

HeadStart

“Cloud based School Administration & Data Management Application using WOLF SaaS Development Platform”

Industry: Education

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COMPANY PROFILE

Established in 1984, HeadStart is an independent educational institution with more than 25 years of experience. The school firmly believes that education in the foundation years is pivotal for the child's growth and development. The school has an established Pre-Primary Program and a growing Primary Program that will add one class per year so that by 2014 the present Grade V students will be in Grade X.

To match the school's growth plans, HeadStart decided to use WOLF Platform to automate certain key features of their day to day information gathering and data management processes. A phase wise execution plan was devised to cost effectively integrate the WOLF Cloud Computing technology into the entire student information management process.

BUSINESS CHALLENGES:

- The need for a web based system to automate the day to day administration, information gathering and data management processes for all facets of an established pre-primary program, and a dynamic primary program with plans to grow from the existing Grade V level in 2009 to a Grade X level by 2014.
- The institute needed to integrate technology into their daily operations, which could cost effectively scale with their growth plans.
- Previously the institution was manually managing the large volume of student and administrative information using an inefficient mix of paper records and Excel sheets. This led to the creation of an unconnected data management system in which data was static and largely unordered.
- Inaccessibility of past/current data for faculty, parents and students as searching for data was an exhaustive process that involved going through large volumes of paper records and Excel sheets to locate the relevant data.
- The cumbersome manual system involved dedicated man hours for entering and updating the dynamic data. Moreover, the data was prone to manual errors and vulnerable to theft, damage & unauthorized access.
- The urgent need for a secure hierarchical information management system.
- The lack of a structured process driven system led to the manual delegation of tasks and a high level of dependency on the skill and the experience of a few members of the management. Any delays in updating data led to a subsequent delay in the delegation of administrative tasks.
- Need for a system that could help the management leverage the large pool of existing data maintained in Excel sheets.

“...Our Student Information System was designed & delivered using WOLF Frameworks Platform-as-a-Service. We are thrilled with the speed of application development, flexibility in making changes & proactive partner services team”

-Riad Mahmood,
MD, HeadStart House of Children

SOLUTION: WOLF designed an Administration and Data Management SaaS Application for HeadStart that helped them integrate technology into their day to day processes

- The web based application enabled consolidation, structuring and automated processing of the large volume of student and administrative data. A phase wise execution plan enabled cost effective implementation, customization and scalability of the application with the institutes' growth plans.
- Categorization of the data into student, teacher and class-wise information. In addition, created a complex student lookup that provided a single point of reference for all details related to a student such as contact information, teacher information and classes' information.
- Implemented a complex set of relationships on the data using Business Rules to interrelate the data and allow instant searching of past and present data based on different parameters.
- The application was accessible over a browser and served as a single point for viewing, entering and updating data, eliminating the need for manually entering and maintaining data in various Excel sheets and paper records. This further led to saving of precious man hours.
- Introduced a high level of transparency and provided greater visibility into the data and day to day processes. This helped the management streamline existing processes by more efficiently delegating tasks, monitoring schedules and removing bottlenecks in the administration system and also helped to create new processes for improving operations.
- Maintained a secure role-based hierarchical system that controlled the application interface and data presented to a user based on their credentials. Further, the system followed a strict IP control policy limiting logins by IP address belonging to the institution.
- Automated the migrating of data from existing Excel sheets so that the management could utilize and draw analytics from past data and records.

TECHNOLOGY

- **Technology:** Microsoft.NET 4.0
- **Database:** Microsoft SQL Server, MySQL
- **Web Server:** IIS 7
- **Private Cloud Deployment License:** Supports Windows Server 2008 R2 with Hyper – V
- **Public Cloud:** Microsoft Azure, iWeb

BENEFITS: From Excel sheets to dedicated browser based Administration and information management SaaS Application within 8 days time

- The WOLF based Application automated the process of administration, information gathering and data management with a significant reduction in errors.
- Application provides greater visibility into data and daily operations. This helped streamline existing processes and the potential to improve operations.
- Application helped structure the large volume of school data and provides a real time access to past and present data. Moreover, the data is searchable and can be presented to faculty, parents and students with minimal effort.
- The application was up and running within 8 working days and users were on board with a brief training program.
- High data security with 128 bit encryption enabled URL, access controlled role-based user system with the option to restrict access based on a strict IP control policy.
- The phase wise execution is in accordance with HeadStart's plans to eventually automate the complete student academic, financial and extracurricular progress with a final objective to introduce an interactive parent feedback portal.

70 Percent faster development: WOLF Application Platform generates the code based upon the Business Design and you do not have to write any technical code. The HeadStart Student Management process design is what took the major part of the overall time as compared to the development and deployment time which were very less. The SaaS application is bundled with WOLF Platform which comes along with ready Cloud Computing infrastructure.

Lower Operational Cost, Protected IP and Zero Capital Investments: HeadStart only paid for the Application design hours and not towards setting up Hardware-hosting infrastructure or software license. There is no maintenance fee, only per user per month user fee and the platform is always automatically updated with the latest features for the SaaS Application. The application is completely On Demand and cost effectively scales with HeadStart's growth plans.



COMPANY and PRODUCT PROFILE

WOLF is a Cloud based Platform-as-a-Service that helps you design, deliver and use Software as a Service (SaaS) applications using only a web browser. The framework helps professionals and businesses to **focus on application innovation, rapid speed to market and continuous enhancement** rather than writing routine technical code and managing the infrastructure behind it.

WOLF greatly reduces the barrier to convert an idea or business process into an online web application by offering:

- **Prebuilt SaaS Architecture** that handles multi-tenancy, scalability, provisioning, etc.
- 'Out-of-the-box' **Code-Free Design Framework** that enables rapid development of robust applications.

WOLF Frameworks Platform is used to design & deliver a host of business applications catering to multiple industries. WOLF team brings thousands of man year experiences, ranging from commercializing Business Processes as On Demand SaaS, Cloud Strategy consulting to deploying solutions in leading Public and Private Clouds. WOLF is headquartered in India with offices in United States and is represented via solution partners worldwide.

Website: <http://www.wolfframeworks.com>

For More Information

For more information about WOLF products and services, call the WOLF Sales Information Center at +91 98865 46085. To access information using the World Wide Web, go to: <http://www.wolfframeworks.com>

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