



Leading animal charity selects spend control solution from Sapphire Systems plc

RSPCA to implement a 1000 user PROACTIS Spend Control solution

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LONDON, UK – 30 July 2009. Sapphire today announced that it is to supply and implement a 1000 user PROACTIS Spend Control System at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA). The system will include Purchase to Pay, Employee Expenses, Spend Visibility, link to Document Scanning and Punchout to the web.

The RSPCA (The Society) is the oldest and best-known animal welfare charity in the world, and is in the top 10 in the UK in terms of its income. The RSPCA is not, as is commonly thought, one entity, instead, the national society (for England and Wales) is formed of the RSPCA headquarters, 5 regional headquarters and 35 associated animal welfare sites. It also supports and assists 172 independent volunteer-run charities (individual branches) that use the RSPCA brand.

Head of Procurement at the RSPCA, Vickie Malyon, attended a Not for Profit sector Procurement Special Interest Group at Sapphire in December 2008. Vickie commented "I attended the Sapphire event as the RSPCA had recently established a new Procurement team tasked with controlling spend and saving money; we were keen to find out more about what other charities were doing and how the process could be automated and centralised."

Following a formal evaluation process the RSPCA shortlisted PROACTIS and 3 other solutions. Vickie explained "Our brief was to find a web-based procurement system for use by The Society to place orders on suppliers with flexible workflow to deal with our authorisation processes and integrate with our SAGE 500 accounts system. The system will be deployed across a wide range of users so ease of use is essential, it also needs to scale for the future both in size and functionality. We would eventually like to deploy additional modules such as supplier management, contract management and PO flipping. The fact that PROACTIS is used in many Not for Profit organisations gave us great comfort, we also felt that Sapphire with their wide ranging charity expertise stood out from the other potential suppliers. Sapphire's team was especially thorough during the pre sales period and impressed the RSPCA not only with their knowledge of PROACTIS but their experience in managing the change that comes with a new business system".

The new PROACTIS system will start rolling out across the organisation towards the end of March next year. The RSPCA expects the system to yield a number of benefits including risk management; by introducing efficient and effective ordering and invoice processing procedures, greater visibility and control of the society's procurement activity and ultimately, savings. The balance of power will be shifted away from

suppliers back into the hands of The Society. Automation of paper based systems will also eliminate time wasted by staff whose primary focus is the welfare of animals.

Vickie continues “We look forward to PROACTIS being able to provide a simple clearly defined procurement process for all parts of The Society and a one stop shop for all our purchasing needs.”

Clare Howard, Business Development Manager at Sapphire, concluded “We are delighted to be welcoming the RSPCA to Sapphire’s growing PROACTIS customer community. PROACTIS will provide the RSPCA with the visibility it needs and will empower it to make relevant business decisions at the outset of the procurement process. The system will provide ease of use for all sections of The Society from HQ, regions and branches to the inspectorate, animal centres and hospitals allowing any savings to be redirected to the important work of animal welfare.”

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About Sapphire Systems plc

Sapphire is an SAP Gold partner, the worlds leading reseller of SunSystems, and a leading Proactis partner. Since 1986, Sapphire has offered customers wide-ranging practical expertise in selecting and implementing advanced financial accounting and business management solutions and today provides software, services and support for hundreds of customers worldwide from their offices in London, Manchester and the USA. Sapphire is a founder member of the British Application Software Developers Association and has featured in the Deloitte & Touche Fast 500 Technology rankings
www.sapphiresystems.com

About the RSPCA

The RSPCA is a registered charity in England & Wales that receives no lottery or state aid. Its £82 million annual running costs are funded by voluntary donations and legacies. The RSPCA's vision is to work for a world in which all humans respect and live in harmony with all other members of the animal kingdom. The RSPCA’s mission statement is by all lawful means, prevent cruelty, promote kindness to and alleviate suffering of animals.

www.rspca.org.uk

About Proactis

Proactis is a specialist in Spend Control software helping organisations achieve dramatic cost savings, streamlined procurement and corporate compliance since 1996. Proactis Spend Control is an advanced eProcurement solution that moves responsibility to requesting users whilst maintaining complete budgetary and sourcing control. It incorporates purchase-to-pay, eSourcing, eCommerce and Supplier Relationship Management. Benefits include cost-pipeline visibility, source consolidation, reduction in maverick spend and major improvements to the month-end close cycle. Proactis user organisations cover diverse industry sectors, including financial services, Government and Not-for-Profit.

www.sapphiresystems.com/solutions/proactis.htm

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