

THE ECOMMERCE TECHNOLOGY IS TRANSFORMING HOW THE STAFF PURCHASE MATERIALS FOR THEIR COURSE ENSURING THAT THEY RECEIVE MAXIMUM VALUE FOR MONEY

The University of the Arts London (UAL) was founded with creativity at its core. Nurturing the artistic talent of 18,738 students spread across six colleges, the organisation has established itself as one of the UK's leading artistic institution for instruction in arts, media and fashion. The university applies its creative ethos to everything it does in order to create an inspiring learning environment for students that allows them to reach their full potential.

UAL is one of the first higher education establishments in the UK to adopt Procsolve's (now Basware's) leading eCommerce technology and is transforming how the staff (including technicians and administrators) purchases materials for their course thereby ensuring that they receive maximum value for money. It is also enabling the university to more effectively order stock for its nine campus shops ensuring that supplies are available and delivered on time, ultimately saving the university, and its students', money.

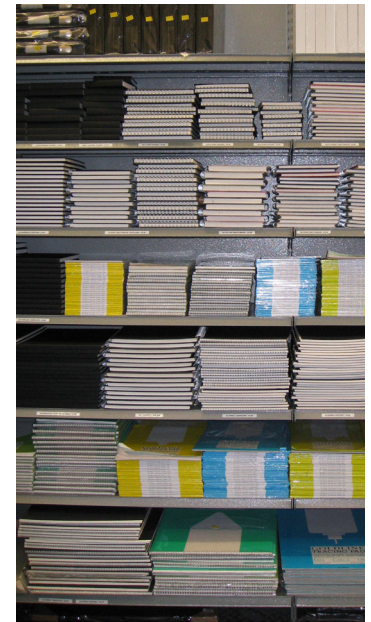
Helped by funding through a grant from the Higher Education Funding Council (HEFCE), UAL implemented the Procsolve (now Basware) platform to not only support its core back office procurement, but also to source art and craft materials for its on-site retail outlets. Providing central online catalogues for the staff in the retail outlets allows them to browse through and purchase from tens of thousands of items that range from ribbons to sketchbooks. The technology means students can purchase materials

from the university shops at very competitive prices and ensures stock levels are replenished quickly so that students can complete their projects in time.

By channelling all spend through pre-approved suppliers and by consolidating group buying power, UAL can provide materials to students and course technicians at a vastly reduced rate. The savings made through the Procsolve Commerce Network [PCN] (now the Basware Commerce Network [BCN]) and central contracts are passed on directly to students and course technicians.

Need for efficiency

As well as managing spend, the university also wanted to eliminate the inefficient paper based processes associated with conventional ordering methods. The Procsolve (now Basware's) platform supports eInvoices reducing paper and ensuring manual invoice reconciliation is run on an exception only basis.



Customer

University of the Arts London

Industry

Higher Education

Location

London, UK

Procsolve (now Basware's) solutions in use

eMarketplace

The Procsolve Commerce Network





A key requirement for the system was not only that university suppliers should be paid securely and rapidly but also that any materials ordered via the platform were to be delivered within a short time frame, ensuring students had fast access to a wide range of materials when needed.

The overall aim was to enhance the purchasing experience for staff, reduce paper waste and provide choice.

“The Proserve Commerce Network (now the Basware Commerce Network) is transforming the experience for staff and at the university. Our focus on supporting students led to us investigate how we can improve their classroom and workshop experience by ensuring we have top quality products available to aid in their learning. Buying through Proserve (now Basware) saves UAL which we pass on to students through improved environments and resources. With this investment we are leading the way in conducting best practice procurement.”

Theresa Lacey

Finance Project Manager,
University of Arts London

Results and Benefits

Through PCN (now BCN) UAL is now providing its budget holders with better visibility of their spend and significant savings. PCN (now BCN) provides an online trading community for staff to use across the nine shops and 10 sites across the university campus. The simple, flexible and secure network allows staff to transact securely and re-order goods at the click of a button, enabling them to quickly get new items in, especially around beginning of term.

The centralised approach to procurement contracts is helping UAL save money when they purchase materials sourced through the network, also making financial gains and efficiency savings as a result of using the technology.

Basware is the global leader in providing purchase-to-pay and e-invoicing solutions in the world of commerce. We empower companies to unlock value across their financial operations by simplifying and streamlining key financial processes. Our Basware Commerce Network enables easy collaboration between buyers and suppliers of all sizes. With Basware, businesses can introduce completely new ways of buying and selling to achieve significant cost savings and boost their cash flow.

Find out how Basware helps money move more easily and lets commerce flow at www.basware.com

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