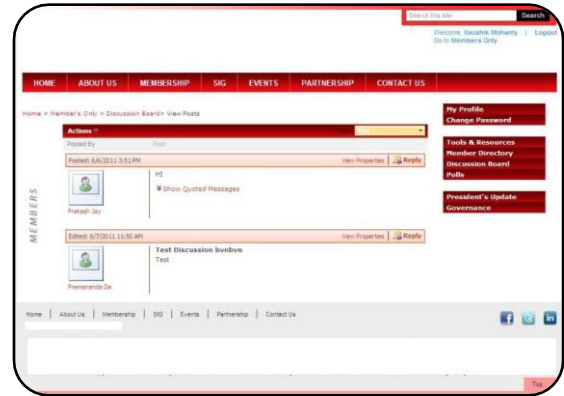# Collaborative Portal for nurses in SharePoint

Executive Summary

How about developing a portal wherein healthcare professionals especially neonatal nurses nationally and internationally could share knowledge, ideas and experiences with each other? This is something that one of our clients from the Healthcare industry in Canada thought of. He wanted this group of professionals to participate in provincial, federal and international health care decision making and policy development regarding the care of newborns and their families through different events.

He had the idea ready but, was in search for a reliable development partner who could convert his dream into reality. He came across Mindfire Solutions and shared his idea. Within no time Mindfire was able to prepare a proposal for the client, suggesting him to develop the portal using SharePoint 2007. The client was happy to see the professionalism in Mindfire's approach and also agreed to begin development work after going through the proposal.

About our Client

Client Health Management | **Location** Canada | **Industry** Healthcare

Business Situation

This client of ours had an idea to develop a portal for neonatal nurses to collaborate among themselves as well as other healthcare providers both nationally and internationally to gather and share information regarding healthcare decision making, policy development and care of newborns. The portal was also meant for promoting knowledge translation for effective and innovative approach to neonatal nursing practice and changes in health policy. Registered users would be allowed to share knowledge, experiences and ideas with other health care providers both nationally and internationally. The idea was to develop two different zones, one for the admin for administrative tasks and & content management on different pages and the later used by the external users (nurses).

Beyond the basic specifications sent by the client, he had some other additional features to be incorporated while developing the portal. The tasks were plenty and the time period was less yet, Mindfire's offshore SharePoint team took the challenge of developing the portal using SharePoint 2007 and delivered it within the time frame discussed.

Solution Details
The Mindfire Solution

Mindfire's offshore SharePoint team with their immense expertise and dedication developed a complete portal for the client catering every single requirement of his. The final portal developed consisted of two different zones as demanded by the client.

1. **Intranet -** Used only by the admin for all the administrative tasks.
2. **Internet -** Used by the external users i.e. nurses. This is based on the Form Based Authentication driven through SQL Membership Provider.

Mindfire's offshore team was completely involved in the creation of the whole portal with the internet zone having various sub-pages linked to the welcome page. These pages include Home Page, About Us, Membership, SIG, Event, Partnership and Contact Us. There were also other additional pages developed like Member Registration page, Member Log-in page, Member Landing page, My Profile page and many more. Some pages were developed which gets appended for privileged users like Board of Directors, Conference Committee, Education Committee, Executive Committee, Nutrition, Developmental Care etc.

The intranet zone only allows access to admin. The internal site contains document libraries, lists, picture libraries, discussion boards, surveys, sites, people and groups, manage members, view membership requests etc. Only the admin has the power to add/edit items within the intranet site.

The portal also exposes some generic and basic information for the anonymous users like Recent News, Upcoming Events, etc. Any anonymous user can request for membership and upon approval by admin is provided with a username and password to login into the site and take privilege of the additional features like Members Directory, Polls, Discussion Board, Announcements, Important Links, Blogs, Newsletter, Document sharing & downloading through different libraries etc. The admin can also elect the registered nurses as Board of Director for a specific year and also grant privileges to few other collaborative sub-sites within it. The system is capable of sending out different types of notification e-mails based on different date checks through timer jobs running in the background. Also, a payment gateway has been integrated within the site for credit card processing during registration and renew of membership.

Thus, Mindfire has delivered the client with two different robust and efficient sites that can handle every request made by the admin or an external user smoothly.
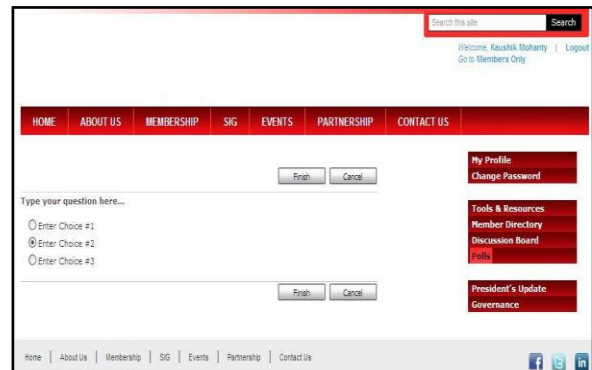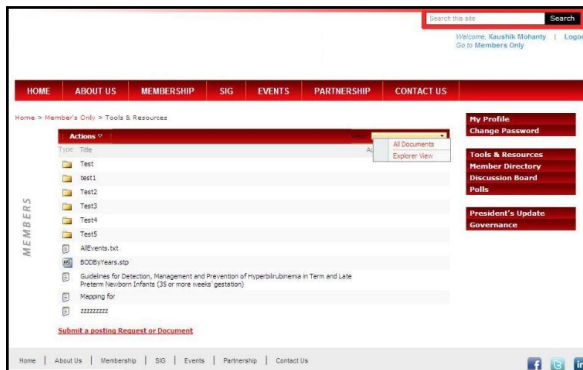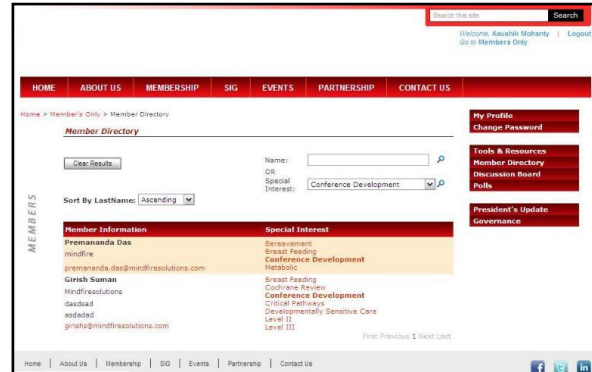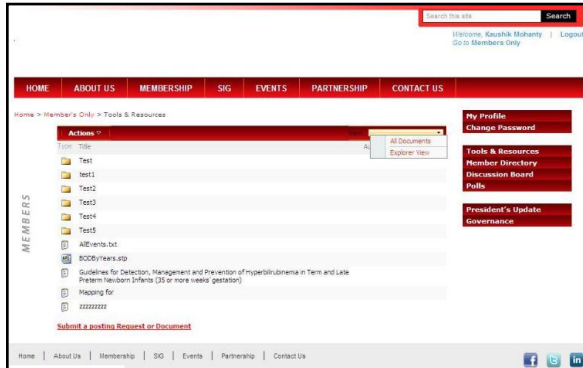
Achievements

The primary challenge with this project was the time frame involved. Though our offshore team was clear about the requirements of the client, they did not have enough time to execute the task. Developing such huge number of pages without any error was a tough task. Still, they worked hard and eventually completed the project before the stipulated time.

Technologies

WSS 3.0, Sharepoint 2007, ASP.Net 3.5, C#.Net, Ajax, jQuery

Final Results
Software System

Customer Benefits

The client was ecstatic upon viewing the demo of the website and very much appreciated the effort of Mindfire's SharePoint team. The client had received an error free and stable website that supported such huge number of functionalities. The idea to develop such a portal was now a reality for the client.

Future relationship

The client was very elated with the effort of Mindfire's SharePoint team and has agreed to start another SharePoint project related to healthcare domain.