

The News Bulletin from Autoscribe Ltd

Matrix – The LIMS for All Reasons

1. Upgrade path

Matrix LIMS upgrades are backward compatible and have been since the very first version introduced 14 years ago despite the massive changes in the product. The Autoscribe policy of no core code customisation, but a high degree of configurability, is key to the continual upgrade path.

User benefits:-

- a) Matrix LIMS is proven to grow with both small and large businesses.
- b) New features and new technology are accessible without the need to change systems.

2. Configuration tools

Autoscribe pioneered the use of configuration tools in 1996 and they have been regularly upgraded during the past 8 years. They are still unique and the best.

The configuration tools provide massive flexibility and Matrix may be tailored for a wide variety of industries and applications including the creation of business systems such as customer complaints management and document management.

Neither programming nor a knowledge of a programming language is required for system configuration. The tools are usable by a customer and customer developed configurations are fully supported by Autoscribe (compare this to a system that is “configured” by writing code).

User benefits:-

- a) Matrix is easily configured to meet user requirements without custom code.
- b) Matrix is easy to update to meet new business needs.
- c) Configuration has no negative impact on system support or upgradeability.

3. System scalability

Matrix systems are scalable from single user sample tracking systems to full function global LIMS involving many hundreds of users ... or anywhere in between.

Matrix systems are suitable for small companies, individual departments within a company, large companies and/or enterprise organisations.

User benefits:-

- a) The same software can be used in large central laboratories as well as small one-man laboratories in remote locations thus providing standardisation throughout the organisation.
- b) The above leads to better understanding between laboratories and a consolidated approach to user and system manager training.
- c) Support and upgrade costs are kept to a realistic level.

The above benefits illustrate the real way to standardise with a LIMS – be careful of other claims!

4. System stability and reliability

Matrix LIMS has an unmatched record for customer satisfaction. This is monitored on an annual basis and copies of the surveys are available on request. 100% of respondents to the 2004 survey stated that they would buy Matrix again if given the choice.

User benefits:-

- a) Maximises the use of the system.
- b) Good relationship .. a business partnership .. between Autoscribe and the user community.

5. System technology

Matrix LIMS Version 5 has been developed in a Microsoft .NET framework thus following the Microsoft direction exactly.

Version 5 allows the use of configuration tools to design screens just once and they are then usable with web or Windows clients .. all options are left open. In addition, the screens may be miniaturised using the configuration tools for use with hand held devices.

User benefits:-

- a) Development of Matrix is in line with Microsoft strategy thus providing protection of investment.
- b) Matrix Version 5 can be used any place any time.

6. Multi-database capability

Any number of separate databases can be created within one Matrix system. Each database can have its own independent design. Different commercial databases can be used on the same system also.

User benefits:-

- a) Widely varying requirements can be accommodated on the same system e.g. different departments within a large organisation can have a separate existence on the same Matrix system.
- b) The databases can also be used for active samples, archived samples and for training/ development, for example.

7. Unique system functions (apart from the configuration tools)

An unlimited number of differently designed sample registration screens can be used on one Matrix system. This means that there are no compromises and that each registration screen is designed for a specific purpose .. no optional fields or irrelevant fields leading to a user friendly system.

An unlimited number of sample numbering schemes can be accommodated in a single system.

Limits can be set at sample, test and product level and, if applicable, for stability samples separately.

And much more (ask for a Features List)

8. System development

Autoscribe involves customers in steering

group meetings in order to ensure that the customer voice is heard when decisions for future developments are being taken.

This is part of the Company strategy to involve our customers in a business partnership scenario.

9. System implementation

Implementation is not out-sourced and therefore there is no abdication of responsibility. One contract covers supply of software and the implementation services.

10. System support

Direct contact with technical expert on one of our help-desks. No off-shore support, no use of 0870 numbers and no web based logging of calls.

Just professional and responsive service.

11. Autoscribe consultancy services

- Preparation of system requirements documentation.
- Unique tools for creating prototype examples to illustrate screens that may be used to satisfy requirements.
- IQ, OQ and PQ services – full system validation capability.

12. Autoscribe financing

Flexibility of choice:-

- a) Conventional payment for licences and services.
- b) Annual rental to include implementation, support and supply of upgrades.
- c) Price per sample registered.

13. Quotations

Fixed price quotations once user requirements are under-stood and agreed with the customer.

Formal change control system.

14. Total LIMS Service

The combination of the previous 13 reasons provides a unique offering in the LIMS business And yet to us at Autoscribe a customer has the right to expect this level of overall service.

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