



COUNTY OFFICES
NEWLAND • LINCOLN

LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

FIRE AND RESCUE

Community Safety Directorate

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Mr J Rice
Brite-Sparks
Strelley Hall
Nottingham
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My ref: 206/07/MG/AT/MLD

22 October 2003

Dear Sir

TRACKING, RECORDING AND SAFETY COMPLIANCE OF EQUIPMENT

Due to a series of highly publicised accidents within the Fire Service and the need for compliance with the Provision Use of Workplace Equipment Regulations (PUWER), Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue took the decision to apply modern computer technology to the problem of tracking, recording and safety compliance of equipment within the Brigade. Our immediate need was to ensure that our recording systems and operational assets were safe, compliant and auditable and that our personnel would know at the click of a button the full test history of any piece of equipment kept and maintained within our fleet and non mobile stores. Furthermore, this equipment should not be allowed to be available for use if it was out of test and the appropriate manager must be informed immediately of tests due, those outstanding and those that had expired.

We surveyed the Market and found that the Brite-Sparks company had developed a very interesting asset management and asset pooling application and we asked them if they could apply similar technologies to the scheduling and tracking of safety compliance within the Brigade. They agreed to develop a solution and approached Lincolnshire with their proposals and a pilot programme.

We started rolling out the Asset Compliance Tracking (ACT) solution in January this year and we have been delighted with the results. Software development is always a fraught process and requires good working relationships between Fire Brigades and the developers to deliver software that matches our own requirements and importantly the programme needs to be used by staff at all levels easily with the minimum of training. It was important from the outset for all our Firefighters to be able to use this system. The Brite-Sparks company took a great deal of care obtaining feedback from the users of the system right through to the system managers and other software suppliers where the ACT system was required to interact with their programmes to develop a simple front-end to the system which aids them in undertaking

It was not just the product Lincolnshire were interested in but also in the service and support that is provided with the software package, especially after-sales care and maintenance. It has been in this area that the Brite-Sparks company provides the kind of support we were looking for to enable us to integrate this programme into our service. We have been delighted with the level of support provided to us throughout this entire project. This ranged from developing systems that can be automatically updated across the whole Brigade without the requirement of needing to visit outlying Stations, to talking a Retained Station through problems as they occurred when their online monitoring signalled a training need at the Station irrespective of time.

Given the above experience, we in Lincolnshire are very pleased to recommend Brite-Sparks without reservation; their help and determination to produce the product that we require has been exceptional.

Yours sincerley

Operational Support Officer



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Making Lincolnshire a safer place to live and work

