

Content Management Portal for TMA using MDA RAD

Client

An association formed in 1915 with the objective of collection and dissemination of accurate, comprehensive and timely information on tobacco industry to its members.

The Challenge

TMA had a Web-based system which was based on the Vignette V/5 eBusiness Platform. The client was unhappy with the system because of its slow speed, lack of an intuitive user interface and expensive maintenance costs.

As an organization dealing with industry information, the Princeton, NJ organization found it very hard to manage their knowledge, which forced them to rethink their systems and support. The client wanted to transform their legacy system into a modern information portal based on industry standards and using standard development technologies.

Rather than moving to Vignette's 6.0 version, TMA decided to move into the open source world. They were looking for an offshore company who could provide them an incredibly stable system to integrate and structure the content and provide their members with a great user experience.

Solution

After quickly gaining a thorough understanding of the client's requirements, Cordiant decided to use MDA (Model Driven Architecture) and rapid application development methodologies to re-engineer the existing system. Cordiant's developers used MDA and UML and "fine-tuned" the diagrams to reflect the business requirements of TMA. IBM's Rational Unified Process was the core development methodology.

Using the MDA and UML specifications, Cordiant reduced the effort estimate considerably to re-engineer the client's system. Cordiant used mostly open source technology to complete the work, including transitions from the MS SQL server database to the MYSQL database, Windows to Linux and using the Lucene open source search engine and the Apache Tomcat open source application server. Cordiant also used J2EE as its core platform.

The key benefits of the new system include faster turnaround, better portal navigation and stability and lower monthly maintenance costs. TMA now has more focused data, enabling them to maintain their knowledge of the industry and their relationships.

Technologies

- MDA RAD, IBM Rational RRD
- J2EE
- MYSQL
- Apache Tomcat
- Lucene
- Linux

" We are very pleased with the Cordiant CMS Team relationship: quite open, clear, very friendly and competent. We are hopeful and confident that this is the start of a long, prosperous and satisfying relationship. "

Farrell Delman, President, TMA

About Cordiant

Founded in 1995, Cordiant Technologies builds globally aligned India teams for Independent Software Vendors worldwide. Cordiant has offshore product development centers in Chennai and Kochi, Southern India; and a US subsidiary in Princeton, NJ.

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