

# Expert Provisioner

Accurate prediction and ordering of aircraft parts



## Description:

- ◆ A knowledge-based provisioning support system.
- ◆ Removes mundane form processing and prevents misinterpretation of special codes.
- ◆ Brings together information formerly stored on paper forms and index cards.
- ◆ Prompts user to investigate where necessary.
- ◆ Developed and distributed on networked Windows PCs.



## Technical approach:

- ◆ RAF Logistics Support personnel trained in AI techniques.
- ◆ Intelligent provisioning used as a worked example.
- ◆ Management interest led to development of prototype using CLIPS rule-based system.
- ◆ Senior management interest in prototype led to development of full system.
- ◆ Visual Basic and MS Access used.
- ◆ *Success through using the simplest technology adequate for the task.*

Original order form

## Benefits:

- ◆ Reduces the uncertainty of procurement budgets near financial year-ends.
- ◆ Reduces wastage through over-ordering.
- ◆ Takes advantage of price breaks for large orders.
- ◆ Maintains consistency of order processing.
- ◆ Easy to use and to understand.
- ◆ Estimated savings of £30 million per year.

Order form in Expert Provisioner



AIAI and RAF Logistics Support Services

<http://www.aiai.ed.ac.uk/project/ep/>

