



Who We Are

We are software ninjas! We believe in good software development, with a high degree of quality in both function and design. We are passionate developers who genuinely love being a part of this great community.

Because we live and breathe software development and the technologies behind it, you can expect a high degree of quality and commitment in the work that we do. We don't believe good programming can exist without a sense of passion, a healthy curiosity and a love of learning.

Whether you're looking for a strong start to your new project or you just want to improve your existing situation, our experienced team has the knowledge and resources to help your applications take off.

We excel in the design, implementation and development of the following areas:

- Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0
- ASP.NET Web Application Development
- Ruby on Rails Web Application Development
- SQL Server Development and Reporting
- Google Product Offerings for Small Businesses

Team Members

Matthew Carriere, Co-founder and [ASP.NET](#) Ninja

Matthew Carriere develops web applications. He follows [ASP.NET](#) and Ruby on Rails religiously and then evangelizes (rants about) the patterns and practices of each to the rest of the team. He started his career working on the Microsoft Campus in Redmond, WA. It was here he cut his teeth with .NET development. With several large SharePoint and [ASP.NET](#) web applications in his wake, his passion for using great technology to solve business problems recently led him to Ruby on Rails. He believes that learning Rails made him a stronger [ASP.NET](#) MVC solution developer. Matthew feels that writing code is a craft and that well written applications come from developers who are passionate about what they do. He blogs about his web development experiences at [matthewcarriere.com](#). Matthew holds a Bachelor of Science (BSc.) degree in Computer Information Systems.

Additional certifications: MCP, MCAD:Web Applications Developer, MCSD.

Shereen Qumsieh, Co-founder and SharePoint Ninja

Shereen is extremely passionate about web standards and intelligent design. Poorly designed web sites keep her up at night - and that keeps all of us up at night. She is an advocate of taking the time to understand your users, and building a site that is both functional and good looking. She focuses on delivering high quality SharePoint solutions for enterprise customers. As a Microsoft Certified Professional, Shereen has extensive experience architecting, installing and developing custom solutions for SharePoint Server 2007. She is also a prominent member of the local SharePoint community; delivering SharePoint Designer and SharePoint development training in Vancouver and Victoria as well as blogging at [blog.qumsieh.ca](#). Shereen currently holds a Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) degree from the British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT).

Additional certifications: MCP, MCTS.

Donabel Santos, SQL Server Ninja

Donabel loves to work with SQL Server and SharePoint, and she loves to learn and teach. She thinks SQL is fun, no really, she does. She designs, administers, troubleshoots and maintains databases for clients. The fun doesn't stop there - she also creates (tons of) T-SQL scripts, queries, and reports using SQL Server Reporting Services. With her SharePoint Developer hat on, she focuses on configuring, branding and building custom solutions for Sharepoint 2007, primarily using [ASP.NET](#), C# and XHTML/CSS/Javascript. Donabel holds a Bachelor of Technology (B.Tech) degree from British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT), where she currently teaches web development and database (SQL Server, MySQL) courses.

Additional certifications: MCP:SQL Server 2000, MCITP:Database Developer, MCITP:Database Administrator, MCTS:SQL Server 2005, MCTS: Configuring Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 and MySQL Professional.

Recent Projects

SharePoint Consulting and Development for a Department within the Government of Canada

Project: Portal Branding, Custom UI Development, Governance

Overview

The stakeholders for this particular project are designing an information management framework for the next generation of management information systems and services. One of the key elements is Portal technology – the starting point for staff to do their work. An initial independent evaluation determined that Microsoft Office SharePoint Server would be the best fit given the requirements that were laid out. However, business and technical staff require more experience and confidence in the product before committing beyond the pilot phase.

Current Engagement

Black Ninja Software was engaged to work in tandem with the management team, the SharePoint developers and the web designers to complete a key set of pilot features. The first feature requires the complete branding of the Windows SharePoint Services site collection including all pages in the _layouts directory. The second set of features spawned from an internal user study that was performed where it was discovered that users were having difficulty understanding the navigation structure of the web part page picker. This page and its surrounding functionality is currently being rewritten to make it more user friendly while still maintaining best practices for custom development. The final piece to this will be the comparison and documentation of the differences between WSS and MOSS.

Impact

The impact of this solution has yet to be determined as we are still in development but the goal will be to produce a quality of product that has a positive impact on the user base of this organization. This is a pilot and therefore the goal is to strengthen user adoption before a more robust, feature rich environment can be built.

SharePoint Development for Global Telecommunications Company

Project: Architecture Planning and Implementation, Custom Application Pages, Workflows and Web Parts, Features, Operations

Overview

Project Managers in the deployment services division of a well known global telecommunications company were not able to accurately report on the total project cost for the various services they provided. Black Ninja Software was engaged to assist them with building a custom web application that leverages Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 for data entry, time tracking and reporting. To boost performance and capacity planning, a new infrastructure plan consisting of a small server farm was laid out and deployed with plans for a larger, more robust farm to be delivered at a later date. Several custom application pages, web parts and workflows were developed using Visual Studio 2008, SharePoint Designer and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 to provide a platform for data entry, time tracking and reporting on final project costing. This division plans to grow this solution into the near future with further enhancements, additional custom pages and web parts, and more business automation.

Current Engagement

Black Ninja Software is working in partnership with the management team to further develop the custom application built on top of Windows SharePoint Services 3.0. We are currently in development of the second phase of this project which will include more detailed reporting on the actual project costs in addition to further development of the time tracking tools for the management team. SQL Server Reporting Services is an option for providing more detailed information on the data that has been collected to date and is currently being evaluated.

Impact

The impact of this solution has been positive and has added a level of transparency to the business operating costs for this division. The time tracking aspect has made it possible to know the costs of the personnel associated with a project. By combining that with the services costs and materials costs, it's now possible to know if there was a loss or gain on a particular contract. Each project or contract that is carried out has a full set of information available to each project manager that relates to scheduling, costs, timelines, statuses and contact information. This information was not easily available before and in some case was not available at all. Moving forward, these numbers will be a base for ongoing work in the Deployment Services division and will make it possible to learn and adjust with all future projects based on the information collected to date. Windows SharePoint Services 3.0 made it possible to build this solution, quickly and efficiently because of the strong architectural base. This Windows SharePoint Services solution has made this global telecommunications company more aware of the added benefits available to them in Microsoft Office SharePoint Server and is now considering expanding their portal offerings to include this product.

Canadian Food Service Company SQL Server Reporting Services Development

Project: Custom Ruby on Rails Development, SQL Development and Reporting, Operations

Overview

A Canadian owned food service company founded in 1967 has grown to become the largest independent protein foodservice distributor in Western Canada. Black Ninja Software was engaged to assist them with improving upon their current reporting infrastructure by leveraging SQL Server Reporting Services. A combination of access reports, excel spreadsheets and a poor network deployment made it difficult to report on food service costs, materials and labor. The branch managers and owners across western Canada needed to be able to report on data instantly from a single source and with accuracy.

Current Engagement

Black Ninja Software is currently engaged in building two web applications capable of managing and entering data for the purposes of reporting on costs associated with a line of business activity. These applications will leverage the SQL Reporting Services infrastructure that was previously implemented. The second phase of this project is already underway and [ASP.NET](#) MVC is being considered.

Impact

Black Ninja Software has transformed the way reporting is done at this food service company. The management reporting now consists of over one hundred SQL Reporting Services reports that are accessible through the Report Manager and a web application. Managers at all levels are now able to securely and immediately access the reports they need to make important business decisions. SQL Reporting Services has made this company more aware of the business intelligence offerings available to them through Microsoft SQL Server and now considers expanding their reporting to include Analysis Services.

Training

Want to really learn? Want to get practical answers to your questions during your training?

You will be trained by experts who have done small to enterprise level projects for small to corporate companies. We don't have "just trainers", we have experts who have "been there, done that, and discovered the best way to do it".

Our trainers are developers, designers, and administrators who do the dirty work in their day jobs. They are also Microsoft Certified! They are passionate about what they do, love to train, read all the geeky stuff about these technologies, blog helpful scripts and how-to's, and attend training themselves to keep up to date.

Because you are not just going to learn the concepts in the book, you are going to learn how it's done in the real world.

Black Ninja Software Courses

We offer a wide range of training options that cover the areas we are most proficient in:

- Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 and Windows SharePoint Services 3.0
- SQL Server 2005/2008 Development, Administration and Reporting
- Ruby on Rails Web Development
- iPhone Application Development

Our training schedule is available online and we update often. We encourage interested parties to contact us if what they see doesn't quite meet their needs and they're looking for something more custom.

MYCOM Canada Ltd.

Black Ninja was engaged to deliver a one day SharePoint Designer Crash Course that was custom designed for MYCOM based on their need and level of experience. The main focus was to deliver a preview of what Windows SharePoint Services can offer to an organization of that size and to compare the feature set with that of Microsoft Office SharePoint Server. As a result of the training, the client has expressed a desire to implement SharePoint in a pilot phase.

ProTech Training

Black Ninja offers a Microsoft SharePoint Designer 2007 5 day training class custom designed by us and delivered through ProTech training. We have a strong relationship with ProTech and have done end user and custom development training through them in the past and will continue to do so in the future.