

For Continuity, Measure Procurement in Time and Money

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Johannesburg, Gauteng Aug 28, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - When one considers that South Africa's total estimated public sector procurement spend reaches nearly R1 trillion* per year, according to the Parliamentary Monitoring Group, it's no wonder that rands and cents feature front and centre in any discussion of organisational sourcing.

However, procurement performance should be measured not only by cost savings, but also by efficiency

and responsiveness. Delays in procurement can affect far more than project timelines, disrupting service delivery, operational continuity and organisational performance.

Across both the public and private sectors, slow procurement processes can delay maintenance, infrastructure projects and access to critical equipment and supplies. The resulting impact may include prolonged downtime, reduced productivity and increased operational costs.

Effective procurement supports business continuity by ensuring that resources are available when required. Where processes are inefficient or delayed, organisations may face deteriorating assets, stalled projects, underutilised resources and avoidable financial losses.

Conversely, timely procurement helps maintain operational momentum, supports service delivery objectives and reduces the risk of disruption. Reliable access to equipment, materials and services enables organisations to execute projects more effectively and respond to operational demands with greater agility.

Procurement delays can also affect workforce productivity. When employees lack access to the tools and resources required to perform their roles, project delivery may slow, pressure on teams can increase, and overall organisational effectiveness may be reduced.

Specialist intervention is often called for when internal procurement is broken, or simply inefficient. Outsourced procurement advice can help local public and private sector enterprises make better procurement decisions that start with understanding, not assumptions.

When it comes to technology, it can be very difficult for internal employees to determine suitable specifications and identify the right solutions. The result is often overspending and a poor fit. Trusted advisers like Cube ICT Solutions and others can provide practical guidance on specifications, compatibility and suitability, ensuring every purchase aligns with operational needs and the broader ICT environment.

Unfortunately, delayed procurement decisions are often subsequently made in haste as internal departments play catch-up. In the ICT environment specifically, the result is often enduring complexity. Buying purely on immediate need can lead to mismatched infrastructure, early refresh cycles and scalability issues down the line.

Remember that every procurement decision shapes the firm's ICT environment, for better or worse. The choices one makes around hardware, software and licensing, for instance, directly influence security posture, lifecycle planning and long-term cost control.

It is absolutely critical to partner with trusted advisers who can provide full visibility into how each purchasing decision supports the firm's infrastructure, users, and roadmap for the future.

Related to everything above about timing is the current phenomenon of rapid change. Super-fast technological change of the kind South Africa and the world are experiencing now is unprecedented. It feels like our parents and grandparents woke each day to the same world, whereas every morning for us feels like a walk into the unknown.

The fact is, the slow and steady progress of the 20th century meant it took decades to transition from radio to television, for example. Today's world launches entirely new platforms, global networks and scientific breakthroughs in a matter of months.

In an environment like this, delays in procurement come with significant costs.

Cube ICT Solutions is a leading nationwide, managed ICT services provider. Please follow us on LinkedIn or visit www.cubeict.co.za.

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