



Symphony helped a lead ISV specializing in Law Office Technology to migrate its legacy Legal Case Management product suite to .NET based Business Application Platform using customizable service oriented framework.

The Client

The client is a proven leader specializing in diversified technology solutions for law practices. Counted among the strongest, most respected companies servicing the legal industry in the US, they have been developing innovative technology for the practice and business of law for more than 20 years.

The Challenges

The current legacy Case Management application (developed using Power Builder) had serious limitations in scaling the product to meet growing end-client needs. Being committed to respond to the ever-changing technology needs of law practices for office productivity and profitability, the client sought to move the legacy product suite to a modern scalable *platform* to offer:

- Rich user-defined customization
- Improved integration capability
- High-level security
- Support internationalization and localization

The Solution

Symphony's solution to the client included a re-platforming / migration strategy to .NET platform using 'plug-and-play' architecture. This included developing SDK, Web Services, pluggable workflow components, database reporting views, enhanced security and Web-part integration.

The core to the product re-platforming was building a Business Application Platform (BAP). The BAP consisted of end-to-end Service-Oriented framework using developer toolset and entity engine. The developer toolset helped to build an SDK combined with Web services to provide meta-data API,

Product Development – Migration / Re-platforming

Platform

Microsoft .NET

Industry / Domain

Law / Legal Firms

Engagement Key Points

- Engagement started in 2007 and ongoing
- Peak Team Size: 12
- Engagement model: Fixed Price
- SDLC: Agile
- Release cycle - two month release cycle that included 2-3 iteration cycle
- Extensive collaboration
- The development followed high business value / high risk tasks as precedence

Technology and Tools Used

- NET Framework 2.0/3.0
 - ASP.NET 2.0
 - C#
 - AJAX
 - WCF
- LINQ
- Web Services
- SQL Server 2005
- SPRING.NET
- XML/XSL
- Telerik UI Controls
- Model Driven Development (MDD)
- Source control: VSS
- Continuous Integration: Cruise Control

Major Product Features

Case Management product suite for law firms that is robust, scalable, highly integrated and secure.

Customizable Business Application Platform has:

- Customizable Entities, Attributes and Relationships to model business data
- Generic Role based Security
- Query Engine to retrieve any data
- Configurable User Interface to suit individual law firm needs with Office 2007 styled User Interface



generate application API and Web service framework. This also supported workflow components, integrations, add-in architecture, modules and custom web parts.

The entity engine allows modeling domain on entity, attributes, and defining entity relationship.

Pluggable visualization publishers allowed publish customized ASP.NET / XAML Web forms. The web forms are stored in central data-store and rendered from database. The workflow designer allowed building custom workflows by configuring XML. Advanced search feature enhanced user experience. The entity engine had tight integration with a business domain model API to cater to different verticals.

Symphony adopted build automation and performed rigorous testing before market release of the deliverables.

The Benefits

Symphony's strong Product Engineering skills helped bring in the following benefits to the client:

- Achieved accelerated product re-platforming by adopting Model Driven Development
- Innovative architecture helped reduce product support and maintenance cost significantly
- The customizable Business Application Platform provided flexible customization options to cater to multiple verticals.

- Generic Workflow Engine to model business processes
- Reporting Engine to create and publish reports