can be used for operating theatres, and supplying stock information in respect of the theatre storeroom.

- Loose tracking of consignment stocks and loan kits. For example, an estimated AUD 1.26 million was consumed for clarifying prostheses rebated codes last year, and an estimated AUD 8.75 million was lost in revenue from unclaimed joint replacement prostheses. Loose tracking of critical medical devices causes high risks for patient safety and results in significant revenue loss for hospitals.

[021] Whilst the aforementioned description has focused on the healthcare industry, many analogous problems are associated with the hospitality industry and the operation of a large hotel having several kitchens.

[022] Even though the provision of a particular meal may not be essential to the point of being life threatening, nonetheless in terms of efficiency and variety in quality meal preparation and service delivery to the customer logistical management, support and supply issues and problems predominate. These similarly involve communication and ingredient supply problems, which if managed better can result in better efficiencies, customer satisfaction and staff tenure.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

[023] The present disclosure seeks to provide for logistical management, support and supply of objects on a dynamic basis at one or more localities within a precinct of facility that sources the objects from a store that overcomes some or all of the problems outlined in the background art.

[024] In one aspect of the disclosure, there is provided a software platform for delivering computer implemented, web accessible workflow management based on a SaaS model.

[025] In another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a system for providing logistical management, support and supply of medical supplies for consumption or use on a dynamic basis at one or more localities within a precinct or facility associated with the healthcare industry, wherein the precinct or facility sources the medical supplies from a store, the system comprising:

(a) an external processing system defining an environment that is operable to allow access by a plurality of subscribers to relevant parts of a data store providing master data on medical supplies stored in the store;

(b) a plurality of mobile devices for use by a plurality of types of the plurality of subscribers to setup templates defining the prescribed use of the medical supplies in a variety of situations in a dynamically scheduled manner;

(c) a plurality of applications for operating on the plurality of mobile devices, each application being designed for a particular type of subscriber performing a prescribed task associated with the use of medical supplies in accordance with different templates and to download relevant parts of the data store to store locally on the devices;

(d) each application adapted to progress the subscriber through a range of functions prescribed for the subscriber, the range of functions involving receiving inputs for dynamically scheduling the creation or performance of a medical procedure or both the creation and performance of the medical procedure, using some of the medical supplies in accordance with a particular template, wherein some or all of the medical supplies may be used or consumed in the medical procedure;

(e) at least one the applications adapted to track the use or consumption of the medical supplies in the procedure in real time, the use or consumption determined based on inputs received by one or more of the mobile devices from the subscribers, the at least one application adapted to update the external processing system and data store with status information relating to the medical supplies based on the real-time tracked use or consumption;

(f) the external processing system communicating with an inventory management system to supplement the master data with information concerning the availability and whereabouts of all medical supplies specified in a template and tracked in the store;

(g) the external processing system communicating with a dynamic scheduling system to determine when a procedure defined by a particular template will occur; and

(h) the external processing system organising the fetching of medical supplies for delivery to the particular locality at a prescribed time for use or consuming in a scheduled medical procedure pursuant to communication with the dynamic scheduling system, the invoking of an application and inputs received by one or more of the mobile devices during progression of the subscribers through the specified range of functions therefor.

[026] Preferably, one of the applications is a building application for one type of

subscriber to create templates for use and populating by other subscribers.

[027] Preferably, another of the applications is a setup application for another type of subscriber to select one or more templates associated with a group of templates related to a particular type of procedure or person, and populating the template with appropriate objects to be used in a procedure defined by the template.

[028] Preferably, a further of the applications is procedural application associated with a group of templates defining a finished list of objects for use or consumption in a procedure; and updating the status of the objects in real time after they are used or consumed; and updating the data store in relation to such status.

[029] Preferably the system is for a hospital, where the procedures are surgical procedures, and the templates are surgeon's preference cards.

[030] In accordance with another aspect of the present disclosure, there is provided a method for providing logistical management, support and supply of medical supplies for consumption or use on a dynamic basis at one or more localities within a precinct or facility associated with the healthcare industry, wherein the precinct or facility sources the medical supplies from a store, the system comprising:

(a) defining, by an external processing system, an environment that is operable to allow access by a plurality of subscribers to relevant parts of a data store providing master data on objects stored in the store;

(b) one or more types of the plurality of subscribers setting up templates using a facility system defining the prescribed use of the medical supplies in a variety of situations in a dynamically scheduled manner;

(c) using, by the facility system, different templates to prescribe task associated with the use of medical supplies and downloading relevant parts of the data store to store locally o n the devices;

(d) progressing, by at least one application executing on one of a plurality of mobile devices, one of the subscribers through a range of functions prescribed for the subscriber, the functions involving the creation or performance of a medical procedure, or both the creation and performance of the medical procedure, using some of the medical supplies in accordance with a particular template, wherein some or all of the medical supplies may be used or consumed in the medical procedure;

(e) tracking, by the at least one application, the use or consumption of the medical supplies in the procedure in real time, the use or consumption determined based upon inputs received from the subscribers, and updating the external processing system and data store with status information relating to use of consumption of the medical supplies;

(f) communicating, by the external processing system, with an inventory management system to supplement the master data with information concerning the availability and whereabouts of all medical supplies that may be specified in a template and tracked in the store;

(g) communicating, by the external processing system, with a dynamic scheduling system to determine when a procedure defined by a particular template will occur; and

(h) fetching, by the external processing system, medical supplies for delivery to the particular locality at a prescribed time for use or consuming in a scheduled medical procedure pursuant to communication with the dynamic scheduling system, the invoking of an application and data received by the one or more mobile devices during progression of the subscribers through the specified range of functions therefor.

[031] Preferably, the system is for a hospital and the reports include patient care quality, diagnosis and treatment, clinical research, predictive analysis of diseases, inventory management, revenue capture, coding accuracy.

[032] Preferably, the system is provides real time usage data to third party material suppliers and/or producers. In this manner, vendor inventory management based on the invention is able to replace traditional ordering processes, resulting in less waste and more accuracy, and minimising double handling.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[033] The invention is better understood in the light of the flowing description of the best mode for carrying out the invention. The description is made with reference to the following drawings that consist of schematic diagrams of various aspects of a system according to an embodiment of the present invention, and its operation and use; wherein:

Fig. 1 is a schematic diagram of the system in conceptual overview;

Fig. 2 is a schematic diagram of the system structure;

Fig. 3 is a block diagram showing the various menu options available for accessing the window application of the system for hospital managers;

Fig. 4 is a block diagram showing the various menu options available for accessing the builder application of the system for hospital managers;

Fig. 5 is a block diagram showing the various menu options available for accessing the setup application of the system for hospital nurses;

Fig. 6 is a block diagram showing the various menu options available for accessing the surgery application of the system for hospital scrub nurses;

Fig. 7 is a flowchart showing the methodology of the Manage User Account process of the window application;

Fig. 8 is a flowchart showing the methodology of the Product Category Management process of the window application;

Fig. 9 is a flowchart showing the methodology of the Manage Products process of the window application;

CLAIMS:

1. A system for providing logistical management, support and supply of medical supplies for consumption or use on a dynamic basis at one or more localities within a precinct or facility associated with the healthcare industry, wherein the precinct or facility sources the medical supplies from a store, the system comprising:

(a) an external processing system defining an environment that is operable to allow access by a plurality of subscribers to relevant parts of a data store providing master data on medical supplies stored in the store;

(b) a plurality of mobile devices for use by a plurality of types of the plurality of subscribers to setup templates defining the prescribed use of the medical supplies in a variety of situations in a dynamically scheduled manner;

(c) a plurality of applications for operating on the plurality of mobile devices, each application being designed for a particular type of subscriber performing a prescribed task associated with the use of medical supplies in accordance with different templates and to download relevant parts of the data store to store locally on the devices;

(d) each application adapted to progress the subscriber through a range of functions prescribed for the subscriber, the range of functions involving receiving inputs for dynamically scheduling the creation or performance of a medical procedure, or both the creation and performance of the medical procedure, using some of the medical supplies in accordance with a particular template, wherein some or all of the medical supplies may be used or consumed in the medical procedure;

(e) at least one of the applications adapted to track the use or consumption of the medical supplies in the medical procedure in real time, the use or consumption determined based on inputs received by one or more of the mobile devices from the subscribers, the at least one application adapted to update the external processing system and data store with status information relating to the medical supplies based on the real-time tracked use or consumption;

(f) the external processing system communicating with an inventory management system to supplement the master data with information concerning the availability and whereabouts of all medical supplies specified in a template and tracked in the store;

(g) the external processing system communicating with a dynamic scheduling system to determine when a procedure defined by a particular template will occur; and

(h) the external processing system organising the fetching of medical supplies for delivery to the particular locality at a prescribed time for use or consuming in a scheduled medical procedure pursuant to communication with the dynamic scheduling system, the invoking of an application and inputs received by one or more of the mobile devices during progression of the subscribers through the specified range of functions therefor.

2. A system as claimed in claim 1, wherein one of the applications is a building application for one type of subscriber to create templates for use and populating by other subscribers.

3. A system as claimed in claim 2, wherein another of the applications is a setup application for another type of subscriber to select one or more templates associated with a group of templates related to a particular type of procedure or person, and populating the template with appropriate objects to be used in a procedure defined by the template.

4. A system as claimed in claim 3, wherein a further of the applications is procedural application associated with a group of templates defining a finished list of medical supplies for use or consumption in a procedure; and updating the status of the medical supplies in real time after they are used or consumed; and updating the data store in relation to such status.

5. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein the system is for a hospital, where the procedures are surgical procedures, and the templates are surgeon's preference cards.

6. A method for providing logistical management, support and supply of medical supplies for consumption or use on a dynamic basis at one or more localities within a precinct or facility associated with the healthcare industry, wherein the precinct or facility sources the medical supplies from a store, the system comprising:

(a) defining, by an external processing system, an environment that is operable to allow access by a plurality of subscribers to relevant parts of a data store providing master data on medical supplies stored in the store;

(b) one or more types of the plurality of subscribers setting up templates using a facility system defining the prescribed use of the medical supplies in a variety of situations in a dynamically scheduled manner;

(c) using, by the facility system, different templates to prescribe task associated with the use of medical supplies and downloading relevant parts of the data store to store locally on the devices;

(d) progressing, by at least one application executing on one of a plurality of mobile devices, one of the subscribers through a range of functions prescribed for the subscriber, the functions involving the creation or performance of a medical procedure, or both the creation and performance of the procedure, using some of the medical supplies in accordance with a particular template, wherein some or all of the medical supplies may be used or consumed in the procedure;

(e) tracking, by the at least one application, the use or consumption of the medical supplies in the procedure in real time, the use or consumption determined based upon inputs received from the subscribers, and updating the external processing system and data store with status information relating to use of consumption of the medical supplies;

(f) communicating, by the external processing system, with an inventory management system to supplement the master data with information concerning the availability and whereabouts of all medical supplies that may be specified in a template and tracked in the store;

(g) communicating, by the external processing system, with a dynamic scheduling system to determine when a procedure defined by a particular template will occur; and

(h) fetching, by the external processing system, medical supplies for delivery to the particular locality at a prescribed time for use or consuming in a scheduled medical procedure pursuant to communication with the dynamic scheduling system, the invoking of an application and data received by the one or more mobile devices during progression of the subscribers through the specified range of functions therefor.