

Emerald Systems Inc.

JUSTICE & PUBLIC SAFETY

Workforce Investment Act Solution Streamlines Agency Processing

PROBLEM

NWCEP of Ashland, WI operates seven (7) offices covering 10 counties. These offices are geographically located across a very rural multi-county region with minimal infrastructure. Each office was using an old FoxPro DBMS of ancient lineage running in a client/server environment. At the end of the week, each office would cut several diskettes that would be sent through the mail to the main office. The data was then pulled apart, re-entered into various other programs (spreadsheet, financial, and a state dumb terminal) and processed. It was a manpower consuming task to process data; and, by the time management saw the results, the issues were a week to 10 days old. Budgets seldom matched between the field and central accounting and it was not possible to manage program funding changes very effectively.

SOLUTION

Emerald Systems Inc., a Microsoft Government Partner, was hired as a consultant to analyze the issues and recommend a solution that would address present and future needs. Part of this process was also a requirement to share information with The State of Wisconsin Dept. of Workforce Development and to receive data in real time.

Emerald Systems Inc. recommended an Internet solution based on Microsoft's high performance SQL Server 2000 database management system. Emerald was awarded a contract to develop a comprehensive records management system to provide customer records management, budgeting processes across 16 funding sources, and statistical interface to related programs.

The application became known as the IRMA system and was installed in November 2001. The program was immediately acquired by another agency, Workforce Resource Inc. (WRI) of Menomonie, WI. WRI manages operations across nine counties in Wisconsin.

In May 2002, Emerald Systems Inc. integrated the IRMA system into a third party financial software program called NPS that was also developed on Microsoft SQL Server. The integration process allows budgeting issues in IRMA to be reconciled with budgets and programs in the central NPS accounting system. In addition, check requests made in IRMA can be communicated to NPS and reflected back in the budgets of IRMA upon issuance.

Currently, the IRMA system manages Workforce Investment Act and other workforce related programs across 19 counties in Wisconsin.

For More Information

For more information about Microsoft products or services, call Microsoft Government at 202-895-2000. Microsoft's corporate sales information center can be reached at (800) 426-9400. To access information via the World Wide Web, go to <http://www.microsoft.com/government>



Partner Overview

Solution Profile

Emerald Systems Inc. developed the IRMA Internet Customer Management system to manage Workforce Investment Act and Workforce Development processes across 19 counties in Wisconsin.

Line of Business

Emerald Systems Inc. is a developer of Internet records management and real time information sharing systems for government agencies.

Solution

Benefits

- Provides Real Time Information
- Reduces Time to Process
- Reduces Administrative Costs

Software and Services

Microsoft SQL Server 2000
Microsoft WIN 2000 Server
Microsoft IIS 5.0
Microsoft ASP, VB Script
Microsoft IE 5.5

Partner

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