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METRONET RAIL IMPLEMENTS INNOVATIVE NEC CONTRACT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM CCM ON CIVIL ENGINEERING PROJECTS

(London, 31 October 2007)

Management Process Systems Limited (MPS) today announced that their innovative Contract Change Management (CCM) system has been selected to manage the NEC contract processes on civil engineering projects and maintenance for Metronet.

All projects and maintenance works will be completed under the NEC3 suite of contracts – Engineering and Construction Contract (ECC), and Engineering and Construction Short Contract (ECSC). Four contractors have been selected under the NEC framework contract, and some of their work will be carried out under the Professional Services Contract. The Contractors are Enterprise plc, Clancy Docwra Limited, J. Murphy & Sons Limited, and Cementation Foundations Skanska Limited.

Keith Davis, Head of Commercial for Metronet Civils said, “I believe the CCM system will help our staff and our partner contractors to achieve high standards of contract management discipline. This will help us to manage risk and change effectively, thus providing a better service for our customer London Underground.”

The Internet based CCM system, provided by MPS, is designed to manage the contract change processes set out in the NEC form of contract, versions 2 and 3. CCM is currently being used by an extensive range of clients around the UK, on civils, power and building projects. Key benefits include timely agreement of change, quality assured contract administration, the early completion of final account, improved contract management discipline, instant visibility of risk and change issues, improved change management, quality assured processes, consistency, instant access to risk spend data, rigorous audit trail, and instant availability of Excel reports over the web - all leading to reduced risk and reduced cost.

The CCM system is provided in partnership with Cantono, who provide the IT infrastructure through a managed service. The systems and infrastructure design supports an On-Demand business requirement with key partners, suppliers and clients. The application and associated databases reside on a fully managed IBM eserver configuration in a state of the art data centre using IBM Middleware.

Robin Wilkin, Operations Director of MPS said, “Metronet are a very important customer for us because we firmly believe that CCM can assist them with their new ways of operating. The requirement for tighter control of change and risk, whilst providing 21st century requirements of collaboration and visibility, combined with the traditional need of a strong audit trail are all provided by CCM. After 5 years of feedback from contractors, consultants, and clients, we believe Version 3 of CCM provides the best system for the management of NEC processes whilst keeping its operation reasonably simple for users. We hope that as Metronet’s civils team experience the benefits that it can bring, other parts of the organisation will implement CCM.”

PRESS RELEASE – Final at 31.10.07

About Management Process Systems Limited

Editors Notes

- Management Process Systems Limited is a management services company whose mission is to deliver innovative solutions that deliver identifiable business advantage to the construction industry. The company has extensive experience in the business processes, methodologies, information and knowledge requirements of the construction industry. This expertise and knowledge is re-enforced by a highly experienced capability to deploy Information Technology in support of business processes. More information regarding MPS is available on the website www.mpsprocess.com.
- Metronet Rail is in PPP Administration – it is responsible for the maintenance and renewal of nine of the twelve Tube lines on the London Underground, and work is ongoing
- Contract Change Management (CCM) is an innovative and exciting British success story on the provision of IT support to a key business process. Hundreds of construction industry professionals from most of the large PM, QS, Engineering, and Construction companies have been managing projects worth hundreds of millions of pounds using the system since 2001. These projects have included thousands of Early Warnings giving notice of new risks and Compensation Events for change management. Client customers include EDF Energy, Highways Agency, Environment Agency, Imperial College London, BBC, DEFRA, Local Authorities, Councils, and many more.
- Four key gains leading to reduced costs for customers using CCM are -

1. Increased productivity

Increasing workloads and shortages of skilled managers have led firms to maximise efficiency of their professional staff. CCM enables remote working, less travelling, and more effective use of key resources. Managers spend more time on decision making and less time on administration. They are also able to manage more projects.

2. Improved predictability of outcome (cost & time)

Predictability of cost and time are two of the top ten key performance measures for business excellence as identified by Constructing Excellence. CCM improves predictability, minimises surprises, facilitates speedy agreement of change, and provides very early close out of final accounts.

3. Reduced risk

CCM facilitates early warning of liabilities and opportunities, improved risk management, increased collaboration, and therefore better-informed decision making. CCM also improves contract management, which reduces the level of risk to all involved.

4. Compliance - Improved audit and visibility

CCM is a secure quality controlled system, which enables compliance in the most challenging and demanding environments. Process visibility and audit ability facilitate improved communications for all participants. Coupled with its ability to transcend location, CCM provides a powerful management tool for all members of the project team.

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