

VHTenderTM

Technical Paper



VHTender™ - Electronic Tendering System (ETS)

1. Current Situation

Nowadays, large organizations usually have to handle multiple procurement needs by applying different kinds of information systems developed by various suppliers. Such process will become inevitably long and cumbersome in conventional tendering systems when the categories of products are not well sorted out.

2. How to improve?

In order to realize better cost savings and increase efficiency, replacing the manual paper-based tender procedures by electronic-facilitated system has become an essential element in process re-engineering. With a highly automated e-Tendering system, tender specification, advertising, tender aggregation as well as the evaluation and placing of the contract can be prepared at ease.

3. Who should use e-Tendering System?

- Builders
- Civil & Mechanical Contractors
- Construction Managers
- Custom Manufacturers
- Public Works Agencies
- Retail Chain Stores
- Specialty Contractors
- Subcontractors



4. Why VHTender?

VHTender is an Electronic Tendering System (ETS) developed by VHSoft Technologies from best practices equipped with a suite of integrated tools to obtain *more profitable contracts* with:

4.1 Increased Efficiency

- **Shorten the procurement cycle** when processes are automated with tender analysis, allowing users to allocate resources and time for other critical issues.
- Automate the entire tendering lifecycle for procurement of goods and services starting from creation of a purchase requisition through to the award of contract with strict control.
- Budget template is applied where historical data can be used for conducting the budget preparation, results in reduction of manual input in tender-in data.
- Streamline last minute tender changes

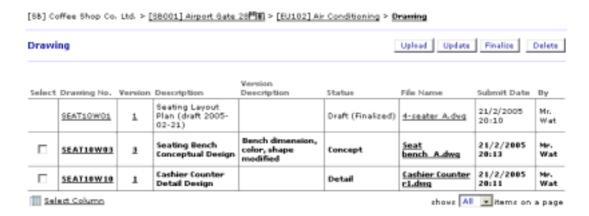


- Faster response to questions and points of clarification during tender period
- **Remote office operation** is made possible as all authorized parties can access VHTender via a secured channel. Cross border tendering process can be achieved.
- Better communications between departments, as the alerting system would remind users about critical issues and tasks that have been completed by different teams, minimizing human errors, as well as to route documents to appropriate parties or alerts individuals of actions in the system.
- Single point of access for both vendors and purchasers to do business efficiently in a convenient and user-friendly manner.

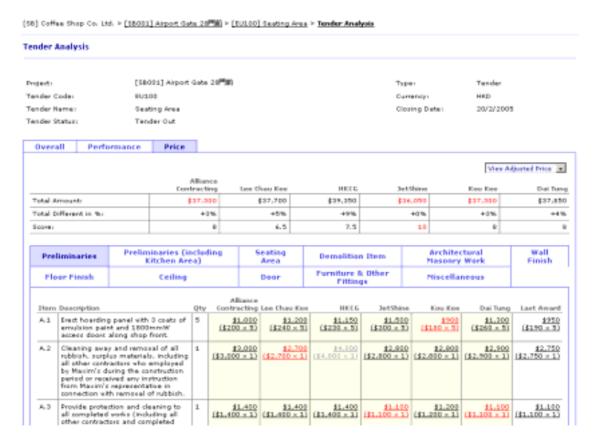
4.2 Reduced Cost

Achieve *economy of scale* by aggregation of requirements:

- Reduce various kinds of cost:
 - o Takeoff costs and errors with direct digitizer input
 - Costs of participation for purchasers and vendors
 - o Fulfillment and rework costs
 - Advertisement cost



- Obtain **detailed analysis** of costs and markup



 Reduce labour intensive tasks of receipt, recording and distribution of tender - Minimize paper trail on tendering exercises

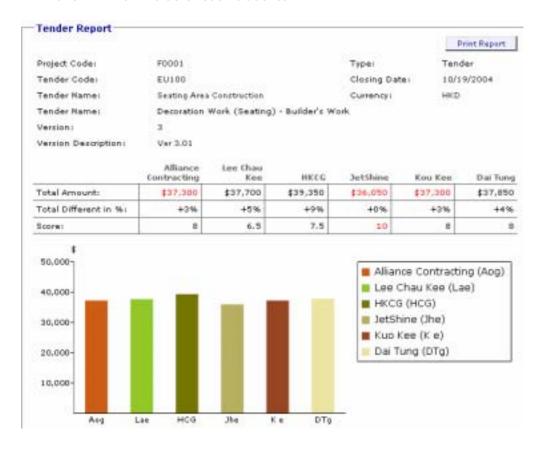


- Less manual forms filling on tender preparation and data re-entry when upon receiving the tender
- Reduce hassles involved in communication and administration, achieving higher accuracy



4.3 Improved Quality

- Users can visualize the status on each tendering process by the comprehensive progress tracking function, reducing time for keeping track of status.
- **Streamlined workflow** is realized with faster drawing and document submission; hence improved information distribution is achieved.
- **Better integrity** of goods, services, works and contractors information as a provision of quality management of **centralized repository** facilitates instant access to both current and historical tender information
 - Detailed purchase history for efficient negotiation with vendors
 - Real time updating, eliminate obsolete information
 - Share latest information, including:
 - o Account codes
 - o Qualification of contractors
 - o Detailed budget breakdown
 - o Tender analysis criteria
- **Historical awarded tenders with quick comparison** on different aspects e.g. shop size and locations, as well as to highlight the maximum and minimum value of each trade item



Automatic rejection of suppliers that fail to meet the tender specification

4.4 VHTender - Competitive Advantages

With VHTender, you can manage your business contacts, ensure deadlines are met, track requisitions submitted to your vendors and generate purchase orders.



Security

- Build-in security measures that ensure safe data transmission by using digital certificates, digital signatures and Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), coupled with the application of passwords, user profiles and permissions.
- Security is defined in different levels of permission on modular access, which means, unauthorized access to data and functions held within the system are strictly controlled during all stages of the tender lifecycle.

Confidentiality

- Provision of role and/or time based access to data held within the system.
- With authentication & non-repudiation to identify and authenticate user entities to negate activity denials.

Integrity

- Maintain the flow of data through the system from source to destination, and record exceptions.

Flexibility

- Accommodate various kinds of tendering formats and requirements.

Repository

- Capability to archive and retain data to enable recall and analysis.

Audit trails

- Carry date and time stamp features to provide a trail of systemic activities by users.

Reliability

- Manage continuous and sustained traffic with high scalability for future increase of loading.

Integration

- Users can leverage existing technology investments by integrating VHTender with existing applications.

Ease of use

- Enforcing minimum user requirements in the usage of computers and Internet technology.

4.5 VHTender Key Features

VHTender **maximizes your savings potential** through optimizing supplier selection and making dramatic efficiency improvements in the administrative processes of preparing tenders and requesting supplier quotations.

4.5.1 Contract Register module

The **Contract Register module** bridges the gap in moving your organization from decentralized control of contracts to fully integration within a central repository of tenders and contracts, with comprehensive search, management reporting and data export capability.

4.5.2 Central Knowledge Repository

With this powerful knowledge, one-stop access to tender information and documents 24 hours a day is made possible!

The system maintains a complete cross-reference of all the vendors. The repository archives the purchase history of every item you bought with full details. You can leverage this information while negotiating with existing or new vendors to get the best possible price.

4.5.3 Bid and Tender management module

The Bid and Tender Management module provides a market-leading etendering facility for preparing and publishing tenders online. It helps to identify tender short-lists, control pre-qualification processes, create evaluation matrices, and administrate the return & opening of electronic sealed-bid submissions. Paper-based tenders can be well managed within the same system.

4.5.4 Strategic Reporting modules

Strategic Reporting module provides all the tools you need to implement and control your procurement, whilst leaving authorized purchasers to make their own operational purchasing decisions.

4.5.5 RFQ module

The complete guidance in the Request for Quotation [RFQ] module helps to handle the manually time-consuming process of requesting quotes from suppliers with full details.

4.5.6 Administrative Tools

A comprehensive set of **administrative tools** for framework and project-based contracts enables users to control document management, workflow planning, contract variations, interim payments and contract security levels, allowing you to focus on the strategic management of contracts.

The fast and user-friendly **search**, **report and export data facility** allows authorized users to share contract information freely across every corner of your organization. The built-in XML-based integration

capability enables users to link up seamlessly with other contract systems of your organization.

4.5.7 Others Features:

- Linkage between conceptually identical items for tender price analysis and price negotiation
- Multi-currency for complex international tenders
- Flexible determination of report formatting and layout
- User defined cost types
- Apply User's Organization Name in Report Headings
- List of current tenders display in user interface

5. VHTender System Requirements

Client Requirements

Windows 95/98/NT/2000/ME/XP

Minimum Recommended Hardware

400 MHz Pentium

128 MB RAM

Software Recommendations

Microsoft Internet Explorer 4.01 or later (preferred)

Netscape Navigator 6.0 or later

(Some earlier version of Netscape may work with VHTender, but are not fully tested.)

Microsoft Excel 2000 Viewer or Open Office 1.0 or above for report viewing and printing

Solaris1

Server Hardware Recommendations:

Pentium IV - 2 GHz or above

512 Mbytes of memory

100 Mbit Ethernet (or other network) interface