



## York Moves Up A Gear In Project Accounting . . .

Project Accounting has moved up a gear at the College of York St. John with the Topaz development experts working closely with the financial management team headed up by Group Financial Controller Sarah Perkins.

The end result has cleared up a number of issues including –

- The ability to handle one off “transient” projects that would normally not make the nominal ledger – such as building extensions – outside the main reporting mechanism
- Increased level of control in that the system now demands an entry in specified cases, so eliminating the potential of opting out
- The facility to handle projects in groups – providing the ability to assign related items to more than one project within each grouping
- Added functionality to enable the drawing down of salary costs out of payroll and apportioning them (such as when a lecturer is working on more than one project) to the correct project

Out of the new features Topaz has made available, Sarah Perkins singled out the ability to move one-off cost centres outside mainstream reporting as being particularly useful.

“In the past, people had set up lots of separate cost centres and over a period of time no one had any idea of what they were really for – yet were sometimes still using them,” she says. “Now that won’t happen any more.”

Topaz has implemented the new Project Accounting functionality as part of an ongoing development program for York St. John, a long time client and user of both Topaz Financials and Payroll.

Yet another new feature that has won praise from the York St. John team is the Cash Desk module from Topaz. Handling both cash, credit cards and cheques from students, this replaces an Excel-based system.

Julie Hamer, the York St. John Finance Team leader sums up Cash Desk in one word – “Brilliant”.

Topaz is about to start work on yet another development for York St John, which they anticipate will be similarly, received – a link between Topaz Financials and SITS.

## 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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