

Equipment Consultancy Procurement - CodeMaster

The Challenge

There are a number of key questions that confront most procurement teams:

- What equipment do we need?
- Which items can be transferred rather than purchased?
- Which suppliers can source the new equipment?
- When will the equipment be needed?
- What are the product lead-times, and when should tenders and orders be issued?
- Where and when should the equipment be delivered?
- Will sufficient resources be available after delivery to commission the new equipment or to decommission transferred equipment?

Management of this already complex process is further complicated because the information needed is held in disparate places. The primary inputs are: (i) the BOQ's produced during the project design phase; and (ii) lists of existing equipment that may be available for transfer. This information will probably be maintained by IT tools such as ADB or CodeBook (for design); and EMAT, WIMS, Optim EMS etc (for asset-management). Sometimes it may exist only in spreadsheets.

Each project phase tends to use its own nomenclature for equipment and locations, making it difficult to reconcile this information. ADB component and room codes are unlikely to be meaningful to staff in the Clinical Engineering Department who are responsible for commissioning new assets.

Procurement is only one stage in the equipment lifecycle; details of new equipment must be passed to an asset-management tool to manage the on-going equipment maintenance.

Overview

CodeMaster was designed to:

- Manage the procurement process.
- Integrate disparate IT applications to avoid re-entering data.

At its heart is the BOQ, which is a generic list of equipment requirements coded using the nomenclature of the design system. E.g. "MON001: Patient Monitor; Quantity 5". BOQ's can be imported from any design system.

The BOQ eventually becomes a list of specific, uniquely identifiable assets that have been installed & commissioned. This is achieved using:

- Tenders, linked to Equipment Specifications



- Quotations or Tender Responses
- Orders
- Deliveries

At this stage the BOQ entries will now be coded using the nomenclature of the asset-management tool, and can be passed directly to it. By handling the translation between nomenclatures it is even possible to schedule equipment commissioning jobs in the asset-management system from within CodeMaster:

MTS has the exclusive rights to use this robust tool and transition from generic to specific is tracked at all stages by the BOQ, so that at any time the current status of any BOQ entry can be easily seen.

Benefits

Efficient Management of the Procurement Process: CodeMaster maintains target dates for all items, and by linking these to supplier lead-times (on a product-by-product basis) and project phases, it is possible to efficiently schedule the key procurement activities such as issuing tenders, reviewing responses, raising orders etc.

No Need to Re-enter Data: The inputs to the process can be imported with easy-to-use data import "wizards", from design & asset-management systems. This includes:

- BOQ's, Departments, Rooms & Components from design tools.
- Lists of existing assets that are available for transfer from asset-management tools.



Supporting data, such as lists of suppliers, equipment categories, models & options can also be easily imported.

Once procurement is complete the new asset details can be exported to asset-management applications for on-going equipment maintenance. In the case of Optim EMS (distributed in the UK by Philips Medical Systems), full integration is supported: new EMS assets can be created, and commissioning tasks scheduled directly from within CodeMaster. This allows resource planning for the Clinical Engineering Department responsible for commissioning the new equipment.

Through MTS, CodeMaster maintains a core library of information which can be shared by all projects. This includes:

- Equipment categories. i.e. Coded equipment descriptions.
- Manufacturer-specific equipment models, including detailed pricing and product lead-times.
- Generic equipment specifications.
- Equipment suppliers.

Each project manages its own set of private data, which includes:

- BOQ's
- Departments, Rooms & Equipment (coded using the design system's nomenclature).
- Assets, Locations and Cost-Centres (coded using the asset-management system's nomenclature).
- Tenders
- Quotations
- Orders
- Deliveries
- Equipment Pools

CodeMaster also contains a number of "maps" which handle the translation between various nomenclatures.

About MTS

- We are the largest Health and Education Equipment Advisors in the UK.
- Our consultancy has brought together a team of eight personnel which has been providing high levels of support over 25 years.
- Our equipping consultancy includes asset auditing and reporting, equipment scheduling, architectural interfacing, equipment specifications and procurement programme/project management and equipment mobilisation, commissioning and installation.
- Our team are working with Partners in PFI, P21, ITC's, Mental Health, PCTs and Community Health.



managed technology services

Ground Floor, 2 Brunel Court, Hemel Hempstead, Herts HP3 9XX

t: 0844 800 9087 e: info@managedtechnologyservices.co.uk

w: www.managedtechnologyservices.co.uk