We want to be able to sell this service to retailers, who will typically have buying teams, eg

Buying team 104 – women’s casuals

Buying team 112 – women’s formalwear

Buying team 115 – women’s footwear

Etc

Each of those buying teams may use 10 or more suppliers to whom they want to send documents and assign tasks. There may be up to 500 suppliers in total across all departments in the retailer.

A member of each of the buying teams will typically want to do one of three things:

1. Raise requests for quotes (RFQs)
2. Raise requests for samples
3. Send them a document

To do this, they will assign a task and attach a document, then assign the task and document to the supplier. For example:

* Buying team 104 wants to raise an RFQ with Supplier XYZ, so they assign that as a task to Supplier XYZ and attaches the specification document.
* Buying team 112 wants to raise a sample request with Supplier ABC, so they assign a task to them and attach the spec document.

So tasks can be assigned by any Buying team to any supplier.

The key thing is that we want to prevent Suppliers from seeing each other’s names in any list of projects or tasks – or any other list. So when Supplier XYZ logs in, they shouldn’t see Supplier ABC’s (or any other supplier’s) tasks, discussions, projects, calendars – or anything. At the moment we have tried this configuration:

Project = Supplier

Task list = Buying team/task type (eg 104 RFQs)

Task = individual tasks (RFQs and sample requests)

....but Supplier XYZ sees all projects, including Supplier ABC’s.

(It’s OK for each of the Buying teams to see each other’s activity.)

Andrew Lambert

MCL

[andrewl@marshallcl.com](mailto:andrewl@marshallcl.com)