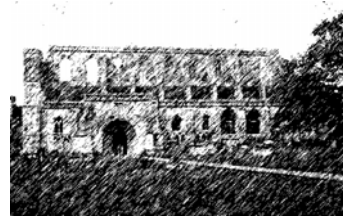


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Press Release

Date: 28th October 2003

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Subject: Survey of Purchasing Capability in the South West of England

The *Flying Monk Group*, an independent, specialist Purchasing and Supply Chain Consultancy based in Malmesbury, Wiltshire today announces the launch of an annual survey into the Purchasing Capability of companies in the South West of England.

This short, on-line, survey (www.dot-com-surveys.com/purchasing_sw.htm) will be used to assess the current Purchasing Capability of companies, against global best practice benchmarks, to identify leading practices and areas for improvement across the region.

The survey will be of use to companies in helping them identify future areas for improvement in this key supply chain discipline, and supports Government initiatives, via the DTI, to improve management knowledge and skills in key areas.

Participating in the survey should take no more than 10-15 minutes and has been made as simple as possible through the use of the internet by conducting the survey on-line (www.dot-com-surveys.com/purchasing_sw.htm) thus allowing participants the ability to respond at their convenience 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

As a thank you for participating, all respondents will receive a free copy of the survey report when it is published early next year.

Participants are asked to complete the on-line questionnaire by no later than **31st December 2003**, the report will then be published in January 2004.

The survey can be found at www.dot-com-surveys.com/purchasing_sw.htm.

About the Flying Monk Group:

The Flying Monk Group is an independent specialist Purchasing & Supply Chain Consultancy based in Malmesbury, Wiltshire. Particular strengths are in Supply Chain Strategy Development and Implementation, Purchase Spend Reviews, Purchasing Process Improvement and in the area of Supply Chain Outsourcing both from a client and bidder perspective.

Particular specialisms/service offerings include:

- Development of Supply Chain Strategies
- Supply Chain Process Improvement
- Supply Chain (or other function) Outsourcing
- Procurement Process and Spend Reviews
- Project & Change Management
- Coaching, Facilitation and Training

Our experience covers a wide range of industries including Telecommunications (both fixed line & mobile), Food & Drink, Pharmaceuticals, Aerospace & Defence, Retail - Leisure, Media, Paper, Transport and the Public Sector.

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