



Newsletter - Q3 2007 Issue 9

Mark's Foreword

Welcome to the autumn edition of our Newsletter bringing you the latest from The Technology Forge.

2007 continues to be a very exciting year for us with many new customers, upgrades to the software and new appointments. Following feedback from customers we have appointed a dedicated Account Manager as well as expanded the Help Desk service in order to provide a better service and to help develop our products and services to meet your requirements. We believe this has played no small part in our recent successes with new contracts and are very grateful for the enthusiastic support you continue to have for us and our products!

We are very much looking forward to the User Group meeting in October. It will be the largest event we have ever hosted with more delegates than ever representing the largest number of clients. Again, listening to the comments from those of you who attended last years event we have given more time over to the coffee and lunch breaks to give you more time to network and catch up with your colleague from other organisations. We will also be welcoming a significant number of new users.

We are particularly excited about sharing the results of our recent customer satisfaction survey. If you haven't completed this please do so as it really helps us to appreciate what is really important to you. I have to say that we are very proud of the incredibly positive and constructive responses. To make it a little more interesting for you we're giving an iPod Nano to one of the responders of a completed questionnaire! **Mark Wardman, MD**

Features:

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tf. facility Version Three Software Developments

The Technology Forge team have been working on a number of new modules for tf. facility, this is in addition to making constant enhancements throughout the software as part of your support & maintenance agreement.

tf. facility—rural estates is beneficial for users who want to record, manage and report on farms and holdings details including building, fixtures, sufficiency, milk quotas, etc. The added benefit of this module is its integration into the overall asset management system allowing a holistic approach to the management of the complete property and asset portfolio of your organisation.

tf. facility—valuations and capital accounting is an optional, fully integrated module of tf. facility allowing users to record, manage and report on valuations, transactions for capital accounting and balance sheet movements. The capital accounting features significantly reduces the time taken to generate year end reports.

tf. facility—occupancy is ideal for those who wish to record departments or people within rooms and buildings. It can be used with our product tf. cadutility to hatch or shade drawings by occupier. The occupancy module also integrates to the helpdesk to help apportion building maintenance costs.

tf. facility—stock will benefit those who want to record and manage stock items related to contracts, jobs and services provided by you to your clients.

tf. facility—timesheets is valuable for those wanting to record time and costs versus projects and non projects. The module also integrates to the optional Contracts & Jobs and Project Management Modules.

tf. facility—contracts & jobs allows the user to manage jobs and projects for setting up smaller items of work. The module also integrates into the Project Management Module for breaking down programs into smaller components.

For further information on any of the new modules please contact The Technology Forge Sales Hotline on 01943 855060.

• • • Stop Press • • • Recent Successes • • •

The latest customers to join The Technology Forge family include:

East Ayrshire County Council

Following the tender process, East Ayrshire Corporate chose The Technology Forge suite of modules which include tf. facility Estates Management, Condition Survey and Pre Planned Maintenance. Euan Couperwhite, Head of Resource Support, explains *"We required a system to consolidate the various fragments of information held in different locations in different formats to enable managers to produce options and appraise these to form programmes and strategies to develop the Estate."*

Scottish Borders Council

We are pleased to announce the addition of the SBC. Following a strict tender process Scottish Borders Council chose a number of tf. facility modules to meet their asset management needs including: Estates Management, Finance, Utility Register, Hazards, Suitability and Sufficiency.

Worcester City Council

Following a formal and detailed tender process Worcester City Council awarded The Technology Forge the contract to provide a number of modules including: Property Register, Disability Access Audit Survey, Pre Planned Maintenance, Finance, Estates Management, Valuations and web instructions for online maintenance management.

West Dorset Council

West Dorset bought tf. facility as part of a joint procurement with North Somerset Council. Modules purchased include Estates Management, Condition Survey, Utility Register, Pre Planned Maintenance and Help Desk.

City & County of Swansea

City and County of Swansea procured The Technology Forge following a rigorous tender process to support their ambitions for better asset and estates management. Modules bought include: Valuations and Capital Accounting, Condition Survey, Suitability and Sufficiency.

Natural Environment Research Council

After evaluating competitors NERC chose The Technology Forge to supply their asset management software. Modules bought include: Property Register, CAD, Corporate Suitability, DAA, Asbestos with Handheld functionality and tf. director for KPI generation.

London Borough of Sutton

Following a full tender process, London Borough of Sutton awarded The Technology Forge with a six figure contract for the supply of a fully integrated asset management system encompassing both corporate and education.

East Lindsey Council

After a formal tender process East Lindsey Council awarded The Technology Forge a contract to supply a variety of tf. facility modules, including Estates Management, Valuations, Property Register, Webdesk and

Finance, including an interface to the council's existing finance system.

Preston City Council

Preston City Council awarded The Technology Forge a contract to replace their existing GVA system. A range of modules will be implemented, including: Property Register, Estates Management, Valuations, Resource Booking and Finance including an interface to the council's existing finance system.

Sheffield Homes

Sheffield Homes have recently bought tf. facility hazards module for recording and managing asbestos. Richard Hawson, Investment Manager at Sheffield Homes, commented *"From initial enquiry to the final setting up a formal contract . . . support and guidance has always been available from The Technology Forge."*

North Wiltshire District Council

Following a strict tender process North Wiltshire District Council awarded The Technology Forge the contract to supply their asset management software. The Technology Forge will be implementing a number of modules including: planned preventive maintenance, Estates Management, Valuations and Capital Accounting and an interface to their existing LLPG system.

Chester-Le-Street Council

The Technology Forge were selected from a number of suppliers to focus on maintenance and terrier. Chester-Le-Street Council showed a keen interest in The Technology Forge due to our tight integration to Cadcorp GIS. Modules bought include: Estates Management, Disability Access Audit, Hazards and Helpdesk.

Tayside Police

Following an open competitive procurement, The Technology Forge will be supplying Tayside Police with the following modules: Property Register, Planned and Reactive Maintenance, Finance, Utility Register and Project Management.

Milton Keynes Council

The Technology Forge were selected as the best fit replacement for their existing Tribal software. They were particularly impressed with the speed and ease of conducting suitability and sufficiency surveys. Modules bought include: Condition Survey, Suitability and Sufficiency.

Cyngor Gwynedd Council

Gwynedd Council have recently asked The Technology Forge to supply them with the following tf. facility modules: Property Register, Helpdesk & Reactive Maintenance.

and finally . . .

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue

We're pleased to announce South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue have extended their existing Technology Forge software to include Pre Planned Maintenance, Estates Management and Project Management.

Further details on the above successes will be published shortly along with further news of additional clients!

Where we've been...



COPROP October 2006

The Technology Forge were pleased to exhibit at the annual COPROP (The Association of Chief Corporate Property Officers in Local Government) Seminar last October. The seminar focused on improving asset performance through benchmarking, sharing public assets to realise efficiencies, public finances, delivering efficiency targets & improving services through effective use of property and performance management initiative. The conference was an excellent opportunity for COPROP members and property professionals to network and discuss their thoughts and ideas on the implications of the key themes.

Public Service Property & Estates Conference April 2007



The Technology Forge exhibited at the PSPE (Public Service Property & Estates Conference) held on 3rd April 2007 at the award winning QEII Conference Centre, London. The event was organised by Public Service Partnership Events (PSP Events). The yearly conference attracts property directors and portfolio holders in addition to many more individuals from across the whole public sector. The broad themes running throughout the conference were the deployment & effectiveness of Public Sector Assets, delivery of effective property services, standards in asset management and sustainability. The conference concluded with a drinks reception, giving delegates the valuable opportunity for networking.

The Technology Forge affirmed that their core market remains the public sector and all solutions will continued to be developed to service this market.

EBDOG Conference Northampton May 2007



The Technology Forge supported the EBD OG Conference at Staverton Park Hotel in Daventry, Northamptonshire on the 17 - 18 May. As a key EBD OG partner, The Technology Forge provides the online booking system behind the conference and the discussion forum. The EBD OG conference gives building and development officers, normally working within the confines of their own LEA, the opportunity to discuss the impact of proposed DCSF initiatives and share knowledge and ideas.

Speakers at the conference included Gavin Milner from Caroline Chisholm School, and Andrew Williams from BRE . There were also visits to Caroline Chisholm School & Upton Primary School and a choice of workshop sessions.

The conference dinner commenced with music from Northampton School for Boys. There was also a prize draw in aid of The Gorilla Organisation with an iPod Shuffle been donated by The Technology Forge. The evening concluded with a presentation to Shirley Turner who is retiring from Hampshire County Council, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish Shirley all the best for the future.

The conferences are held twice yearly and are hosted by a different authority each time, with the next conference is to be held at Harrogate on the 1 & 2 November 2007.

If by any chance you missed us at the conference please give us a call on 01943 464844 and we'll be happy to talk to you about how our software can benefit you, delegates showed particular interest in Online DFC, Online Suitability and Online Approved Contractors.

ACES Presidential Conference 13 - 14 September 2007



Once again The Technology Forge were pleased to support the biannual ACES Conference. September's conference was organised by Ian Hay at Northumberland County Council and held at the Longhirst Hotel in Morpeth. Topics for discussion included 'quality in development in urban and rural situations' and 'effective partnerships between public sector organisations and with private sector partners'.

Where we'll be...

The Technology Forge User Group 4 October 2007



The Technology Forge's annual User Group is taking place at The Imperial Hotel, London, on the 4 October 2007. Delegates are looking forward to hearing about new product developments, networking with other Technology Forge users and participating in active discussion forums. The User Group is open to all Technology Forge customers, for further information please contact louise.smales@technologyforge.com. We have had a high demand for places at the User Group, please book quickly to avoid disappointment as places are limited.



COPROP 12 October 2007

The Technology Forge is looking forward to exhibiting at the annual COPROP (The Association of Chief Corporate Property Officers in Local Government) Conference on the 12 October 2007. The conference will be focusing on sustainability and aims to demonstrate where property can make a valuable and long lasting contribution. There will be a varied selection of presentations throughout the conference including practical examples on how small changes can have a positive impact and an interactive quiz. For further information on the COPROP Conference please visit www.coprop.org.uk.

EBDOG Conference 1 & 2 November 2007



The Technology Forge will be attending the forthcoming EBDog Conference taking place at the Majestic Hotel, Harrogate on the 1 & 2 November 2007. The organisers, Yorkshire & Humberside Senior Education Officers Authorities, are looking forward to using The Technology Forge's booking forum to simplify the delegate booking process. The conference will be focusing on Sustainability, Trust Schools, Primary Capital, Building Schools for the Future and Offsite Construction. Information regarding the conference is available from tony.palmer@educationleeds.gov.uk.

The Technology Forge 5th Scottish Seminar 17 October 2007



The Technology Forge's annual Scottish Seminar is taking place on the 17 October 2007 at Gean House, Stirling (www.geanhouse.co.uk). The Seminar is open to all Scottish organisations and will give non users the opportunity to network with Technology Forge users and gain a valuable insight into the potential of tf. facility. Additionally, there will be an exceptional selection of presentations on various topics affecting Scottish Authorities. A complimentary buffet lunch, sponsored by CADmeleon, and refreshments will be served throughout the day. If you would like to attend the Scottish Seminar or would like further information please contact louise.smales@technologyforge.com.

ACES Presidential Conference Spring 2008



Following the success of the Autumn Presidential Conference, The Technology Forge are looking forward to once again exhibiting at the Spring ACES Conference. Further details will be announced shortly.

Introducing the Team

There have been a several new faces joining The Technology Forge over the last few months.

New appointments include:

•Sally-Ann Wood-Administrator•



•Duncan Burgess-Software Developer•



•Louise Smales-Marketing Coordinator•



•Susan Springer-Test Analyst•

The Technology Forge would like to thank Annada Dey, Maria Thewlis and Rodgers Svovah for their contributions to the company and wish them every success with their future plans.

Support Cancer Research

Dave Phipps from Birmingham City Council will be running the New York Marathon in aid of Cancer Research on 4 November 2007. When asked why he was running the marathon Dave said:

"Over the past 10 years or so I have lost some good friends to cancer, and another is currently undergoing treatment for leukaemia. All too often we come across instances where cancer has affected the lives of family and friends, and seen the anxiety and suffering this can cause. So as an 'ex-athlete' who has been fortunate enough to enjoy a healthy life to date, I have decided to try and do a bit to contribute to the work undertaken by Cancer Research UK and put something back."

Dave will be providing sponsorship details nearer to the date which you will be able to reach via The Technology Forge website...

www.technologyforge.com



Dave taking a well earned break from training in the hot weather.

Feedback — Your comments, suggestions and feedback on this issue are most welcome. Simply email louise.smales@technologyforge.com

Coming Soon — The results of The Technology Forge's Customer Satisfaction Survey will be published soon.

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