



Customized Programming/Database Client Solutions

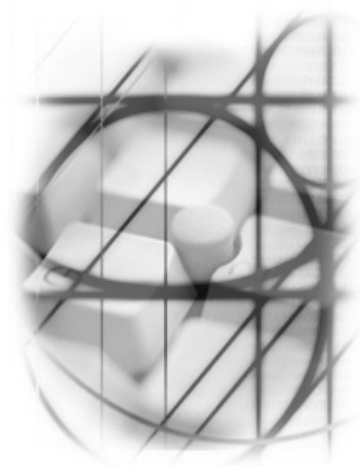
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Programming and Database Support

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Background: Most Microsoft Excel development situations I run into is when the client has a general understanding of how to create a spreadsheet, format the cells and create simple-to-moderate cell calculations. Typically that goes for Microsoft Access development work as well. The client has a general understanding of how to create a database table, form, report, etc. They may also have a general idea of how to create simple macros and database queries. At some point, the client may want the spreadsheet or database to function in a way that is beyond the capabilities of simple queries or cell functions. That is usually where I'm called in. By utilizing Visual Basic programming, I'm able to create applications in both Access and Excel that would normally be impossible using formulas, queries and simple macros. Below are just a few solutions I've been able to provide clients with in a Microsoft Access and Excel environment.



Problem: A client was having problems with a DOS-based application, which allowed them to create custom invoices, but was no longer supported. However, they did not want to invest a lot of time learning how to use a new product.

Solution: A custom application was written in Microsoft Access that had the same look and feel as the DOS-based application the client was used to seeing, along with a few welcomed improvements.

Benefits: By developing this application using the same look and feel the client was used to, several man hours in retraining were saved.

Problem: Client was given a list of calculation 'tags' believed to be obsolete and marked for deletion. These tags were used in several hundred Excel spreadsheets. Each Excel user was responsible for reviewing his or her Excel spreadsheets to verify they were no longer referencing 'tags' marked for deletion.

Solution: A Visual Basic application was written in Microsoft Excel to automate the process of searching for these tags. The user would simply refer to the directory where his or her Excel spreadsheets were located. The application would then open each spreadsheet in the users folder, link to the spreadsheet containing the list of 'tags' marked for deletion then search each cell for a matching tag. If a match was found, a comment was added next to the tag marked for deletion that it was still in use, along with the login name of who was still using that tag.

Benefits: By automating the process of searching for these macro 'tags', several hundred man hours were saved from having to perform this search manually, as well as preventing possible human error.



Problem: A trucking company was looking for a means of tracking driver violations, which was required by the Department of Transportation (D.O.T.)

Solution: An application was developed using Microsoft Access that allowed the client to log each violation, maintain a weekly report of violations and generate letters that were sent to the driver and to his or her supervisor.

Benefits: The developed driver violation application allowed the client to stay in compliance with Department of Transportation requirements.

Problem: A company was looking for a better solution of accepting requests for Titles and Abstracts they received from banks, realtors, etc. They normally received these requests via fax, but because several customers were trying to fax their requests at one time, their requests were not always received and processed in a timely manner.

Solution: A web page was developed that allowed customers to send their Title and Abstract requests via the Internet. The application would then send an email alert to the company each time a new application was received. Also, each request was saved 'electronically' at the company.

Benefits: This developed Internet site allowed the client to receive and process Title and Abstract requests in a more timely manner and reduce the amount of hardcopy documents.

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