

The logo for 'katpro' is displayed in the upper left corner. 'kat' is in a bold, black, lowercase sans-serif font, and 'pro' is in a bold, green, lowercase sans-serif font. The background of the slide features a teal-tinted architectural rendering of a modern building with a grid of windows and a white wireframe structure overlaid on the right side. A wooden-textured horizontal bar is at the bottom.

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Case Study:

Corporate Intranet on SharePoint

Industry:

Retail

Country:

Saudi Arabia

Solution:Corporate Intranet
on SharePoint**Technologies****& Tools:**Technology: C#.NET,
SharePoint 2010
Database: MS SQL
Server 2008 R2**Background:**

Our Client is one of the leading suppliers of packaging products in the Middle East. They also have one of the largest bookstores in the Middle East. They have their own publishing Division, which produced more than 1000 different titles. Currently they have over 30 Stores under operation with average store size 3000 – 4000 Sq. Mt.

The Challenge:

Being a group of companies, our client had multiple critical business processes built on different platforms. They were looking to invest in a platform that the whole Group could utilize in order to make processing of information more efficient; both intercompany and across the Group. The new platform needed to allow relevant information to be shared clearly between the large number of staff, the companies that sit within the Group and the separate support functions and departments.

Solution:

We started with an analysis of the key businesses processes that our client wanted to streamline using an intranet. Meeting with key stakeholders, the team was able to determine the business value of each existing process as well as all proposed and desired modifications. Once our team understood the needs of the business, the next step was to create a project plan to re-engineering these processes into a collaborative workflow of enabled SharePoint sites that would allow users to create, share and approve information. A phased approach was devised in which a mix of business applications would be deployed in each phase.

Katpro team developed a master intranet page with sub-sites for each specific department and its related business processes.

Document libraries, lists, discussion boards and other SharePoint features were used to create business applications on the SharePoint platform.

Custom web parts were created to resolve specific business issues and meet requirements. Active Directory was set as the permissions platform and was used extensively to manage user access into specific business application sub-sites.

SharePoint Enterprise Search with structured metadata and custom search scopes were setup to ensure that the right audience had access to relevant information.

SharePoint Reporting Services were used for ad-hoc reports and dashboard tools.

MySites in collaboration with Lync was enabled for communication.

Approval workflows and alerts were incorporated into the sites as required.



Katpro also architected an effective SharePoint extranet solution that would enable staff and vendors to manage all aspects of the shipping and order tracking requests. Our team created a SharePoint extranet solution that leveraged forms based authentication using a separate instance of Microsoft® SQL Server instead of having vendor information in the Active Directory. Custom SharePoint Web Parts were leveraged to create a strong authentication process for vendors to login and review requests. The vendors only have access to their own requests and were able to process the requests. Once the requests were processed, vendors are able to notify appropriate staff members of shipment status as well as provide them with real time tracking information.

Result

Our Client now has a very successful and dynamic Intranet that has been well received and adopted by their employees. The Intranet was well received at all levels within the group of companies.

Some additional benefits include:

- Operational and maintenance cost savings for IT
- Improved information flow throughout the organization by providing for consistent cross-company communication
- Centralized information allowing for single version of the truth
- Search capabilities implemented to reduce staff time spent looking for information
- Increased employee productivity by securely providing access to the most recent information
- Reduced turnaround time by providing a central site to access and search for information and documents

The SharePoint Extranet solution has drastically streamlined the entire shipping process and has been instrumental in reducing request processing time as well and the enhanced tracking of all requests.

About Katpro

Katpro Technologies is an advanced technology firm offering specialized services in Microsoft SharePoint Consulting, Microsoft .NET based IT development and Cloud based solutions. We work on emerging technologies in the Microsoft Platform providing customers with high performance and comprehensive solutions. We adapt ourselves to changing business needs and delivering our customers with high performance solutions that are relevant, futuristic, and scalable.



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