

## Improved Expense Management and Usability

The Police Federation was established by the Police Act in 1919, following a strike in London, when almost every constable and sergeant in the Metropolitan Police refused to go on duty. Since that time, police officers have been prohibited from striking by statute, the most recent being the Police Act 1996. It is not a union, but has a statutory responsibility to represent its members, that is all officers below the rank of Superintendent, in all matters affecting their welfare and efficiency.

**The Federation today** represents the interests of over 139,000 police officers, bringing together their views on welfare and efficiency to the notice of the government and all opinion formers. The Federation negotiates on all aspects of pay, allowances, hours of duty, annual leave and pensions. It is consulted when police regulations are made, dealing with training, promotion and discipline.

It takes an active interest in a wide range of subjects, which affect the police service, and puts forward its views on the members' behalf. Thus, it not only acts as a staff association, but also as a professional body, able to influence not only living standards, through pay and other benefits, but also the development of professional standards.

Amongst many other functions required to operate the organisation, the Police Federation has a finance team responsible to process the approval, recording and payment of all suppliers' invoices and member's expense claims as well as the sale of merchandise. The finance team must also ensure that their management and statutory reporting is accurate and up to date, and easy to update. In order to help the finance team cope with the volume of work efficiently the Police Federation chose Dynamic NAV.

Going Live in April 2007 they have benefited from improved efficiency that Dynamics NAV's flexible design and ease of use has provided. In addition they have capitalised on the power of the integration tool with:

- **Excel**, allowing Journals and Expense Claims to be created in Excel and then simply imported directly into Dynamics NAV.
- **Payroll**, import of data to speed up the Journal Entry and ensure accuracy.
- **NatWest Bank**, to improve the speed and reliability of bank reconciliations (which are now done weekly).



After replacing their Sun Accounts system, they have benefited from the ease of use, integration and flexibility of Dynamic NAV and have been able to rely on the support provided by the team at Creative Business Systems.

Robert Dean, Finance Controller says this about CBS and Dynamics NAV **“The system has greatly improved the efficiency of the department and I can see further advantages down the road when additional features are implemented due to the flexibility of the software.”**