Manifest

Transforming Customs trade processes

Work on an integrated system to modernise cargo-management processes by Australian Customs is under way.

Customs issued a public tender in November last year for bids to build and implement the new system, called integrated cargo system (ICS). The timing of the process is intended to ensure industry has sufficient opportunity to make the transition from the old to the new system.

The successful tenderer is a consortium led by Computer Associates. It includes Iocore Australia, Aspect Computing and NCR Australia. The contract, worth $29.7 million, was awarded in early February. A further $2 million for post-implementation support and maintenance has also been allocated.

The consortium includes a mix of skills and experience in applications development, particularly with Cool:GEN, the applications development tool being used on the project.

Computer Associates will assume full responsibility for the project and its management. Iocore Australia will provide an applications development team. Aspect Computing will provide specialist web-development and application-testing services and NCR Australia will provide its reporting expertise.

"CA has put a lot of effort into our large-scale project management capabilities and in our Federal Government support infrastructure," Mr John Ruthven, Managing Director of Computer Associates Australia, said.

The Integrated Cargo System is the information technology component of the Cargo Management Re-engineering (CMR) project. This project modernises the management of imports and exports and includes changes to Customs legislation, information management, business processes and systems applications.

The ICS will integrate current cargo-management systems and support new cargo-management business processes.

John Ruthven, Managing Director of Computer Associates Australia (left), and Lionel Woodward, CEO Customs (right), after signing a contract to deliver the Integrated Cargo System project. ICS is the information-technology component of Cargo Management Re-engineering (CMR).