

Everest Consultants, Inc. SharePoint Portals



Long-term engagement with SharePoint technologies

As Microsoft Gold partners, Everest Consultants have access to and experience working with the entire Microsoft series of collaboration technologies from the earlier Team Services all the way through the current SharePoint Foundation Server 2010 and SharePoint Server 2010. In the very early stages of SharePoint's product life cycle, we realized it would not be uncommon for large clients to demand provisioning several sites rapidly and in short time frames. Today, SharePoint technologies have become the mainstream of software products used by organizations around the world.

Our passion for continuous technical improvement kept us exploring new technologies to keep abreast of developments, enabling us to build strong teams familiar with Microsoft SharePoint technologies and offer our clients the most suitable solutions at low cost. We are pioneers in implementing some of the advanced features of SharePoint 2010, unraveling details of SharePoint technologies to satisfy our client's most demanding requirements.

Strategy for SharePoint implementation

In a world without SharePoint technologies and products, it can be expensive and time consuming for a company to keep up with the need to create and manage multiple web sites targeted at different segments of its internal team or external clients. Microsoft SharePoint Server 2010 is recognized as the obvious choice for many organizations to efficiently support multiple sites across their organizations. At the same time, the multitude of features and capabilities in SharePoint Server 2010 has left organizations wondering how to move beyond the initial functions in order to get the most out of their investment.

Microsoft provides two products - an underlying core infrastructure product, SharePoint Foundation Server 2010 and a second product, SharePoint Server 2010 that adds business value to the infrastructure. They offer web content management, enterprise content services, and enterprise search, as well as collaboration services, shared business processes, and business intelligence dash-boarding to the small/medium enterprise.

- Collaboration – With immediate useful features that include site templates, managing meetings, shared documents, contacts, tasks and calendars, SharePoint Server 2010 facilitates teams allowing them to work more efficiently and effectively throughout the organization.
- Content Management – SharePoint Server 2010 provides the foundation for document management and sharing by including the versioning, auditing, and workflow building blocks as part of its basic functions.
- Business processes – Every organization has business processes at the heart of its operations. SharePoint Server 2010 provides built-in workflow templates for some standard processes, and can be used to create custom workflows to streamline an organization's specific collaborative processes.

- Search - Finding the right information or person is very important at critical times to complete tasks quickly and avoid redundancy. Organizations can acquire powerful search-related features through SharePoint Server 2010 to find exactly what is needed.

Everest Consultants development approach and strategy emphasizes understanding the client objectives in totality. This allows us to offer the SharePoint solution that derives maximum benefits provided by SharePoint Server 2010 and its new features for your organization's specific needs.

With its latest version, Microsoft introduced a wealth of enhancements over earlier versions. Gaining insights into new features, Everest implemented the new features in current applications including:

- Mobile device enhancements - using mobile adaptors, making web parts available on mobile phone.
- Enhanced alerts features – built using new extensible mobile messaging framework that facilitates sending SMS to mobile phones.
- Business data connectivity services – interfacing with external systems, databases, Web and Windows Communication Services and .Net connectivity services - provided ample opportunity for integration with external systems.
- Client object and event models - simplified accessing SharePoint data from across the network using .NET, Silverlight, and JavaScript.
- Accessing SharePoint data with LINQ for efficient retrieval of data.
- Improved security with new authentication support - leveraging external identity management systems and extending access control in SharePoint sites using custom claims.
- Deploying Silverlight applications within a SharePoint environment.
- Windows Power Shell scripting - provides administrative scripts, greatly improving control, efficiency, and productivity in deployments.

Everest Consultants familiarity using SharePoint

Our capability in SharePoint technologies has been demonstrated with the implementation of all the core features in solutions we have offered to our clients. These include:

- Developing an easily deployed Program Management Portal with a wide variety of dashboards and reports for use at multiple different program sites
- Developing a complex custom workflow and document management to automate the process of land acquisition
- Developing a workflow for automating the document translation process and maintaining a document library of already translated documents
- Developing custom reports using Microsoft Excel
- Implementing BCS to interact with external data sources
- Migrating legacy applications from earlier versions to the latest versions.

Everest also made use of third-party tools, Dundas Charting for better data visualization, and Nintex for rapid development of workflow applications.

Ingraining SharePoint technologies within our own organization

At Everest, extensive collaboration and communication with all relevant stakeholders is emphasized and practiced as the way processes happen in our organization. SharePoint technologies are at the heart of enabling this collaboration with our internal usage and customization of SharePoint enabling us to institutionalize these core practices. Internally, we developed our Project Management System by integrating and customizing SharePoint Server 2010 with Microsoft Project Server 2010, thereby leveraging the most from their combined features, using them in our every day operations as well as building a CMMi compliant system.

This provides a unique opportunity for validating and appreciating the technology from both end user and developer perspectives.



Everest Consultants is an 18-year-old company based in Beaverton, Oregon, with approximately 200 employees. Everest specializes in application development/maintenance, QA/testing, embedded services and engineering placement services for those hard-to-find internal technical resources. Everest has been profitable every year in existence and recently was rated a top vendor by many customers.

Certifications:

- Microsoft Gold Certified
- Gold Level Embedded Partner
- Microsoft Grand Prize Winner (International .NET Awards)
- Oracle Developer Partner
- SUN Development Partner
- ISO 9001:2008 Certified Center
- CMMI Level 4 Managed