An education in integration

Finding a solution that fits your organisation is essential. AFD Software specialises in fitting our solutions into a variety of systems, platforms and deployments.

In this spring edition of Postcode News, we talk to Preston's College about how our software integration was seamless and improved services to both staff and students.

AFD Software's patented AFD Robot solution has been successfully helping organisations overcome integration barriers for more than ten years; read how it could help your organisation.

A fundamental business improvement

Colleges and Further Education organisations rely on accurate contact data for a number of reasons, including communications and engagement with students, parents and employers; accurate data returns; and geodemographic profiling of students, allowing a better understanding of their background.

With thousands of students aged 14-18, studying vocational, A-Level, and post-school courses, Preston's College prides itself on its extensive adult education services, apprenticeship provision and working with employers to employ students of all ages.

Further education is a vital step for school leavers. Whether laying a solid foundation to enter the workplace or achieving the necessary results to gain a place at University, Preston's College is motivated by its students' future possibilities.

We sat down with Rick Giagnacovo, Information Systems Manager at Preston's College, to discuss some of the challenges the college has faced around its students' address data.

"Throughout the year, we enter a lot of learner details onto our systems. We use that information for engagement and reporting - it's essential we get those details correct."

Rick continued: "From the start of our process in looking for an alternative supplier to provide our address validation, AFD Software made it clear that they are specialists in the higher education sector. Working with an organisation that understands the sector was a big draw.

Our previous address validation solution was seen as an overhead tied exclusively to two of our systems and could not be used elsewhere in the college where there was also a requirement for accurate addresses at the point of entry. A major limitation we found was only being able to validate addresses by a correct postcode. Since making the upgrade to AFD Software, users can now search by address fragments as well as by postcodes – very handy for our students who may not know their exact address details."

Postcode Plus from AFD Software has allowed Preston's College to deploy essential rapid, accurate address validation throughout the college.

An education in integration

At AFD Software, we are constantly seeking new ways to improve our services and functionality to directly benefit our end users, offering integrations with most systems. With our patented Robot technology and technical expertise, we can always find a way for our powerful Name, Address, and Bank validation solutions to work within your organisation.

Discussing AFD Software's implementation at Preston's College, Rick goes on to say: "It just worked, the installer was simple – two clicks and it was working! There was no impact on our users and no additional training was required.

Before the introduction of AFD Software, we would have to switch to a different screen to access the address lookup functionality. Now we can update student details all from one system - saving time and staff frustrations."

"This is a fundamental business improvement that I could not recommend highly enough to other colleges and further education organisations."

Rick Giagnacovo,
Information Systems Manager,
Preston's College

Preston's College made the upgrade to AFD Software and now reap the benefits.

AFD Software has been helping organisations in the education sector like Preston's College for over 30 years, improving business processes and helping achieve goals. Today, thousands of organisations in multiple sectors directly benefit from AFD Software's address management solutions in a variety of environments. How could your organisation benefit?

One of our Data Quality Consultants can help you identify how today!

Call Joel Miller on **01624 811711** or email joel.miller@afd.co.uk

www.afd.co.uk/postcodeplus
www.preston.ac.uk

Simply Beautiful Technology – Robot at work

AFD Software solutions provide rapid, accurate entry of Name, Address and Bank data.

A wide range of proven developer tools minimise integration time and our patented AFD Robot technology allows integration of our solutions into almost any application. We think it's Simply Beautiful Technology!

Feedback regarding software integration often focuses on the amount of time it will take, how much valuable technical resource will be expended and will it work within your chosen systems. For over ten years AFD Robot technology has been overcoming these challenges: Quickly, Easily and Reliably.

What does Robot do?

Robot enables you to have essential rapid, validated data entry for your organisations' internal staff and external site visitors. Robot detects a postcode entered into any Windows® desktop or web application and automatically delivers the accurate address. Annoying pop-up address entry windows are eliminated - saving time and effort.

Interested? Contact one of our Data Quality Consultants today and understand how we can help you make the upgrade to AFD Software. Call Joel Miller on 01624 811711 or Email joel.miller@afd.co.uk

www.afd.co.uk/robot

AFD Data News   Q.2/16

Between January and March 2016 there were significant updates to data on the Royal Mail Postcode Address File (PAF).

These included 29 new localities; 7,657 new postcodes; 106,172 new delivery points and 29,998 delivery point changes.

New Localities

Postcode	Double Dependant Locality	Dependant Locality	Post Town
AB41 1			ELLON
BA12 6	GASPER	STOURTON	WARMINSTER
BT35 8		DRUMINTEE	NEWRY
BT49 4			LONDONDERRY
BT78 3	CABRAGH	TRILLICK	OMAGH
DN18 9			BARTON-UPON-HUMBER
DN21 1		SOMERBY PARK	GAINSBOROUGH
FY1 9			POULTON-LE-FYLDE
FY1 9			THORNTON-CLEVELEYS
GU10 3			FARNHAM
HS4 3			ISLE OF SCALPAY
IP27 1			BRANDON
LD7 9			PRESTEIGNE
LL18 9			ST. ASAPH
NE61 2		ST. GEORGES WOOD	MORPETH
NE66 9			BELFORD
NP19 4		CELTIC BUSINESS PARK	NEWPORT
NR19 9			NORWICH
PE12 0	FLEET COY	GEDNEY HILL	SPALDING
PO30 9			EAST COWES
PR4 3	MILL FARM SPORTS VILLAGE	WESHAM	PRESTON
RG23 7			BASINGSTOKE
RH19 9			FOREST ROW
S44 5	ROWTHORNE VILLAGE	GLAPWELL	CHESTERFIELD
SP4 4			SALISBURY
SS11 7	HAYES COUNTRY PARK	BATTLEBRIDGE	WICKFORD
SY13 9			MALPAS
TA7 0	**BANKLANDS**	NORTH NEWTON	BRIDGWATER
TA7 0	CHADMEAD	NORTH NEWTON	BRIDGWATER

Is Banklands in Bridgwater a good place to open a current account? Not really! Being in the heart of rural Somerset you are much more likely to find farmhouses and acres of farmers' fields than a choice of Barclays, Lloyds or HSBC.

The most up to date data is available now in our latest Q.2/16 update. The Q.2/16 Names & Numbers is due for release in May. You can order updates for any AFD Software solution by calling **01624 811711** or email **postcode@afd.co.uk**

Jonathan Stocks
Senior Business Development Manager

Having studied Biological sciences at The University of Hull, Jonathan spent a lot of time playing with crayfish before forging a career in Software with AFD.

Celebrating his eighth year at AFD Software, Jonathan has progressed within the Sales and Marketing team to his current role.

Jonathan has become an experienced address management specialist, helping organisations in many different industries and in the public sector to overcome data quality issues.

In discussing his career so far Jonathan says: "AFD has provided me with a role in which I have been able to mature, progress and succeed."

Jonathan likes to keep fit in a variety of ways; if he's not tearing up the 5 a side football pitch, he is in the gym or working on his flexibility in a Pilates class!

Based in Leeds, Jonathan is married to wife Sophie who also works in IT Software – who said opposites attract?