

Eprocurement integrates with University of Texas Health Science Center ERP system

Located in the world-renowned Texas Medical Center, the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHSC) is the oldest and most respected school of public health in the state and has established a world-wide reputation as a leader in education and research. Of the 36 accredited schools of public health in the country, UTHSC ranks 5th largest in number of students and faculty, and 7th in research funding.

With more than 5,000 employees, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston performs a large variety of daily tasks from patient care to education, training and research involving a wide range of purchasing needs. Prior to implementing SciQuest's strategic procurement solutions, UTHSC followed a somewhat decentralized purchasing process in which each user was authorized to spend up to \$5,000 within the existing ERP system. However, the University was often faced with multiple challenges such as differential pricing among buyers for the same product or service, low user adoption and an increased number of preventable ordering and shipping errors.

KEY CHALLENGES

With such extensive annual purchasing requirements, the University recognized the need for an upgraded system and turned to SciQuest's expertise in supplier enablement to improve its eprocurement processes. The University required a solution that would easily integrate with its existing Oracle/PeopleSoft system allowing them to consolidate spend, increase user adoption and aggregate supplier content.

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston needed a solution that would:

- Ensure consistent, accurate pricing and consolidate spending across the University
- Offer convenience to users with a friendly interface resulting in high adoption and reduced administrative costs
- Aggregate suppliers producing more favorable pricing, turnaround time and discounts based on prompt payment

INDUSTRY:

Higher Education – Medical School

EMPLOYEES:

5,000+ faculty and staff

ENROLLMENT:

3500+ students

LOCATION:

Houston, TX

CLIENT SINCE:

2004

SCIQUEST SOLUTIONS:

SpendDirector

Supplier Enablement: SciQuest
Supplier Network and Managed
Services

TECHNOLOGY ENVIRONMENT:

Oracle/PeopleSoft eProcurement
Module

"SciQuest's supplier enablement is fast, accurate and easy. SciQuest fully enabled our top 15 suppliers in 45 business days, increasing supplier visibility to our users, and raising adoption by 10% almost immediately."

Jerry Fuller, Assistant Vice President for Procurement

University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

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BENEFITS TO PROCUREMENT AUTOMATION

In an effort to provide its users with properly managed supplier content, the University licensed SciQuest's Spend Director and the SciQuest Supplier Network, (SQSN) with integration into Oracle/PeopleSoft's eProcurement module. Spend Director and the SQSN provided UTHSC with a critical mass of aggregated supplier content and connectivity to increase on-catalog and on-contract spending. By offering one point of access to the University's suppliers and millions of hosted and categorized items, SciQuest's application allows University users to search for products and services using a single, intuitive user interface. This easy-to-use environment lets users view and compare details of products from internal inventory with products from approved suppliers.

In addition, SciQuest provides catalog configuration tools that allow UTHSC to promote and encourage spending with preferred suppliers throughout the organization. Selected products are placed in a "shopping cart" which is returned to the organization's requisitioning system for approval routing and order placement. Benefits include:

- Increased on-contract spending
- Improved requisition accuracy and efficiency
- Increased spend visibility
- Escalated user adoption and satisfaction with existing procurement systems
- Reduced internal catalog and punch-out costs

"SciQuest's solutions have allowed our institution to build strong relationships with our key suppliers, increasing our spend visibility and positively impacting our bottom line."

Jerry Fuller, Assistant Vice President for Procurement, UTHSC Houston