

Case Study: Zoological Information Management System

Client

The Client is Non-Profit Organization based in Minnesota. The Client provides world standard zoological data collection and software to share with its members. The members of the Client's organization consist of more than 800 zoos and aquariums in 76 countries.

Challenges

The Client wanted to develop a web-based Zoological Information Management System (ZIMS) to replace its existing solution. The solution needed to facilitate knowledge sharing among subject matter experts (SME) residing in various geographical regions. It also needed to translate business requirements specified by non-technical SMEs into system functional specifications for the purposes of development. The user base has little technical knowledge, limited infrastructure availability and no access to IT departments. The system development needed to be flexible due to complex and ever changing requirements and to be ever mindful of the concurrent user base, flexibility and easy maintenance. To the organization, being a non-profit, budget dollars were very critical for the success of the initiative.

Solution

Project Management team was mobilized to coordinate processes and communication between the distributed SMEs and development teams. Microsoft SharePoint server was deployed for document management, collaboration and to manage workflow for requirement approvals.

The development team followed agile methodology and adopted Scrum model because of rapidly changing requirements. Release process was set for 2 month sprints with each sprint being a production quality build.

Core Architecture included development of a code generator to discern common patterns automatically to assist with rapid development. Utilization of Microsoft technologies facilitated development since they offer the software and tools to non-profits with special pricing.

Results We provided the solution within a tight budget and allowed non-technical people to exchange critical information worldwide through with a solution which requires very little training and offers ease of use.

Technology

The solution was developed using Microsoft .NET framework and Microsoft SQL Server.

For More Information

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