



Fully integrated system

# COMPASS

## - The “Gen-Y” COst Management Processing and Approval SyStem

### CUSTOMER

- Land Transport Authority of Singapore

### INDUSTRY

- Transportation

### CHALLENGES

- Paper-based processes
- Integrated and interfaced with other existing systems

### OFFERING

- Web-based and user-friendly system
- Real-time Information
- Electronic workflow
- Interfaced with other system
- System generated reports
- Comprehensive data base for cost control

### BENEFITS

- Integrated and comprehensive solution
- Reduction of paperwork
- Ease of management

**Land Transport Authority, Singapore** ■ The Land Transport Authority (LTA), a statutory board under the Ministry of Transport, spearheads land transport development in Singapore. Its mission is to provide an efficient and cost-effective land transport system.

The LTA manages a variety of public works projects and contracts. The task of collating of information for reporting of cost information for contract and cost management was time consuming and labour intensive.

Recognising the benefits it could derive by employing IT, LTA selected NCS, a leading regional IT and communications engineering provider in the Asia Pacific region, to develop a fully integrated contract and cost management system – a system that is not only capable of delivering superior performance on an integrated platform for seamless work processes, it also fulfils the complex and diverse needs of the agency.

**NCS Solution** ■ NCS developed COMPASS (popularly known as Cost Control System (CCS)), a single gateway for accessing all information on LTA's project expenditure. Information captured in the system can be easily extracted and reproduced in specific formats, facilitating analysis and timely reporting.

The system has several modules such as Fund Allocation, Contract Administration, Payment, Change Commitment, Works Order and so forth. It ensures project commitments are tracked from a single system. Each module focuses on specific aspect, for example, the fund allocation module handles the planning and approval of a project; the tender module manages the tender process while the fixed asset module manages the assets resultant from projects/contracts.

The CCS is interfaced and integrated with the Government's GeBiz website and the LTA's email, financial and workflow systems, thereby promoting sharing of common data within the system so that information can be seamlessly assimilated without duplicated data entry. This in turn reduced data errors and led to increased efficiency.

Together with the latest electronic workflow technology that allows on-line endorsement and approval of LTA work processes, CCS has revolutionised the way LTA manages its business processes. It has also reduced the processing time by 30%. Logistical requirements are also reduced, along with hard copy circulation and paper consumption. As a whole, the potential savings could amount to millions of dollars.

An outstanding feature of the system is the robust check and balance processes at all levels. Users will be automatically alerted by the system if the project funds are not expended in accordance with approved financial guidelines. All processes executed in the system are accurately recorded, providing a clear trail for auditing purposes.

The system not only addressed the agency' needs, its innovative platform also helped LTA to clinch the Singapore Ministry of Transport's Minister's Innovation Awards 2005.

**Benefits ■ Improved Efficiency** – CCS enables users to easily track and manage projects. Routing and approval of projects are done electronically with the system prompting users via notification and system alerts. In addition, with real-time information and management tools available in the system, critical decisions can be made at various levels promptly as the system allows users to have a consolidated view of key information without manual intervention. This thus led to improved efficiency and effectiveness in day-to-day management of contract works.

## Contact NCS Group today!

As the region's leading IT and communication engineering solutions provider, NCS Group aims to work closely with customers to create business value through the innovative use of IT. With proven experience and expertise in consulting, development, integration and managed services, we bring end-to-end support for your organisation's entire technology life cycle. For more information, please visit [www.ncs.com.sg](http://www.ncs.com.sg).

The Cost Control System or COMPASS not only addressed the needs of the Land Transport Authority, its innovative platform also helped the LTA to clinch the Singapore Ministry of Transport's Minister's Innovation Awards 2005.

**Increased Employee Productivity** – A major benefit is the saving in time and better utilisation of manpower with the automation of routine activities such as gathering cost information for contract and cost management. With increased time available, staff is able to focus on core competencies.

**Scalability and Ease of Deployment** – Being a web based solution, it allows greater flexibility to scale the system according to organisation's requirements, ease of deployment and minimises disruption to operation.

**Integrated Systems** – As all project-related information is kept in CCS, the system caters for information required to interface with external/internal systems, thereby minimising the effort to establish interface with various source systems. In addition, the learning period to understand the process on project/contract management is also shorter as the project/contract users only need to learn a single system.