

# MEMORANDUM

## PLACER COUNTY AUDITOR CONTROLLER PLACER COUNTY PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF PLACER

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**From:** Katherine J. Martinis, Auditor-Controller  
Nancy Nittler, Personnel Director

**Date:** July 6, 2007

**Subject:** Adopt a Resolution Approving the Purchase of Automate!Test Software from Newmerix Corporation, with accompanying Professional Services Contract of One Year for Maintenance and Support, and the accompanying Budget Revision, in the total amount of \$90,100.00. This Testing Software Will Provide Consistent Automated Testing During the Impending Improvements to the County Payroll & Personnel System (ACORN).

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### Action Requested

We request your board approve the following actions:

1. Adopt the attached Resolution Approving the Purchase of Automate!Test Software from Newmerix Corporation, in the total amount of \$90,100.00.
2. Approve the attached budget revision moving \$82,000 from Professional Services to Fixed assets to purchase simulation software to be used with PeopleSoft Payroll and Personnel (ACORN) software;
3. Add the software to the Master Fixed Asset list;
4. Approve early purchase authority as this will aid in preparation of the pending ACORN application upgrade; and,
5. Authorize the Purchasing Manager to sign a purchase order with Newmerix, Corporation for Automate!Test software in the amount of \$90,100.00.

### Background

The Personnel Department, Auditor-Controller's Office and Information Technology Division are preparing to upgrade the County's PeopleSoft Payroll and Personnel (ACORN) software application from the current version to the new version recommended by our consultant. The new version delivers new navigation and functionality, which will require a substantial effort to develop standard test scripts and training materials for the existing users.

Software simulation products, like Automate!Test, are used to create a simulation of a "live" enterprise system or business application for the purposes of documenting business processes or training end-users on a particular task. The typical end result is a software simulation made up of a collection of screens and instructions that can be used for testing and for user training.

Automate!Test will provide automated testing for the ACORN application resulting in more consistent testing and maximization of limited staff resources; test scripts, which are developed and set up once, are used multiple times, in multiple environments, reducing the amount of resource time and effort needed for completing the validation of the process and resulting data. The software will also increase the consistency and accuracy of testing and validation efforts required when applying application bundles, fixes, tax updates, which happen multiple times per year, and will provide significant assistance in the upcoming PeopleTools and software upgrades. In summary, Automate!Test will assist in the County's current and future support, maintenance and development of the ACORN system.

This purchase is exempt from competitive bidding according to Section 1.3(i) of the Purchasing Policy Manual. However, the software was competitively evaluated against two competing firms that also offer software simulator products. All three firms provided product demonstrations to Auditor, Personnel and IT staff.

### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no additional cost associated with this request in fiscal year 2007-2008. Funding is included in the budget for the Countywide Systems Fund. Initially, funding was budgeted in professional services as a placeholder as we did not have full information regarding the needs for ACORN system.

The first year cost for software purchase and implementation is \$82,000 and maintenance is \$8,100. Maintenance costs in future years are estimated at \$8,100 per year.

### **Attachments**

Resolution  
Budget Revision

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF PLACER, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**In the matter of:**

**A Resolution Approving the Purchase of Automate!Test Software from Newmerix Corporation, with accompanying Professional Services Contract of One Year for Maintenance and Support, and the accompanying Budget Revision, in the total amount of \$90,100.00. This Testing Software Will Provide Consistent Automated Testing During the Impending Improvements to the County Payroll & Personnel System (ACORN).**

**Resol. No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ord. No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**First Reading:** \_\_\_\_\_

**The following Resolution was duly passed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer at a regular meeting held July 24, 2007 by the following vote on roll call:**

**Ayes:**

**Noes:**

**Absent:**

**Signed and approved by me after its passage.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairperson, Board of Supervisors**

**Attest:**

**Clerk of said Board**

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**WHEREAS**, the Placer County Board of Supervisors desires to approve the purchase of Automate!Test Software, and the accompanying budget revision, for use by the Personnel and Auditor Controller's Offices.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Placer, State of California, approves by resolution the purchase of Automate!Test Software, and the accompanying budget revision, for use by the Personnel and Auditor Controller's Offices.

PLACER COUNTY

PAS DOCUMENT NO.

**BUDGET REVISION**

**POST DATE:**

DEPT NO.	DOC TYPE	Total \$ Amount	TOTAL LINES
	BR	164,000.00	2

Cash Transfer Required  
 Reserve Cancellation Required  
 Establish Reserve Required

Auditor-Controller  
 County Executive  
 Board of Supervisors

**ESTIMATED REVENUE ADJUSTMENT**

**APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT**

DEPT NO.	T/C	Rev	Fund	Sub Fund	OCA	PCA	OBJ 3	PROJ.	PROJ. DTL	AMOUNT
10	015	250	104	90624	90624		2555			82,000.00
10	014	250	104	CWAUDR	ACORN	4451				82,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>										<b>164,000.00</b>

REASON FOR REVISION: Purchase of Automate! Test Software from Newmerix Corporation.

Prepared by Lynn Yoshida Ext 4188

Department Head Kathy Martinis/ *Kathy Martinis*

Board of Supervisors

Date: 7/6/07

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Budget Revision # \_\_\_\_\_ FOR INDIVIDUAL DEPT USE

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