

Coding International Ltd (CIL)

The UK's best kept secret



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Having a discussion about coding and classification structures, version control and mapping conventions is an instant way of getting that 'glazed over' look from colleagues and inviting accusations of being an 'anorak'.

Yet coding and classification hierarchies remain integral to many commercial aspects of commission, contract management and reporting, including:

- management reporting through financial systems, P2P and contracts registers
- expenditure analysis
- category management (core and non-core)
- supplier and provider classification;
- data mapping

Luckily, for those needing help in these areas, help is at hand. One of the UK's best kept secrets has the people, expertise and off-the-shelf solutions at your disposal, all built up over the last 30 years.

Based in Southampton, Coding International Limited (CIL) was formerly a part of the now defunct NHS Supplies Authority and was known as the 'NSV (National Supply Vocabulary) Centre', it was eventually subject to a management buy-out in 2000. NSV first achieved wider recognition in 1991 when its NSV coding structure, used by the NHS, was adopted as the new standard for central government following a six-month commercial evaluation. Under the CIL brand it became the operational lead in 2007 for ProClass - the local government procurement

classification used by over 80% of English councils.

So what makes CIL unique? The main benefits are the expertise of the CIL team and the range of mappings that it has its disposal. Not only do the people 'know their stuff', they can also map data in a short space of time and at a fraction of the cost charged by many consultancy firms. Organisations such as the [Aster Group](#) found out the value of CIL in 2015 when it successfully mapped ProClass to its ledger codes for its finance system in under two weeks. Read the case study [here](#).

CIL's [website](#), is an Aladdin's cave of resources and case studies. Sadly, CIL suffers from a lack of exposure for the following reasons:

- The subject is deemed 'boring' or a technical issue meaning that it is ignored or given to the IT department to sort out
- Organisations often employ consultants to advise on coding and classification, who often charge to do work that has already been done by CIL and is already in the public domain
- The importance and value of coding to the business, particularly in the setup of financial systems, is not understood and often undervalued

The good news is that Operations Manager, Rob Jefferies, is an email jeff@codinginternational.com or phone call away 02380 554111. Why not check them out today and see what your organisation is missing out on.

Back Page Briefing

Here we summarise topical reports, products and services that are likely to be of interest to procurement and commissioning staff. The appearance of any item or product in this briefing does not signify approval or endorsement by *The Catalyst* or its publisher SPS Consultancy Services Ltd.

If there are any products or developments that you would like to nominate please email the details to:

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