing the Tender Process

This session is being held on the 16 February 2010 at University of Central Lancashire, and is presented by Florence Gregg. The session will provide delegates with an introduction to the tender process from drafting the specification through all stages to tender implementation.

Essential Persuading and Influencing Skills

Liverpool John Moores University is the venue for this CPD session which is being held on the 4 March 2010. Ian Patterson is the presenter, and he will cover all aspects of the

key 'business' skill of persuading and influencing. This practical session focuses on learning key persuasion techniques, and demonstrates how different styles and behaviours can affect performance.

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

The first Catering Group Meeting of 2010 at Liverpool Hope marked the occasion where we said goodbye to our Chairman, Martin Angell from RNCM.

Martin has been a great supporter of the Consortium over the years and sits on several Commodity Groups. He will retire from his 'day job' at RNCM at the end of April but will continue to offer part-time consultancy services to the Crescent Purchasing Consortium.

A presentation was held, and Martin was presented with a leaving gift by our Managing Director, Paul Tomany and on behalf of everybody at Central Team I would like to wish Martin the very long and very happy retirement that he so deserves.

NWUPC Conference

Our annual conference takes place at the University of Manchester on Tuesday 30 March 2010 and is being held on the Sackville Street campus in the Renold Building.

The conference will present a varied programme, which will include a range of presentations covering various procurement related topics, and an exhibition with suppliers from across all commodity areas. Further details will appear on our website shortly.

Buying Solutions

High quality project management the key to unlocking construction savings for universities and colleges in the North West

A new project management framework agreement is setting ground-breaking standards in the way major public building projects – including at universities and colleges - are organised and delivered.

Buying Solutions believes that the four year deal could deliver savings of more than £70 million.

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