Ordering site-licensed software has been made faster and easier for NU faculty and staff, thanks to a new Web site developed by NUIT.

The site, http://software.northwestern.edu, was developed by NUIT's Distributed Support Services (DSS) unit and was based on the "shopping-cart" model found on many consumer Web sites. The process is not yet paperless, but has been streamlined considerably, according to DSS manager Charlie Jensen.

The new Web site allows for easy browsing and selection of software, elimination of handwritten product data (part number, price, etc.), and automatic recording of all relevant data throughout the process.

Previously, anyone ordering software would search the IT Web site for information, fill out a paper order form, then fax the signed and approved form to DSS. Information was then manually recorded. Although printing and faxing of a signed online order form are still required, further site enhancements based on customer feedback are being planned.

Comments or questions about the site can be directed to Charlie Jensen at charlie@northwestern.edu.