

Integra in the Higher Education Sector

The Higher Education sector is a key market for the Agresso Business World (ABW) software, and Integra have been helping ABW customers in this sector for more than a decade. All of our consultants are experienced in HE, and we have delivered a wide range of ABW based solutions to the sector.

Integra in the Higher Education Sector

Unit4 provides a particularly well integrated and function rich software platform for higher education users, delivered with an architecture which facilitates organisational change and phased implementation. Integra has been assisting ABW users face their challenges in this sector for over a decade, responding to the demands of growing student numbers, changing revenue streams, re-organisation, regulatory change and efficiency drives.

We have worked in partnership with some of our customers in this sector for many years, from initial implementation through the introduction of new modules, internal re-structuring, linking to payment receipts systems, punching out to marketplace and software upgrades. We have a good understanding of the needs of the sector and strong links to other leading software suppliers to the sector such as on line payment systems provider WPM, and marketplace provider EGS.

Often an internal team supports the ABW system for most day to day requirements, but looks to Integra for additional skill and resources to support them through periods of greater systems change. Most recently we have worked on a number of ABW upgrade projects. Some examples of our HE sector work are set out below.

Goldsmiths, University of London (2009 – 2010)

Integra had full project management responsibility for the upgrade of Agresso Financials and Procurement from v545 to v553 within aggressive timescales and delivering significantly improved product utilisation going live on schedule and to budget. The services managed and delivered included:

- Requirements definition, solution design and proof of concept
- System build and testing
- User acceptance strategy and testing
- End-user training strategy, resource development and training delivery
- Live implementation and post-live support

University of Bath (2007 – 2010)

Full client-side project management responsibility for:

- Full project lifecycle implementation and roll-out (to in excess of 1000 users) of Agresso v5.5.1 Financials, Procurement, Inventory and Projects modules encompassing significant use of workflow and web services, going live on time and to budget.
- Consolidation and improvement programme implementing additional features and facilities
- Full project lifecycle upgrade to Agresso v5.5.3 implementing new features including Fixed Assets and Web Payments

Southbank University (1999 – Ongoing)

Provision of technical and product consultancy, from initial system implementation through upgrades and projects to configure and roll out web procurement, and management reporting.

- Application consultancy to support initial implementation configuration and reporting
- Managed the recruitment process and successfully recruited a finance systems manager on behalf of the University.
- Application consultancy to support the ABW 5.4 to ABW 5.5 upgrade
- Application consultancy to configure and roll out web procurement
- Application consultancy to support web reporting
- Project planning and control advice
- Differences training for project team
- Re-engineering of user access and data control
- Consultancy and advice in respect of new features and facilities
- Support to Proof of Concept & system build
- Migration of customised routines (Crystal Reports, browsers etc)
- Migration of web reporting and web requisitioning workflow
- Support to project team testing and User Acceptance Testing
- End user training
- Support to live upgrade

'Integra is a trusted supplier with whom we maintain a strong professional relationship. They offer us continuity of support and quality consultancy available from consultants who combine their in-depth knowledge of our systems with wide Agresso experience.'

Ravi Mistry

**Finance Systems
Manager
London South Bank
University**

University of Creative Arts / (formerly Surrey Institute of Art and Design) (1999 – Ongoing)

- Application Consultancy support for the initial implementation. Training and report writing.
- Consultancy and project management services supporting the upgrade to and implementation of ABW v553, encompassing:
 - project planning and control
 - consultancy and advice in respect of new features and facilities in particular in the areas of
 - procurement workflow and invoice authorisation
 - support to system build
 - support to project team testing and user acceptance testing
 - support to live upgrade

'This was a very significant transformation project - no one contemplating such a migration should underestimate the change impact such a project can have nor the need to invest thoroughly in the support, engagement and commitment of the users.'

Overall the project has been a huge challenge but with Integra's experience we felt assured and part of a well controlled project. As with any project we encountered problems but these were managed and efficiently dealt with.'

Howard Crowter-Jones

**MARS Project Manager
University of Bath**

Lincoln University (2007 – 2010)

- Training finance staff in the use of all ABW modules
- Development of bespoke reports and reporting templates as specified by University users
- Project management of ABW upgrades and new ABW implementations
- Advice on how to take advantage of in-built functionality of ABW
- System health checks/audit
- Integration of ABW with other corporate systems
- Support and advice to the University's computing services team
- Advice and implementation of system developments
- Develop ABW technical knowledge of the systems accountant and IT team
- On going application consultancy on ABW upgrade to v545
- project management, planning and control
- consultancy and advice in respect of new features and facilities in particular in
- support to system build
- support to project team testing and user acceptance testing
- support to live upgrade
- commitment accounting/Free fund checking
- debtor Reporting including reminder letters and statements

Trinity Laban Conservatoire, London (2010 – Ongoing)

Integra has full project management responsibility for the re-implementation of ABW Financials and Procurement from v545 to v553. Services being managed and delivered include:

- Requirements definition, solution design and proof of concept
- System build and testing
- User acceptance strategy and testing
- End-user training strategy, resource development and training delivery
- Live implementation and post-live support
- Integration to WPM's leading on-line payment solutions

University of Westminster (2010 – Ongoing)

Integra has senior project management responsibility for the upgrade of Agresso Financials and Procurement from Agresso v545 to v553.

About Integra

Integra Associates is an independent consultancy specialising in the implementation of financial business solutions and is made up of qualified accountants and IT professionals. We offer a comprehensive range of services related to the Agresso Business Software and an integrated service delivery. Our services include:

- Project Management
- Implementation Workshops
- Prototype and Live Build Consultancy
- Developing Test Plans
- Technical Consultancy
- Training
- Post Go Live Support
- Financial & Management Report Development
- Systems Integration

Please contact us for further information on how we could assist your organisation with an Agresso upgrade, or with a new implementation. We are always pleased to discuss your requirements on an informal, no obligation basis.