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DATAFLOW & NYSED ROLL OUT NEW ELECTRONIC SYSTEM

Dataflow Technology Will Save School Districts Money

March 10, 2009 – Liverpool, NY – Dataflow, Inc. of Liverpool, NY and the New York State Education Department (NYSED) rolled out a new electronic system to reduce costs and improve turnaround times when NYSED reviews and approves plans submitted by Architects and Engineers for construction involving buildings owned or operated by New York State School Districts or Board of Cooperative Educational Services (BOCES).

Dataflow (formerly Liverpool Blueprint, Inc.) a leading document management and digital printing firm in Upstate New York, was awarded the contract in September 2007 to replace NYSED's paper-based building blueprint and specification review and approval with a more efficient, paperless process. The late-February 2009 launch follows a year-long pilot program that included approximately 20 actual school project reviews.

NYSED's Carl T. Thurnau, Director of the Office of Facilities Planning, commented: "the pilot program proved that Dataflow's system delivers on the goals we set: ease of use, efficiency, transparency and accountability. Dataflow's system will also help with SED's storage problem, since pre-and post-review documents will now be archived digitally instead of in paper rolls and banker boxes. Also, miscommunication between architects, SED professionals and school officials slows down reviews. This system eliminates some of the 'lost-in-translation', which will improve our turn-around times."

Less hard-copy document handling for NYSED, the school districts, and A/E firms means lower printing, shipping and labor costs. Senior Dataflow manager and long-time Syracuse area resident Scott Taylor notes that "the cost savings and improved turnaround times for K-12 construction projects are a big deal when you think of the billions spent each year, plus the Federal stimulus money to come. School Districts will also have the option of using the rest of Dataflow's electronic services instead of printing and shipping during bidding, submittals and close-outs, for further savings. Lower costs translate into lower tax bills, which, as a New York State taxpayer, I can certainly appreciate. We are proud to be a part of this project".

Thurnau adds: "Dataflow's services under the NYSED contract are limited to the review and approval process", prior to bidding and construction. "Dataflow has much greater capability than we are using, and School District officials encouraged to deal directly with Dataflow if they want some of those additional services".

The roll-out of the new system consisted of a multi-city tour by SED's Thurnau and Dataflow personnel. It spanned the breadth of the Empire State from Long Island, through the Southern Tier, and the Capital Region, to the Buffalo-Rochester-Syracuse corridor. Dataflow presented its system to over two-hundred New York State Architects, Engineers and School District personnel.

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