

CELCAT® Software Integration Data Requirements

Introduction

The CELCAT *Timetabler 7* software can be integrated with customer's management information systems. This is developed by CELCAT to a customer's specification.

This document describes the CELCAT data definitions and provides a useful starting point when considering integration.

Data Definitions

CELCAT *Timetabler* uses the following major data definitions. You may need to refer to these definitions when deciding which elements of your MIS data should be transferred into *Timetabler*:

An Event: Is an activity associated with one or more resources, occurring at a specified time and day and occurring in one or more weeks of the timetable.

A number of CELCAT resources can be associated with events. Resource is the collective term for 7 resource types: module, room, staff, group, student, equipment and team. Resources may be allocated to an event.

CELCAT resources are:

- Modules:** The subject or purpose of the activity, often it is what is being taught. It normally represents the subject part of a course which is taught to students. For example, a construction course may have among its taught subjects: brickwork theory, brickwork practice, maths, business studies etc. Module may describe any activity, such as meeting etc.
- Rooms:** The locations of the events. A room may have many attributes, such as layouts with associated seating capacities, fixtures etc.
- Equipment:** Mobile equipment can be anything that does not form part of a room's fixtures and fitting but which may be used in any room. For example: a TV or VCR unit. Any such object which is permanently assigned to a room would not be an item of equipment, but a fixture, which in turn is an attribute of a room.
- Staff:** The person teaching or leading the activity.
- Teams:** Teams are similar to groups except they apply to members of staff. A team represents a set of staff
- Students:** A student normally represents an individual student. Students can be members of a single group or multiple groups and students may be timetabled individually.
- Groups:** Usually a group of students or individuals taught at an event. Groups can have a membership, for example: group A can have groups A1 and A2 as members and groups A1 and A2 can have members of their own. In this example group A is a parent to group A1 and A2, and groups A1 and A2 can be described as children of group A. Group membership can also incorporate individual students. A group may contain students or sub-groups. There is no limit to the number of subgroups and even subgroups can have further subgroups and so on, without limit.

Each event can also be classified in a number of ways. CELCAT classification is the collective term for 8 classification types: course, department, event category, faculty, fixture, layout, site and supervisor.

CELCAT classifications are:

- Courses:** A course is simply a list of modules. Module resources can be attached to courses, so a module is part of a course & several modules usually make up a course. As module activities are timetabled a course timetable is developed.
- Faculties:** Departments can belong to faculties so a faculty represents a set of departments.
- Departments:** A department can own any of the resources. Department is an attribute of all resource types.
- Event Categories:** Event categories provide a means to categorise events. These are usually user defined such as lectures, tutorials, seminars etc or any user defined category.
- Fixtures:** Fixtures and fittings can form part of a room inventory. These are not mobile pieces of equipment but are rather features possessed by a room, such as data projector or MS Office software.
- Layouts:** Layout is a term that describes a room. For example a room with computers etc may be described as 'PC Lab'. Other layouts could be: 'Lecture Theatre', 'Classroom', 'Seminar' or 'Exam'. Some rooms might always use one layout, while others could be rearranged according to need, e.g. a room described normally as 'Classroom' might also be used for exams, in which case it could have two layouts: 'Classroom' and 'Exam'. It's possible for one layout to be the default layout of a room.
- Sites:** A Site is normally equivalent to 'campus'. It could however, be used to refer to 'building' or 'zone' within a physical site. An institution may have a number of campuses. Rooms can be allocated to different locations by assigning them to a site.
- Supervisors:** A supervisor is likely to supervise a student or a number of students. Supervisors are used by CELCAT *Timetabler* Attendance and Notification Service, which is able to inform the supervisors of a student's poor attendance.

What Happens Now?

Please contact your CELCAT Account Manager if you require details on integration.