

## Case Study:

# Developing an Exceptionally Reliable, "Bullet-Proof," Low-Cost SharePoint Platform in Two Weeks for a \$350M Company

PerkinElmer, a \$2 billion company, had a massive SharePoint environment. When it divested a \$350 million business unit to a private equity-owned company Excelitas, the new owners and executives not only had to migrate 250+ SharePoint sites and over 150 gigabytes of data to a new SharePoint platform, they also had to set up that platform and transfer that information *quickly*.

"When you do a divestiture, it's a divorce," said Amit Shah, the Global IT Director at Excelitas. "Two months and you're out. So time was of the essence," and outside experts and additional workers were needed to get the work done, on time.

Excelitas, formerly named IDS, hired Netwoven to conceive and set up the SharePoint platform. "We aren't really good at building the SharePoint environment and we didn't want a partner designing our environment who did not have expertise in building a complex SharePoint environment," Shah said. The information Excelitas had to migrate was "part of our company DNA, part of our culture, and very important to our business."

## The Project: Creating an Accurate Map and Getting It Done

Jim Reade, the Excelitas SharePoint architect, allotted two weeks for designing and creating the development/quality assurance and live SharePoint environment, (and six weeks for transferring the information and troubleshooting possible problems).

"What I did was map out what we wanted. The configuration, the number of databases, the number of site collections, the number of web applications, and how we wanted it branded. Netwoven understood all this and they challenged things.

"Because they know SharePoint inside and out and how it actually relates with the servers, I took their advice on virtually everything they questioned," Reade said.

For example, Netwoven discovered weaknesses in the administration accounts and security planning. By making some modifications to this plan, Netwoven was able to deliver a more secure platform that would minimize potential threats to the environment.

Reade said, "Within one week, we had the QA environment ready for implementations. In another week, we had production ready to go."

This was particularly fast given the project involved eight servers—four for QA and four for production—a minimum of ten different administrative passwords, and a number of custom configurations.

### **The Result: An Exceptionally Reliable, "Bullet-Proof," Low-Cost Platform**

The quick turnaround gave Reade more time than he had hoped for. "It wasn't a huge amount of extra breathing room. But when you're trying to move that much data onto a whole new platform, I felt a lot better about my ability to meet deadlines," Reade said.

Beyond that, the SharePoint system had a high user-adoption rate and has proven exceptionally reliable. "The foundation they provided us—and I don't want to tempt the cyber gods—has been bullet proof. We have not had any problems whatsoever, and, with a system as complex as this, I think that's outstanding," Reade said.

Shah had hired Netwoven in part because the newly-independent Excelitas needed a low-cost-of-entry model, which Netwoven provided with a mix of U.S. and India-based experts. The India-based knowledge workers delivered. "The resource I was working with switched his schedule around for me. We communicated daily to make sure milestones were being met and problems were being addressed. Considering the 12-13 hour time difference, that's spectacular," Reade said.

The onshore team similarly provided affordable expertise. "We know they know their stuff. We know they have good guys who can produce high quality work and we know the CEO." Shah said. "Their quality of work has also earned the goodwill for me to award Netwoven with additional projects."

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### **About Netwoven**

Netwoven powers enterprises by connecting people, processes, and information to gain more insight into their data. We help medium to large enterprise customers unlock the hidden value of their information assets and derive rapid return on their investments in technology.

Netwoven has achieved Managed Partner status with Microsoft, meaning we enjoy special access to the latest technologies. Our team of experts provides unparalleled expertise in Microsoft SharePoint 2010, SQL Server 2008 R2, Business Intelligence tools and Custom .NET development to provide our customers with high value added solutions.

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