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Cincinnati Public Schools to Utilize iSqFt

CINCINNATI – September 13, 2005 – In a move that is expected to provide significant cost savings over the remainder of Cincinnati Public Schools' (CPS) ongoing Facilities Master Plan, the Cincinnati Public Schools and its program manager announced that they have chosen to employ iSqFt's Private Design Office for preconstruction management services as the project moves forward.

The \$985 million, 10-year initiative, which began in 2002, consists of a four-segment plan to construct or fully renovate over 60 facilities in an effort to upgrade CPS' aging infrastructure of buildings. Planning for the second segment of the overall plan has recently begun.

"Taking a look back at the historical costs that have been incurred over the first few years of the program, we anticipate that the hard dollar cost savings going forward as a result of using iSqFt's Private Design Office will be considerable," stated Steven DeSalvo, the senior project manager for Turner Construction, one of the firms serving in a joint venture as the construction manager for the Master Plan. "And that doesn't even take into the account the additional efficiencies we believe it will bring to the entire preconstruction process."

The Private Design Office application provides preconstruction features such as bid management, plan distribution, and online collaboration, which ultimately results in a more efficient preconstruction process. Use of the application is expected to reduce preconstruction costs considerably over the remainder of the CPS Facility Master Plan.

This cost reduction is expected to occur primarily in two areas. First, online access to construction plans, specifications, and addenda will eliminate most of the need for blueprint reproduction and distribution – an item that cost nearly \$250,000 on the first segment alone. Use of the application will also encourage more competitive bids on bid day by making the projects available to more and better qualified subcontractors who currently use iSqFt's services.

"We are honored to be involved in such a major project - especially one that is in our hometown," stated iSqFt chief executive officer Dave Conway. "We are confident that through the use of our application, the Cincinnati Public Schools, and indirectly the people of Cincinnati, will experience a significant cost savings."

The program manager for CPS' Facility Master Plan is a joint venture consisting of Cincinnatibased CSA Central, Inc. and 3D/International, Inc., headquartered in Houston. The primary users of the application will be the construction management team of the Cincinnati office of Dallasbased Turner Construction, and Cincinnati-based firms D.A.G. Construction, Inc. and TYS Construction. About iSqFt:

Founded in 1993 as Construction Software Technologies, Inc., Cincinnati-based iSqFt is the construction industry's leading provider of online bid solicitation and pre-construction management services in the United States. The company currently ranks 1st in the construction category and 50th overall on *Inc.* magazine's "*Inc.* 500" listing of the fastest-growing privately held companies in the United States. Through partnerships with such organizations as the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) and the Allied Construction Industries, the firm provides tens of thousands of general contractors, subcontractors, and suppliers with online tools and solutions to increase competitiveness through reduced costs and increased efficiency.

For more information about iSqFt, visit <u>www.isqft.com</u>.

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