

# Document Centric Solutions integrates DIGIPASS into online Purchasing & Invoicing application for 7 Vocational Education Committees.

**Vocational Education Committees (VECs) are statutory local education bodies in the Republic of Ireland. They provide integrated education services enabling young people and adults to fulfill their potential in a positive learning environment. The 7 VECs concerned are County Dublin, Dun Laoghaire, County Donegal, City of Limerick, City of Waterford, City of Cork and County Cork. In total they consist out of 7 administrative centres and 250 locations/schools and colleges. To facilitate their purchasing/ invoicing process, the VECs turned to DCS to implement a web based SaaS solution.**

## IN PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE

Vocational education traditionally prepares students for careers related to a specific trade or vocation outside the academic sphere, such as childcare, furniture design, home management skills, tourism etc. The Vocational Education Committees were originally created by the 'Vocational Education Act' of 1930. The Act stipulated that the VECs were to set up and maintain vocational schools providing continuation and technical education for 14 to 16 year olds.

Today, the VECs provide amongst other primary and post-primary education, adult and continuing education, adult literacy programs as well as educational, sporting, recreational and development programs for disadvantaged young people. Students, irrespective of their economic circumstance, gender, religious views, race or social situation can enjoy secondary or continuing education through one of the VECs learning facilities.

## PAPERLESS PURCHASING AND INVOICING SOLUTION

The VECs recognised the need for an effective electronic Purchasing and Invoicing solution, which would offer control and transparency at all levels and throughout the process. Due to multiple locations and the lack of network connectivity, Document Centric Solutions proposed a fully hosted Software as a Service (SaaS) Purchase-to-Payment solution. The solution is fully integrated into Sun Accounts and includes following modules:

- Quotations Module: allows for online creation of invitations to tender, electronic circulation of proposals and automatic creation of an order to the successful supplier.
- Purchasing Module: enables online order process management from start to finish, including tracking of requests statuses.
- Goods Receipting Module: facilitates two-way matching of deliveries with order quantities.
- Invoicing Module: allows invoices to be matched with POs and receipt notes, electronically approved and entered in Sun System ledgers.
- Stock Module: enables the capturing of stock information as items are ordered and received.
- Online Budget and Reporting Module: enables the VECs to collect and store budgets within Sun Accounts and to avoid potential overspends. This module also provides Management, Operation and Key Performance Indicator Reports.

## DCS' SOFTWARE AS A SERVICE (SAAS) PURCHASE TO PAY SOLUTION

DCS's Software as a Service (SaaS) approach enables organizations to use the full DCS Purchase to Pay (P2P) solution via the internet providing far-reaching benefits and resulting in a tangible return on investment.

Upfront costs are greatly reduced as the application requires only internet access ensuring at the same time a fast and smooth deployment. VECs hence don't need to invest in additional hard & software and expensive

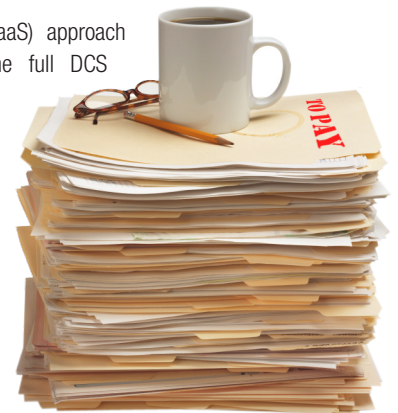
IT resources. For a monthly subscription fee, the VECs get 24/7 guaranteed access to the application maintenance and automatic updates included. As the solution is monitored and managed by the DCS Hosted Center, reliability and performance are greatly increased.

Usage commitments can be changed as the organization's requirements alter; turning DCS P2P into a true scalable solution to accommodate any organization's growing needs.

## DIGIPASS AND VACMAN: SECURE ACCESS GUARANTEED

Each location/school/college now manages its own purchasing and invoicing process. However, they all use their own central administration centre for the payment process. The central administration centres all access the hosted solution using a VPN direct connection. All locations/school/ colleges that do not have the VPN facility access the hosted solution using an internet connection.

In order to secure the remote access, DCS was looking for a strong authentication solution that could be fully integrated into the application as well as into the VECs existing IT infrastructure. VASCO's patented DIGIPASS technology was recommended by DCS's IT supplier to provide a secure environment for access the purchasing and invoicing application. DIGIPASS replaces static passwords, with strong dynamic passwords based on a time principle. Passwords can only be used once and expire automatically after



32 seconds. DIGIPASS is intuitive and very easy to use resulting in a high user acceptance.

The VECs employees from locations/schools/colleges use their DIGIPASS to log on to the secure network, whereas employees of Administration Centres log on directly to DCS' service centre using a VPN.

DCS uses DIGIPASS in combination with VASCO's authentication software, VACMAN radius Middleware, as the authentication source which verifies all authentication requests. No software needs to be installed on end-users' computers, reducing administrative costs for integration and roll out. The DIGIPASS devices have an expected battery life of 7 to 10 years resulting in a low cost of total ownership.

Strong authentication allows the different Vocational Education Committees to work independently from each other although they all use the same administration centre. The web based purchasing and invoicing application allows the committees to structure their accountancy's process in a very efficient way. As all documents are securely stored online, document loss is eliminated and the paperless office became a fact. And strong two-factor authentication gives the Committees and DCS ease of mind that their sensitive data are protected from unauthorized access.



### Objective

The 7 Vocational Education Committees involved wanted to implement an online Purchasing/ Invoicing application with secure authorized (remote) access.

### Challenge

DCS needed an authentication solution to secure (remote) access to the Vocational Education Committee's central online Purchasing and Invoicing application. The authentication software needed to be fully integrated into DCS' solution behind the company's existing firewalls.

### Solution

VASCO's DIGIPASS Go 3 in combination with VACMAN Middleware Server Software proved to be the security solution DCS was looking for. Integration into the existing IT-infrastructure went smoothly guaranteeing secure (remote) access to the online purchasing/invoicing application for authorized users only. Importing and assigning DIGIPASS devices to users is extremely easy thanks to the user-friendly administration interface.



## About Document Centric Solutions (DCS)

Document Centric Solutions specialize in electronic document management solutions, creating innovative solutions tailored to its customer's document management needs. DCS' management team has over 20 years experience in developing, integrating and maintaining e-commerce solutions from small enterprises to multinational corporations. DCS has developed strong partnerships with the leading resellers of SunSystems, Sage and Microsoft financial systems. DCS currently supports over 50 organizations , covering over 300 locations and over 1,000 users accessing the SaaS hosted solution daily in both Ireland and the UK. DCS' customers cover a broad spectrum and include government departments, public and private enterprises..

## About VASCO

VASCO designs, develops, markets and supports patented DIGIPASS®, DIGIPASS PLUS®, VACMAN®, IDENTIKEY® and aXs GUARD® authentication products for the financial world, remote access, e-business and e-commerce. VASCO has established itself as the world's leading software company specialized in Internet Security, with a customer base in the financial sector, enterprise security, e-commerce and e-government. This document may contain trademarks of VASCO Data Security International, Inc. and its subsidiaries, which include VASCO, the VASCO "V" design, DIGIPASS, VACMAN, aXs GUARD and IDENTIKEY.

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