

Imperial College London

Imperial College
London, England
www.imperial.ac.uk

Industry:

Education & Research

Annual Revenue:

US\$876 million

Employees:

6,000

Oracle Products & Services:

Oracle Sourcing
Oracle iProcurement
Oracle Purchasing
Oracle Financials

“Oracle Sourcing enables us to optimize our spending, helping us to deliver world-class systems and support for our science-based research and teaching functions while maintaining and improving our ranking as one of the world’s leading higher education institutions.” – John Whitlow, Head of Purchasing, Imperial College

Imperial College Streamlines Purchasing and Improves Efficiency with e-Auction-based Sourcing

Consistently rated as one of the world’s leading universities, Imperial College is a science-based higher education institution with a global reputation for excellence in teaching and research. With 12,000 undergraduate students from 123 countries, Imperial College leads the way in scientific, engineering, and medical research and attracts some of the most able students and staff.

Challenges

- Maintain and improve the college’s position as a leading academic institution with the help of very careful spending
- Realize greater savings and efficiencies across all categories of supply by driving value through the full supply chain
- Increase transparency and attain a complete audit trail of all sourcing events
- Intensify competition among suppliers
- Achieve independence from third-party e-auction providers

Solution

- Used Oracle Sourcing to source 5% to 6% of a US\$365 million purchasing budget and have plans to increase that percentage over time
- Sourced key commodities, such as utilities, office supplies, laboratory supplies, computer peripherals, and hardware by e-auction and aim to extend this to other areas, such as facilities management and construction services over time
- Delivered world-class systems to support the college’s research and teaching functions and to help maintain and improve its world ranking
- Saved US\$876,000 on the first US\$4.38 million e-auction for computer hardware and saved 20% on the next hardware e-auction
- Achieved typical savings of 10% on all new items auctioned with a typical savings of 2% to 3% on subsequent e-auctions
- Saved US\$8,760 per month in administration fees for e-auctions by bringing the e-auction functionality in-house
- Consolidated the college’s supplier base, increased mutual respect between parties, and drove greater efficiency throughout the supply chain
- Gained greater transparency and visibility over the entire procurement spend enabling a clearer audit trail