Procurement Bulletin
Issue 1

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Ultra-Low Freezers

Procurement is often asked “what ultra-low temperature freezer should I buy?”, so we decided to investigate.

As there is a framework for ULT freezers that was our starting point; we asked the 6 contracted distributors “If money was no objective what would be the most efficient range of ULT freezers that you could supply us?” and not surprisingly we received different answers from each.

We selected 1 freezer at random from each range (within a similar capacity) to investigate in greater detail, many evaluations have been carried out on this subject, we decided to look at things in a simple way;

- Will it fit?
- Is it too heavy?
- What warranty do I get?
- Is it noisy?
- How much energy does it use?
- How much will it add to the temperature of the room?
- How much is it?

Cost implications have been expressed in 5 and 10 years of ownership and also how much that cost equates to the amount of storage you have available, the costs used for evaluation were correct as at December 2018 and can be found; http://documents.manchester.ac.uk/DocuInfo.aspx?DocID=41513

Our recommendations are that you choose an ultra-low temperature freezer from one of these ranges which can be found on the university eMarketplace (don’t forget to ask for multiple freezer discounts);

- Eppendorf CryoCubeTM Freezers
- Haier -86 °C ULT Freezers
- Labcold -80°C Ultra Low Temperature Freezers
- Thermo Fisher TSX Series ultra-low freezers

Further assistance can be had from your technical operations manager.

Courier Update

The University is constantly battling to keep our accounts from going on stop with couriers. The issue is that we are unable to trace purchase orders for the supplier invoices.

We do appreciate that when placing a courier request it is not always possible to have a PO available (awaiting quote). However requesters MUST subsequently raise a PO and quote the airway bill or consignment number at the start of the line description.
An alternative approach, if you have frequent purchases for the same activity code, is to raise a call-off order but you must ensure to quote the PO number to the supplier when placing the service request.

(Please include your account reference number in the line description)

If you require any further guidance please contact the Procurement Hub ext 63062

Buying protective gloves – you’re safe in our hands

Did you know that we use almost one million pairs of protective medical gloves each year across the University?

Production of medical gloves is a $5 billion worldwide industry, with most manufacturing outsourced to factories in Malaysia and Thailand, and a handful of other Asian countries.

In 2015, the British Medical Association’s In Good Hands report highlighted serious labour concerns about the manufacture of medical gloves in these countries. Many factories are reliant on migrant workers. There are documented serious labour rights concerns at many of these factories, including excessive working hours and production targets, inadequate pay, payment of extortionate recruitment fees, illegal retention of passports, and anti-union activities.

By sourcing through e-Marketplace and Central Stores, buyers of medical gloves can be assured that the products they purchase not only offer good value for money but that they are also fully compliant with our sustainability agenda and commitment to social responsibility.

Our suppliers of gloves have been carefully selected and have provided guarantees not only about the quality of their products but also about their manufacturing processes and supply chains – so that you can be confident that you are making a sustainable and ethical choice when making your purchases. For more information, please contact: Procurement@manchester.ac.uk

RS Components
Products Free of Conflict Minerals

RS Components have put together their compliance brochure. Within this they have detailed their position in regards to sourcing products free of conflict minerals (page 12). Please see below extract from this brochure as well as the link in order to access the full copy.

“We are committed to ethical practices and seek to keep our supply chain and products free from conflict minerals. We expect
suppliers to have due diligence processes in place to identify and verify the source of conflict minerals contained in their products. As a distributor that does not directly purchase or import tin, tungsten, tantalum or gold or report to the US Securities and Exchange Commission, RS is not subject to US requirements (including those in the Dodd-Frank Act) or the recently published EU Conflict Minerals Regulation. We look to suppliers to advise the conflict mineral status of products and welcome dialogue from customers on areas of their conflict minerals compliance that we may be able to support.”

https://rs-components.showpad.com/share/On9EglP4arAT5Lc2uLaJ

Role of the Procurement Hub

The primary role of the Procurement Hub is to support the Central Procurement Office in achieving effective procurement and value for money. The Hub is first point of contact for help with iProc, the Corporate Credit Card, or any general procurement questions.

If you have any queries regarding requisitions, purchase orders or suppliers, please don’t hesitate to contact us and we will endeavour to help resolve your query.

Contact us
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procurementhub@manchester.ac.uk
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Update on Suppliers

FKA Halsam has merged with the BHW Print Group Limited and orders should be raised to the new supplier name.