

Business Avionics Cites Dundas Consulting For "Providing An Almost Infinite Number Of Possibilities"

Background

Business Avionics was formed to assist client companies construct a strategic plan, create a budget to fund that plan and design a monitoring system to track the plan's progress. We originally used the major business intelligence suites as the data collection, storage and reporting systems. With our first implementation of a balanced scorecard in 1999, we became very interested in the concept of a financial dashboard using dedicated instruments rather than complex coding.

The Challenge

Since 1999, we have seen hundreds of dashboards. The great majority of those involve one or more pie charts, a table or two, and perhaps some dials that report a single number out of context. Our regular investigations of dashboarding capabilities led us to send an inquiry to Dundas Software in late 2006, in hopes of expanding upon the data visualizations we had seen.

Why We Chose Dundas Consulting

Our inquiry was responded to by a staff member of Dundas's Consulting Services. Our consultant was knowledgeable about our existing business and the value that Dundas tools and consulting could provide. He was also sensitive to our budgetary constraints.

The consultant assisted us in making the leap from large, resource-intensive systems to browser-based clients. We could see that, as a result of technological advances, enormous amounts of data could be made available to users. The downside was that our ability to deliver the data exceeded the ability of the recipient's capacity to effectively process it. This divergence was beginning to create a serious gap between the information that was available and what was actually needed. But with Dundas tools and expertise, we could close that gap.



How Dundas Helped Our Business

Dundas proved to us that they are able to provide system designers with an almost infinite number of possibilities for presenting data. However, just like the kid in the candy store, the mere existence of so many options can make the designer's job more difficult. What information does the end user need? What is the best way to present that information to the operator to maximize performance and minimize frustration? How should the information be organized and what should be emphasized? The Dundas team helped us through all of that in a friendly yet professional manner.

In Conclusion

As our first graphics-intensive and browser-based application, we learned a lot. It is still too soon to quantify its impact on our financials. However, our reasoning goes something like this. This new approach to development has convinced us to move away from the high-dollar business intelligence systems and focus on web-based information systems. This will no doubt reduce our implementation time. That, in turn, reduces the cost to our clients without reducing our margins! Could it get any better than that?

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