

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PROPOSAL

WEB DEVELOPER'S ANONYMOUS BEST
OPPORTUNITY
FOR ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE SHARING
AND DECISION MAKING AMONG PROJECT
TEAMS

GROUP 5

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PROPOSAL

WEB DEVELOPER'S ANONYMOUS BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR ENHANCING KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND DECISION MAKING AMONG PROJECT TEAMS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- We recommend that your organization upgrades your web development software, methods of internal communication, and upgrade operating systems
- Your organization should implement a policy that requires traveling employees to receive laptops and smartphones
- The suggested changes will improve efficiency, communication and accountability for all employees

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

The following report will summarize the improvements necessary to increase the profits of Web Developer's Anonymous, as has been assigned to group five of LIS3021, section 1, the members of which being Adam Remillard, Aaron Rapoport, Brandy Mayo-Terrie, Kenneth Shepherdson, Joaquin Sabater, and Matt Russi. Under the supervision of Mr. Milas, our report will aim to accomplish the following:

We will stress the importance of increased efficiency as a major component of Web Developer's Anonymous' proposed solution. To sophisticate Web Developer's Anonymous' business methods, we suggest that it upgrade to a modern coding program, preferably one intended specifically for web development; additionally we have agreed that to supply all employees with company-issue smart phones and all traveling employees with modern notebook computers would behoove Web Developer's Anonymous immensely on the front

of operational communication. A company server will help the company with file sharing. Finally, upgraded versions of major software will ensure compatibility for all employees. Upon implementation of these changes, Web Developer's Anonymous will improve its efficiency noticeably.

FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

SERVERS

In order to determine what would best serve Web Developers Anonymous file-sharing needs, we researched industry standards of small and medium sized businesses and how they handled their file storage. A common modern approach for these smaller businesses and even enterprises is to go to cloud-based storage. Box.net provides a solution for all of their file storage needs. This allows for them to access their files anywhere they have internet access as well as creating a shared online workspace. Each user can create task lists, comment on files, and create discussions which helps alleviate some confusion from emailing.

At this time, there is no central repository to share files so that the employees can collaborate on projects. By purchasing this service from Box.net, this can increase their efficiency in their workflow with one another. This also will allow the team members who are traveling to have access to files that may not be locally on their laptops.

COMPANY SMARTPHONES

It is recommended that the company upgrade to smart phones for their roaming employees. We collected data on each of the major cell phone provider's business plans from their respected websites. From there we compared prices with area coverage and features and found that Verizon Wireless was the clear choice in those regards.

If service is obtained through Verizon, the only monetary investment for the first year is the \$700 activation fee which includes all smartphones. The cost of the smartphone plans are \$7198 annually. The smartphone plan would also save \$2736 in annual land line costs. The advantages of the mobile plan vastly out weight their cost.

Having all employees on company smartphones would create more effective communication within the group. Everyone will receive e-mails faster. This will give all employees more access to all of the information available. This will enable employees to be more accessible and accountable outside of the workplace.

WEB DEVELOPMENT SOFTWARE

For the company's developers to utilize their time and energy it is recommended that instead of Notepad they use a program with an IDE (Integrated Development Environment). After looking at several different developing tools we discovered that the best for the money is Eclipse. Eclipse is an IDE that can program in multiple computer languages. This will help them because even though Notepad works for one file at a time, Eclipse can run many files that are dependent upon each other. This is a feature that Notepad lacks. The best part of Eclipse though is that it is 100% free. There is no start up cost and can be used as soon as it's installed.

WINDOWS 7

Windows 7 has a lot of improved features over XP and especially Vista. Windows 7 allows users to securely access Windows Server 2008. This feature eliminates the need and cost for VPN software. This feature could be beneficial and cost effective for the company if and when they develop websites integrated with Windows Server 2008. Windows 7 has better cache capabilities, which eliminates the need for application acceleration appliances. Security is also much better and tighter than in previous Windows operating systems. If a volume license is obtained, it would cost the company \$2,140 to upgrade all of their current computers to Windows 7. This would be the only cost they would incur for the life of the operating system.

COMPANY LAPTOPS

Supplying employees with up to date laptops will benefit the company. The employees will be able to work from virtually any location in the world, which means they can travel to different locations and actually meet with people. The benefit of an up to date one is having the fastest speeds available that will allow the employee to work faster and save time. If the laptops are acquired through Dell, they will incur costs of \$450 per laptop. Only 15 of the 20 employees would benefit from having a company laptop creating a total cost of \$6,750 for the company.

PROPOSED BUDGET

Company Data					
Tax rate	30.0%				
		YEAR			
		0	1	2	3
Initial Investments					
Cloud Storage	\$3,600				
Smartphone Activation Fee	\$700.00				
Laptops	\$6,750.00				
Eclipse Web Development	\$0.00				
Windows 7	\$2,140.00				
Microsoft Office	\$4,240.00				
Total Initial Investments	\$17,430				

Benefits				
Total Sales Increase		\$400,000	\$800,000	\$1,000,000
Reduced yearly landline costs		2,736	2,736	2,736
Total Benefits		\$402,736	\$802,736	\$1,002,736
Costs				
Cost of sales		\$7,500	\$25,000	\$37,500
Maintenance		15,000	15,000	15,000
Smartphone Yearly Fees		7,198	7,198	7,198
24/7 Network Support		449	449	449
Total Costs		\$30,147	\$47,647	\$60,147
Net Benefits (Costs)				
Tax		107,328	226,527	282,777
Value after tax		250,432	528,562	659,812

CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

All of these changes will greatly increase efficiency and overall effectiveness of all employees. This will enable the company to attract new customers and design more websites each year. We have estimated that it will increase sales by 10% in the first year, 20% in the second year, and 25% in the third year of making these changes.

With the implementations laptops and cell phones employees will be able to stay connected even when outside the office. Within the office the new operating system, servers, and development tool will keep everything running smoothly and more efficiently.