

SIS adds electronic purchasing

www.sismarine.com

Norwegian software provider Star Information Systems (SIS) has introduced its new Star Fleet Supply Management system (Star FSM), with new electronic purchasing functionality for the shipping industry.

Star FSM can be customised to company-specific policies using the system's business rules engine, and offers contract management capabilities to allow for the automation of standardised purchasing tasks.

For example, if the requested materials are covered by a contract and the cost is within the budget limit, the process of issuing a purchase order can be undertaken automatically.

The new system also allows for quote comparisons, so that where a contract does not exist quotes from several suppliers can be compared to find the best delivery option.

SIS notes that a number of its customers had requested functionality for tracking deliveries to agents and warehouses, in addition to receiving goods on board their vessels, and that this is being added to the software.

This will be achieved through the creation of a 'transportation module' that will

facilitate the management of receipt of goods by an agent or warehouse, the packing and re-distribution of those goods, and the return of goods from vessels.

"With automated purchasing, extensive use of e-commerce, and functionality for contract management and transportation, we believe Star FSM will revolutionise the way purchasers in the maritime sector do business," said SIS marketing manager, Pia Solheim.

"By speaking to purchasing personnel in shipping and offshore companies, we learned that with the systems available on the market today purchasers spend too much time 'moving paper' and hence lack time to negotiate good framework agreements and build strategic partnerships with suppliers and freight forwarders."

"With this in mind we found that adding new functionality to an ageing system would not be sufficient. Instead we decided to start from scratch with new technology that allows for more flexible systems and enables automation of processes in order to make purchasing more efficient."

The Star FSM system additionally provides KPIs for purchasing to the user, and can be integrated with SIS' other online tools for KPI and trend monitoring.

Maritime purchasing portal sees 3,000 vessels join trial

www.onemaritime.com

Trials of a new online catalogue for ship owners, ship managers and ship suppliers to select and order their onboard and onshore stores have seen more than 3,000 vessels taking part, according to the company.

The One Maritime system was made available to the shipping industry from January 1st 2011, and has been involved in live trials with companies from 85 countries worldwide since its launch.

Torben Brammer, One Maritime co-founder and CEO, says he is delighted that so many companies and vessels have joined the trial.

"We believe One Maritime represents the next step in the development of online platforms and we look forward to its use becoming widespread throughout the industry during the coming year," he said.

"Our technology products have allowed us to think of data sources and the use of data in a much different way than ever before. With its unique search engines and data migration technology, One Maritime has managed to build an online platform that gives its users access to a mix of data from multiple data sources at the same time."

"It changes the way that catalogues, for



"We look forward to its use becoming widespread" – Torben Brammer, One Maritime

example, will be used by suppliers, manufacturers and purchasers in the future, resulting in efficiency and time saving benefits."

The new ship stores catalogues portal can be accessed online or by CD, offering purchasing managers and shipboard personnel access to the ISSA Ship Stores Catalogue as well as a wide range of other industry purchasing information sources.

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