



Glowing Report For Topaz As Payroll Gets Top Marks

Topaz has received top marks by Aylesbury College after eliminating the stress of having to meet impractical deadlines from an outsourced payroll bureau and creating a flexible payment system.

Three years ago, like many colleges that are now wanting to tighten their grip on finances and regain control of staff payments, Aylesbury took the payroll duties in-house by installing Topaz EMS Payroll and has reaped the rewards ever since.

Key benefits include

- Total control of all payroll details and payments
- Flexibility to accommodate fluctuations in payments, which can vary between 340 and 390 full and part-time staff
- User friendly procedures

Payroll Manager John Gurney joined the Buckinghamshire College, which serves a population of 635,000, in May 2003 and was immediately impressed with the capabilities that the Topaz system provided.

"The fact that Topaz was so user friendly allowed me to start processing payroll straight away and I can safely say that in my 17 years experience this is the best payroll solution I have used," he revealed. "If I were to give it marks out of ten then it would certainly get a nine and possibly even a ten.

"We recently gave a demonstration of Topaz to staff from another college and they were so impressed that they were going to order it for themselves."

One of the main advantages of having Topaz is that the college does not have the extra cost or a strict deadline of providing payment details to a payroll bureau but can process its ever changing wages very flexibly. Pay codes for staff can be activated as and when payments are due and there is no irritation of having to print unnecessary wage slips.

"I like the fact that Topaz provides me with the ability to only generate wages for the staff members that need to be paid in a particular month, which is very helpful during holiday periods - when some of the temporary and part-time staff do not receive payments," says John Gurney.

"With some other systems you have to print wage slips for all staff members or erase their pay codes from the system and give them a new code when they next require payments.

"This can also be a real pain when it comes to Year End Returns and having the problem of supplying P60 forms to the Inland Revenue with zero revenue on them. But, thankfully, Topaz eliminates this problem."



Notes to Editors:

About Topaz

Topaz was founded by a group of like-minded business professionals and began life creating bespoke software solutions and supporting third party applications. At the core of Topaz business solutions are software applications that have been developed by its highly experienced team of software engineers. From inception to delivery, Topaz solutions are produced with the highest level of professionalism.

The company's many years of experience in software development to formal specifications produce both highly flexible packaged solutions and bespoke applications. Topaz's strict quality procedures ensure software is produced to high, exacting standards to a common template that has evolved over many years.

Topaz EMS is an integrated Payroll and HR solution with an optional Time and Attendance module, its inherent flexibility and ease of use. Lends itself to many different sectors of the market providing numerous time and cost saving benefits. Whilst being competitively priced the solution is regarded as one of the most comprehensive systems on the market today. The consultancy services Topaz provide ranges from complex business process re-engineering to production of Gap analysis reports and ultimately technical specifications.

Topaz Financials covers all aspects of a financial accounting solution including sales, purchase and nominal ledgers, cashbook and fixed assets and specialise in key areas like credit control, commitment and project accounting. Their growing user base acknowledge the quality of software developed by Topaz but also the essential services and on-going support. Users come from a range of business sectors and include: Education, Recruitment, Manufacturing, Professional Services and Distribution.

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Please note a digital image is available of the Topaz team outside their headquarters building.

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