



DreamTeam Portal 2.0 case study

We wanted the best SharePoint development expertise

The DreamTeam client is a world leader in private equity and venture capital with operations in Europe, the United States and Asia. The group is active across all stages of funding from early-stage venture capital to growth capital, buyouts and infrastructure, and invests about €2.7bn a year in some of the most exciting and ambitious companies in the world.

ICS Solutions has been partnering with the client for almost 4 years, providing architects and developers to work with the internal IT team to implement and leverage SharePoint2003 to deliver business solutions.

"We had already contacted Microsoft about our forthcoming requirements," explained the client's Purchasing Executive for Group Business and IT Services. "We wanted the best SharePoint2003 development expertise. Microsoft recommended ICS Solutions."

"At that time, we were starting to plan our portal project," added the Investment Systems Service



Manager. "We had already decided on SharePoint2003 but recognised that we would need additional resources if the project was to go live on time and with all of the facilities that we had specified. ICS showed us that here was a company that could provide the specialist levels of expertise that we would need."

"The relationship has been so successful that we regularly see the same ICS consultants as each project develops."

Investment Systems Service Manager

Following meetings and discussions, ICS Solutions was asked to develop some proof of concepts which lead to an initial engagement. The client was impressed with the technical capabilities of ICS and, 4 years later, ICS is still its technology partner of choice for portal solutions.

The initial projects involved amalgamating various disparate portals into one, group-wide solution. "Our business units needed a centralised repository of information so that they could share, search and coordinate information," explained the client. "Although we have our own internal IT department, the project required extremely specialised development expertise and it made sense to outsource this requirement rather than recruit and train additional staff."

As an organisation, the client has long recognised the benefits of outsourcing when specific specialist IT skills are needed. "Outsourcing gives us the best of both worlds. We can integrate architects and developers within our teams for various phases of each project without having to go through the delays and costs associated with recruiting full time staff."

The partnership with ICS has given the client the customised development expertise that it needed. A major consideration was that the consultants supplied by ICS would work well alongside the internal IT department. "In addition to technical expertise, we wanted 'team players'."

"ICS's resources are reliable and innovative," added the client. "They bring ideas and make suggestions which save us time and money. ICS has been a very good partner for us and has met its obligations."

BENEFITS

- Access to a fully certified and trained team of Microsoft specialists.
- Ability to meet new demands.
- Flexible resourcing model.
- Trusted external delivery capabilities in new technology areas.
- Reduced reliance upon traditional contract markets.
- Access to specialist, less frequently used disciplines.
- Close relationship with harmonised working practices.
- Specialist and proven SharePoint development expertise from fully certified and trained Microsoft consultants.
- On-tap availability of the highest levels of development expertise.
- A 4 year partnership with consultants regularly returning to work on new projects.
- Architects and developers integrated into team for various phases of each project without the delays and costs associated with recruiting full time staff.
- Reliable and innovative consultants save time and money.
- A technology partner of choice for portal solutions.