



**May 28, 2010**

## **Fisher Scientific Preferred Provider Award Details**

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As previously announced, Fisher Scientific, part of Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., has been awarded as the University's preferred provider of scientific supplies, equipment and instrumentation. This new partnership with Fisher will benefit individual customers as well as the University as a whole. At this time we are pleased to share additional details regarding this new partnership.

The University will begin to realize the benefits of the new Fisher pricing effective June 1, 2010. At this time, all competitor exact match (same brand and item) products will no longer be available on PantherBuy. Also effective June 1, 2010, VWR's punchout will be replaced in PantherBuy with a new hosted catalog of their exclusive products.

Additionally, Fisher has been working closely with the Department of Biological Sciences stockroom to make improvements in ordering and service. The stockroom will begin undergoing a transformation that will be revealed on July 1, 2010 at the start of the new fiscal year. As part of the improvements to ordering and service, effective July 1, 2010 the stockroom will have its own punchout on PantherBuy. If you are not currently set up as a PantherBuy user there is a simple form with instructions available online to create an account. To learn more about PantherBuy, sign up for a training session or to create a PantherBuy account, please visit their website at [www.pantherbuy.pitt.edu](http://www.pantherbuy.pitt.edu). Further details will be sent out over the next few weeks as we prepare for the July 1, 2010 go live date.

In these difficult economic times, we appreciate your cooperation in achieving the full benefits of this new contract, which were achieved in part by consolidating volume with the preferred supplier. Over the next few months, Supplier Management, in conjunction with a commodity advisory team, will continue working with Fisher Scientific to maximize cost savings through several collaborative efforts:

- Consolidation of exact match items through other competitors.
- Savings opportunities on purchases or quotes outside of PantherBuy.
- Developing easy to use cost saving cross reference guides.
- Continuing to offer unique, one of a kind items on PantherBuy

As a general reminder for purchasing goods for your department, Procurement Cards (P-Card) should be used for emergency or non-routine purchases only. Additionally, in order to protect the University, no other methods such as a Disbursement Request or verbal orders are permitted for making general purchases.

For questions or feedback regarding this new partnership, please submit your inquiry using the following link and selecting the *other* option: <http://www.bc.pitt.edu/purchasing/inquiries.html>

### **References:**

Purchasing [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH POLICY 05-02-12 [Procurement Card](#)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH POLICY 05-06-03 [Disbursement Request](#)