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The Avenue Remediation Project Uses CCM System to Support NEC Contract

(London, 17 December 2009)

Management Process Systems Limited (MPS) of Cambridge today announced that their Contract Change Management (CCM) system, which supports the NEC form of contract, has been selected for another major construction infrastructure project, managed by VSD Avenue. Turner & Townsend and Jacobs are the main consultant partners for client East Midlands Development Agency.

A massive clean-up operation to transform the former Avenue Coking Works near Chesterfield in Derbyshire is being carried out by VSD Avenue. The work, backed by £104.5 million Government funding and managed by national regeneration agency The Homes and Communities Agency through its National Coalfields Programme, will regenerate The Avenue into a nature reserve and community amenity, with opportunities for new housing and employment. VSD Avenue is a fully integrated joint venture comprising Volker Stevin Ltd, Deme Environmental Contractors (DEC NV), and Sita Remediation, supported by environmental consultants Entec. The consortium brings together companies from the UK and Europe with skills in specialist contaminated land remediation techniques, civil engineering and project management of major projects.

Marcus Foweather, VSD Avenue Project Director said, “The Avenue is a unique and complex site physically and the contract documentation is equally complex. As a Contractor it is absolutely crucial that the contract management and change management is handled comprehensively and so far we are pleased with the CCM system which has been provided by MPS. The system is proving invaluable in keeping track of contractual correspondence and in particular Early Warnings, Contractors Quotations and Project Manager’s Instructions.”

The CCM system manages the contract change processes set out in the NEC form of contract. Key benefits – which deliver reduced project risk and costs savings in contract administration include:

- timely agreement of change
- quality assured contract administration
- the early completion of final account
- improved contract management discipline
- real time visibility of risk and change issues
- improved change management
- quality assured processes and consistency of operation
- online access to risk spend information
- rigorous audit trail
- business performance reporting

An academic led research project by the University of the West of England (UWE) and the design of an assessment process enables customers to demonstrate the provable benefits from the use of CCM. The extensive use of CCM over the last decade by virtually all the major clients, consultants and contractors across the construction industry has established CCM as the leading contract change management system in the market place.

The Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) CCM system is delivered through an agreement with IBM for Server Managed Services. This agreement includes data centre, hardware equipment and software products, internet services, security and support services.

Robin Wilkin, Operations Director of MPS said, “MPS is recognised as the established industry leader in NEC contract management systems. CCM has been used on hundreds of projects including many on large infrastructure works such as highways, railways and flood defence schemes. The Avenue project is very interesting because it brings together Volker Stevin, Turner & Townsend, and Jacobs Engineering who have all used CCM before on other projects.”

APPENDIX



taken by Truman Aviation for emda

Ariel photograph of the site prior to the works. Courtesy of East Midlands Development Agency

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.

Information about MPS is at www.mpsprocess.com.

Information about The Avenue is at <http://www.theavenueproject.co.uk>

Information about East Midlands Development Agency is at <http://www.emda.org.uk>

Information about Deme Environmental Contractors is at www.decnv.com

Information about Sita Remediation is at www.sitaremediation.com

Information about VolkerStevin is at www.volkerstevin.co.uk

Information about Turner & Townsend is at <http://www.turnerandtowntsend.com>

Information about Jacobs is at <http://www.jacobs.com>

Contract Change Management (CCM) is an innovative and award winning British success story on the provision of IT support to a key business process. Thousands of construction industry professionals from most of the large PM, QS, Engineering, and Construction companies have been managing projects with CCM since 2001. These projects have managed over a million contract documents. A notable success has been the collaborative management of Early Warnings giving notification of new risks, and Compensation Events for notification of change.

Client customers include EDF Energy, Highways Agency, Environment Agency, Imperial College London, BBC Workplace, DEFRA, Metronet Rail (LUL/TfL), NAO, Welsh Assembly Government, several Local Authorities, and many more.

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MPS are members of the NEC Users Group, Constructing Excellence, and the Association for Project Management. MPS is an IBM Advanced Business Partner.

The University of the West of England (UWE) report 'Improving NEC Contract Change Management with CCM' from their Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP) research project showed that 84% of CCM Users consider it as a 'good' or 'excellent' system. Significant tangible savings and intangible benefits are described.

In the current economic climate our customers want to save money, preserve capital and reduce risk. CCM, as an SaaS service, contributes to these objectives by -

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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