



Wandsworth Town Hall, London

ABOLISHING LABOUR INTENSIVE, PAPER-BASED PROJECT MANAGEMENT AT WANDSWORTH

Implementation of Asta Teamplan tightens resource controls at flagship London Borough

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Managing multiple projects in real-time and efficient resource allocation have become a reality at the London Borough of Wandsworth, maximising productivity and fee income for its Design Services Department.

The department has chosen to implement Asta Development's enterprise-wide project and resource management solution, Asta Teamplan and the Asta Timesheet module. The Design Services department is Wandsworth Borough Council's internal building consultancy. It provides design and consultancy services, manages the delivery of new build, as

well as the renovation and maintenance of council premises and other public buildings.

► **THE CHALLENGE: TIGHTER CONTROL OVER PROJECT COSTS AND REVENUES**

Prior to the implementation of Asta Teamplan, the department was using a

labour-intensive paper based process to manage projects. This meant that the distribution of resources across projects was being handled less effectively as the system did not always hold the most up-to-date status information, while the absence of a central database meant that it was harder to forecast resource requirements and allocate teams to new projects. Lastly, the absence of an overview resulted in reduced control over outgoing costs and incoming revenues.

Although the department operates a weekly manual timesheet system, it was

often the case that employees worked more hours than estimated. The lack of a consolidated project database and timesheet system meant that additional work was not always added in at the point of billing.

► **DRIVEN BY THE NEED TO COMPETE MORE EFFECTIVELY**

The Design Services Department functions on a business trading account basis in competition with private sector practices. As a result, a modern approach was required to automate the project and resource management processes as well as provide visibility over all work undertaken in relation to the resources available. This approach would enable the department to plan more effectively.

John Cornish, Head of Design Services at Wandsworth Borough Council Design Services Department commented: "Following an extensive review of our processes, we discovered that improved scheduling of resources and management of financial accounting, coupled with advanced delivery of salient data had the potential to improve our economic viability. So we turned to Asta Development for the solution. "

► **ACCURATE RESOURCE PLANNING AND PROGRESS REPORTING**

John Cornish added: "We are looking forward to the full implementation of the



"The implementation of a central timesheet system which will be used by 50 staff, will help us to keep all project plans up-to-date"

Asta system which will revolutionise the way we work. For the first time, we will be able to accurately plan our

resources and monitor progress. In addition, the implementation of a central timesheet system which will be used by 50 staff, will help us to keep all project plans up-to-date to facilitate accurate forecasting thus avoiding under and over utilisation of resources."

Using Asta Teamplan, the department will also benefit from a simplified billing process, as these will be generated automatically at particular project milestones. In addition, high level business reports can be produced at the touch of a button.

Michael McCullen, Asta Development's managing director commented: "In an environment where the control of resources is key to effectively managing internal and external costs, departments like the Design Services function need to work more efficiently in order to remain competitive. I am delighted that the

Design Services Department at Wandsworth Borough Council has turned to us for our Asta Teamplan solution. We look forward to working with them and helping them to achieve their strategic objectives."

Asta Teamplan is installed on a dedicated server at the Wandsworth Borough Council offices. A controlled and phased introduction is underway to replace the existing systems and transfer all project data to the new software. This process will be complete by April 2003 when Asta Teamplan will be fully operational.

▼ **QUICK FACTS**

Customer:

Wandsworth Borough Council,
Design Services Department

Industry:

Public sector – local government

Challenges:

- Restricted by paper-based project management and a manual timesheet system
- Lack of a clear overview of project status, costs and resource requirements
- Need to compete effectively with the private sector and tighten control over outgoing costs and revenues

Results:

- Streamlined billing process to accurately reflect the actual hours worked
- Automatic generation of invoices at particular project milestones
- Visibility of costs and resource utilisation across multiple projects

Products:

Asta Teamplan, Asta Timesheet

▼ **ABOUT ASTA DEVELOPMENT PLC**

Asta Development helps organisations plan, manage and control their projects and resources more effectively. We do this by providing our customers with market leading project and resource management software, underpinned by a comprehensive portfolio of services. Asta is headquartered in the UK and services its 33,000 users directly in the UK and internationally through a network of partners and resellers.

Asta's solutions include Asta Teamplan, a comprehensive project and resource management software application for IT and services organisations, and Asta Powerproject, a professional planning software tool for construction and engineering.

Asta Teamplan helps organisations realise their strategic objectives through the effective management of people, costs, income and deliverables across multiple projects and ongoing work. Customers include Hays Consulting and Solutions Group, Nicholson McBride, Desenco Group, Group 2000 and Sherston Software.

Asta Powerproject is an easy to use project, resource and cost management tool that helps users deliver projects on time and within budget. Customers include Balfour Beatty, Ballast, Berkeley Homes, Bovis Lend Lease, Costain, Foster and Partners, Gleeson, HBG Construction, Lockheed Martin, Mace, Norwest Holst, South West Water, Stork, Try Construction and Wates.

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