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World Wide Technologies Eyes Purchase Order Collaboration

By Editorial Staff

IT reseller engaging in real-time PO collaboration with technology suppliers in support of procurement outsourcing contract

Austin, TX — June 24, 2005 — IT reseller World Wide Technology (WWT) has implemented a collaboration solution from ClearOrbit as part of an initiative to automate trading partner processes and engage in real-time collaboration with customers and suppliers.

Founded in 1990 and with headquarters in St. Louis, World Wide Technology specializes in helping customers rapidly build and deploy technology infrastructure. The company serves high technology, telecommunications and automotive clients.

WWT has implemented ClearOrbit's Purchase Order Collaborator (POC) with an initial wave of 50 equipment suppliers. POC is part of the ClearOrbit Xtended Process Control (X.PC) Suite that provides trading partner process automation by extending the functionality of enterprise resource planning (ERP) solutions.

The rollout of the POC application at WWT supports a procurement outsourcing contract with a major automotive original equipment manufacturer (OEM). WWT will automate a substantial portion of purchases between the OEM and its network of 900 suppliers, who will log onto POC to view and accept purchase orders, submit invoices for items shipped and track payments.

Since POC is pre-integrated to WWT's Oracle ERP system, all information is in real-time and all of the Oracle setups, configurations and business rules carry over to the ClearOrbit software. "ClearOrbit's tight integration to the Oracle ERP was an important factor in our ability to deploy the solution so quickly and cost-effectively," explained Mark Franke, vice president of information technology at WWT.

Franke said that WWT's ability to effectively manage the procurement and logistics function on behalf of its clients has been a driver of the company's rapid growth. "Our electronic procurement and logistics (e-PL) capabilities combine procurement services and logistics functions with state-of-the-art information technology," he said. "ClearOrbit has been a strategic partner in providing the advanced IT capabilities that differentiate us in the industry, and their solutions have become a critical part of our service offering."

ClearOrbit said that its X.PC applications can help reduce the errors and inefficiencies associated with traditional methods of procurement and replenishment through Internet-based collaboration among OEMs, suppliers, logistics providers and contract manufacturers. These rules-based solutions effectively extend a customer's ERP system to control the activities of trading partners during order fulfillment and shipping processes.

"World Wide Technology is a perfect example of how an advanced company can exploit our collaboration tools within its Oracle infrastructure," said Tom Dziersek,

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president and CEO of ClearOrbit. "With the implementation of ClearOrbit's POC, WWT has also enabled a large group of suppliers to reap substantial benefits without absorbing the associated costs or burden of building new IT infrastructure themselves and installing new software."

Additional Articles of Interest

— When ex-Chrysler chief Thomas T. Stallkamp considers cures for what ails American manufacturing, he chooses not to look inside the four walls of the corporation but to the **extended enterprise** and the relationships that bind a company to its supply chain partners. Read about Stallkamp's take on the collaboration imperative in "[No Company Is an Island](#)," the Executive Memo column in the April/May 2005 issue of *Supply & Demand Chain Executive*.

— For more information on the current state of the **sourcing and procurement markets**, see the articles "[The Analyst Corner: Sourcing](#)" in the June/July 2004 issue of *Supply & Demand Chain Executive*, and "[The Analyst Corner: Procurement](#)" in the August/September 2004 issue of the magazine.

- [More articles about ClearOrbit.](#)


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