



SWORD

UPGRADE YOUR BUSINESS

SwordCTSpace

Aspire Defence Limited Project Allenby/Connaught

Aspire Defence was awarded the contract by the Ministry of Defence in March 2006

Aspire Defence was formed to deliver Project Allenby/Connaught to the Army at Aldershot and across the garrisons of Salisbury Plain. Aspire is working with the MoD, to provide 18,000 Army and civilian personnel with a modern living and working environment over the next 35 years. Aspire's responsibilities include the construction and refurbishment of 11,000 en-suite bedrooms for single soldiers and the construction of new dining centres, messes, community facilities as well as general building and grounds maintenance and utilities. Aspire offers an integrated solution that provides high quality, effective and relevant services to their customers. The aim is to enhance the quality of life for the Army personnel, civilian staff and the local communities around the garrisons of Aldershot, Tidworth, Bulford, Larkhill, Netheravon, Perham Down and Warminster.

In April 2006, Aspire was awarded the contract to provide single person accommodation and auxiliary buildings, including car parks and messes for the Army in the Aldershot and Salisbury Plain area in an effort to take Army personnel away from barrack accommodation. The number of buildings being constructed could fill Hyde Park twice over. Roger Stone, Project Controls Manager at Aspire Defence, is responsible for document control within the Capital Works side of the operation. He is tasked with providing support for document control at their main office and across their six major project sites. Aspire's key challenges include how to:

- Efficiently manage huge volumes and types of documents and drawings at different stages of the 8-10 year project, including pre-construction, procurement and design. Document types include site records, registers and contracts.
- Share information across the dispersed design effort and contractors out on site.
- Drive collaboration across the project where appropriate.
- Reduce the time and costs of communicating changes on documents and drawings to all 8 layers of the review/approvals team so that everyone has access to the latest version.
- Store and Retrieve to avoid problems and delays.

The seven year design process involves building or refurbishing 535 assets. The process includes 20 internal Design and Build Contractor (DBC) teams and eight layers of approval and comment. Timely communication of additional and revised data across all parties and projects has the potential to be problematic. This could ultimately have an impact on costs. Initially, Aspire's only method of communicating data and information was through their Local Area Network and email, which was a slow process. With potentially eight post rooms for incoming and outgoing documents, courier costs would have become considerable.

Benefits

Quick and efficient management of project documentation

Manage immense volume of documentation and correspondence

Reduction in Cost

Minimise errors and delays

Implement effective chains of communication

Encourage collaborative working

Mitigate risk and ensure regulatory compliance by maintaining a complete audit trail.

Standardise best practice across projects

Improve visibility, control and problem diagnosis in the design and construction phases of the project

Leverage information from previous projects with archiving capabilities

“Without Sword CTSpace, we could have drowned in a sea of paperwork. With over 50,000 drawings alone and 300 sub contractors to keep informed, the sheer volume of paperwork is immense.”

Roger Stone, Project Controls Manager, Aspire Defence

Aspire required a system to manage all technical documentation, which could be rolled out to other project offices as and when required. They wanted an efficient process of managing documents and an easy to use system to underpin the existing processes. It was critical to translate current proven business processes into Sword CTSpace functionality and enhance them within the solution.

Aspire's goal was to implement an efficient storage and retrieval system and encourage a drive towards collaborative operations where appropriate. They wanted all sub contractors and designers to be able to use Sword CTSpace's solution for the storage and management of all documents and drawings.

Aspire selected Sword CTSpace's solution in 2004 to manage the documentation at Aldershot. The solution has been operational during the preparation and design stage of the project. The solution will now be rolled out across the rest of the project and the use broadened to enhance structured collaboration e.g.; design approvals tracking, and unstructured collaboration such as development of change proposals. Sword CTSpace was selected for its ease of use, flexible file structure and effective storage and retrieval.

Sword CTSpace has assisted Aspire personnel to quickly and efficiently manage its project documentation and transfer existing proven business processes into the solution. They are now able to manage the immense volume of design documentation and correspondence in a timely and accurate way, reducing costs and minimising errors and delays.

Using Sword CTSpace, sub contractors are able to produce and keep track of documents and drawings on all areas of the project, whether on site or remotely. They can be easily uploaded into the Sword CTSpace system, automatically sharing them across the supply chain and improving the flow of information. Current versions of documents are then available for all layers of the approval process to comment on and sign off.

Aspire are now in a better position to share a common system to control documents and make information easily accessible to teams across their business. The solution has been rolled out across all parties to ensure architects, designers and sub contractors are sharing the most up to date information at all times. Subject to appropriate training and access controls, sub contractors can easily and quickly create documents and upload them to the Sword CTSpace system via the Internet, regardless of time or location.



As the Capital Works Programme progresses, Aspire will deploy the Sword CTSpace solution across subsequent projects and other sites to provide functionality and support for document control. They will broaden the use of the solution beyond storage and encourage collaborative working. This will involve continually educating people to think more imaginatively about the use of the system.

Aspire will be constructing and refurbishing sites over a 10-year period and intend to use Sword CTSpace through the entire supply chain life cycle from tendering to delivery. They also want to improve storage and retrieval of documents, promote better communications and help manage all sketches, drawings and documents.

Using Sword CTSpace as a collaborative tool will support Aspire activities to deliver first class value and achieve its vision of working as an integrated team focused on their customers' needs.

"The phrase collaborative working is used a lot, but I suspect in reality the functionality is used much less than you would think. If collaborative working within a programme management environment becomes as widespread as we are led to expect it needs to be borne out by a practical understanding of what it means." Roger Stone, Project Controls Manager, Aspire Defence.

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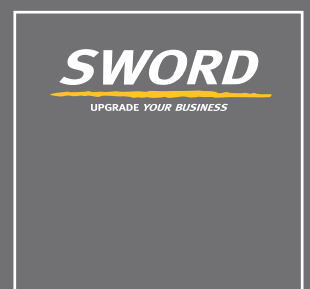
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