ROSS SAMPSON CONSULTING

Databases are a requirement for any type of business that wants to store and maintain a large quantity of information. Usually the people responsible for entering and retrieving the data haven't had much training in the inner workings of a database. What good is a database if the people that need to use the data can't easily figure out how? Database user interface to the rescue.

Ross Sampson Consulting can design a user interface for your database that will assist your users. Custom designs that present database entry fields in the same logical flow that your users employ to gather data will help them enter it. Data retrieval is also simplified when the same interface includes a reports area that can pull data and present it in an easily understood format. Manually prepared statistics and trend analysis may have been cost prohibitive for your business in the past, but a custom interface can easily sort and present data to your analysts so they can better report on your business direction. Your users can even interact securely with your database when they are off-site if the interface is Web enabled with password protection and security checks.

Our level of commitment:
Our Database User Interface Service is a divided into two projects phases. We feel this approach is the best way to accomplish a thorough job with database user interface development; it keeps us on schedule and you informed about our progress.

- Phase 1 is a full analysis, which is done on a "project" contract basis. After gathering pertinent information from you about your database, the type of user interface that would be most beneficial, and your ideas for the screen functionality, a high level design is developed with the estimated time frame and the proposed cost of the full design and development effort. Our next phase will begin only after your approval of the project.
- Phase 2 is the work involved in bringing your database user interface to life and is also done on a "project" contract basis. This phase includes the detailed design, development, documentation, testing and implementation of the completed product. Your approval is again required when the detailed design is presented, before development begins. This is another touch point to be sure the design meets all your needs.

- Ongoing Database User Interface Services – contracts are on a "retainer" (maintenance) basis. This service is only offered after development project has been completed. Retainer contracts form a relationship between Ross Sampson Consulting and your company, and ensure someone familiar with the database user interface design completes any additions or modifications to the initial product.

What to expect:
Database User Interface Analysis Project – The first and most important step is a full analysis of how your users currently interact with your database, and what type of interface would make it easier for them to enter and retrieve data. We will look at the type of database, network and storage, whether users need local or remote access, and the type of security measures required. The number and type of data retrieval reports will be noted and the high level design will factor in a screen for displaying each report.

A database user interface project requires more input from users or a user representative than any other type of project – we need to be certain we design the interface you want. The more input we have with your ideas for screen functionality, design preferences, and how you intend to use the interface to do business, the better our initial design and developed product will match your needs. This analysis will allow us to understand current database use and the scope of the user interface project. An Analysis Report with the detailed analysis, high level design suggestions, proposed timeframe and cost is delivered to you for approval.

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Database User Interface Design & Development Project – When the analysis and proposal is approved, work begins on the detailed design. Any additions/modifications to the high level design are Included in the full design. The full design is submitted to you for approval. When approved, development progresses, following the design and schedule. Documentation is created and the user screens are tested as they are completed. When the entire application is developed, we test again and correct any anomalies discovered. The database user interface is then submitted to your testers for final development testing. User documentation and installation instructions are delivered with the final software version. When the software passes your acceptance testing, the project is complete.

Database User Interface Retainer Services – These services are always initiated by you. If you decide a new type of data retrieval report would be helpful or a set of pages for entering new data is needed, we can design, develop and implement the additions.

Ross Sampson Consulting is ready to design a Database User Interface for your users, increasing their data access and your productivity. Please contact us for information specific to your needs and our availability.

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