Farmers Transport Website Re-design

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Abstract

This poster represents the final project undertaken by EIT final year student Kylie Stevens. The project was visualised and obtained by Cucumber Software with the client being Eastern Equities Corporation Limited.

The project scope was to redesign as existing website of an Eastern Equities subdivision – Farmers Transport. The new website was to incorporate a content management system whereby allowing Eastern Equities to independently administrate and maintain their online presence and relationships with existing clients.

1   Introduction

All third year BCS students at EIT must complete ITPJ7.290 Final Project, a 45 credit level 7 course; this is undertaken in their final semester of study.

The final project provides an opportunity for students to use the skills that they have gained during their studies to industry. At EIT students participating in the final project can elect to undertake either a project for a business/organisation or they can participate in a supervised internship working for the IT department of business/organisation.

The project described in the poster is for the re-designed website developed for Eastern Equities subdivision – Farmers Transport.

Kylie was the developer, Shane the contractor and contact with Farmers' Transport and Frina was the academic supervisor of this project.

2   The Website

The project was visualised and obtained by Cucumber Software with the client being Eastern Equities Corporation Limited.

The project scope was to redesign as existing website of an Eastern Equities subdivision – Farmers Transport. The new website was to incorporate a content management system whereby allowing Eastern Equities to independently administrate and maintain their online presence and relationships with existing clients.

Kylie's role in this project was to work under the supervision of Shane Redlick, and follow the processes and procedures as set by Cucumber Software, as the contractor.

The methodology approach taken is based on the Prince Project Management Methodology and Capability Maturity Model (CMMI) methodology which incorporates international best practice, focusing on streamlining the system development lifecycle by eliminating much of the modelling and documentation overhead and the time spent on those tasks.

The website was constructed using Microsoft Visual Studio 2008 Professional and Microsoft SQL Server Express. In addition to this, the .NET Framework created by Cucumber Software was also utilized. The design was developed using Adobe Photoshop CS3.

The website consists of the web site itself which is visually more appealing to the user and clients and which incorporated images, videos, galleries and interactive maps. The website has the ability to provide online input forms, accept sent files and provides access to Farmers Transports' external site with login.

The content manager provides a secure login page and high level of control over all the administration such as adding content, editing existing content, file management etc.

The successful implementation of this site ultimately achieved the client's goals of having administrative control over the website, and strengthening their relationships with existing clientele.

3   Conclusions

The project has provided Kylie with the following learning experiences:

- The realities of working in the industry.
- The critical concepts when developing a web site.
- Different comparison techniques.
- Real life experiences in developing web sites.
- CMS and .Net development.
- Communication and time management experiences and lessons learnt.

The project has provided Kylie with an opportunity to experience development of a project in an IT business under real life circumstances.