

Sherwood Scientific choose IRIS Exchequer to handle stock control, reporting and works order processing

When Sherwood Scientific was looking to change its financial management system from TAS Books 2, the organisation chose IRIS Exchequer due to the way it handled stock control, reporting and works order processing.

Based in Cambridge, Sherwood Scientific is a development and manufacturing company producing and distributing a range of scientific instruments and apparatus. The organisation realised it had outgrown its existing accounting package and set about identifying the right software to suit its requirements now and in the future.

“We wanted a package that was stand-alone and could be added to in a modular fashion,” comments General Manager Nick Sugden. “We needed a solution that could cover all aspects of a manufacturing business. The way IRIS Exchequer handled stock control matched our workflow; our instruments are composed of sub-assemblies and the Stock tree facility enabled an easy migration. Additional functionality also appealed such as Works Order Processing and the comprehensive range of standard reports and report writing capabilities.”

The software is used by 14 users on a daily basis to process sales orders through to completing a sale with an invoice, process purchase orders through to receiving stock and relevant invoices; plus management information reporting.

Nick continues, “We use the Works Order Processing (WOP) to build our sub-assemblies and instruments up to a stock item. WOP was new to our operation, but it brings together the various functions of

the business; picking of components in our stores, transfer to work in progress and receipt of finished goods back into stores. This allows the team to manage the supply of products on time and within budget.”

“The reporting function also assists here as we can ask IRIS Exchequer how many instruments we can build with our existing stock level via simple reports. If we have a stock shortage the reports inform us what our order status is and which sub-assemblies can be completed. The Report Writer module also allows us to design specific data reports which aid decision making in areas such as marketing and product development,” comments Nick.

Sophisticated and customisable features in IRIS Exchequer's Report Writer module enable users to produce weekly, monthly and annual reports effortlessly and accurately without the need to follow complex rules and conditions. The module provides Sherwood Scientific with an easy to use, fast and flexible tool for creating analysis reports. Reports designed using this tool can be added to user menus for future use, and all reports produced allow users to drill-down to the underlying data.

Sherwood Scientific's products are sold worldwide and it supports its customers with one of the most extensive distributor networks in the industry. “We have distributors across most countries and IRIS Exchequer allows us to look at their sales numbers on a wide variety of parameters,” states Nick. “Sales can be determined by product, by unit numbers, by margin, by time period and by comparison to previous periods. IRIS Exchequer also permits the export of data into other products such as Microsoft Excel where further data processing and charting is possible.”

In conclusion, Nick says “IRIS Exchequer is a flexible product which meets our business needs. It has had an impact in all of our operational areas. We have achieved greater control of our stock, established a continuous and auditable workflow through the manufacturing process and increased the visibility of performance of our sales distribution network. And the recent introduction of the Visual Report Writer has, in my mind, simplified the report writing process no end.”

To see how other organisations are benefiting from implementing IRIS Exchequer please visit www.iris.co.uk/exchequercasestudies

Solutions that deliver



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