



The Computerworld Honors Program

Honoring those who use Information Technology to benefit society

Final Copy of Case Study

Status:

Laureate

Year:

2013

Organization Name:

INTERSERVICIOS LIMITADA

Organization URL:

www.interserviciosltda.net

Project Name:

SIGMA-V

Please select the category in which you are submitting your entry:

Human Services

Please provide an overview of the nominated project. Describe the problem it was intended to solve, the technology or approach used, how it was innovative and any technical or other challenges that had to be overcome for successful implementation and adoption. (In 300 words or less.)

SIGMA-V is a complete software that helps Colombian institutions to characterize and register the aids given to the victims of the armed conflict in Colombia. The software gives to the institutions the ability to target services and measure the impact of the given aids in the improvement of the quality of life of victims. The software was developed using the advantages of the web-oriented technologies. It was written in PHP 5, JavaScript, and HTML5 and uses a PostgreSQL database engine. The main goal of this project was to supply the local institutions needed information about victims, relatives and mainly the aids they give to them and the impact of that aid. Another big achievement of the software was the ability to calculate most important indicators that the Constitutional Court of

Colombia had defined to determinate if the rights of victims have been reestablished. Until this software was made, Colombian local institutions didn't have any software tool to register and track victims; now they have an option.

When was this project implemented or last updated? (Please specify month and year.) Has it incorporated new technologies and/or other innovations since its initial deployment? (In 300 words or less.)

The project was launched in 2006 as an information system for displaced people. In 2011 the government published the "Victims Law," which includes other victimization like torture, sexual crimes, illegal detentions, etc. So we decide to modify the software to include all these new items and we included new functions like new map reports using Google maps API, statistical graphs and charts, etc.

Is implementation of the project complete? If no, please describe the project's phases and which phase the project is now in. (In 300 words or less.)

We planned to launch the version 3.0 of the software in February 2013. This version is the 1.0 version of the new victims information system. Currently we are testing the new improvements and updating the technical and end user documentation.

Please provide at least one example of how the technology project has benefited a specific individual or organization. Feel free to include personal quotes from individuals who have directly benefited from the work. (In 300 words or less.)

In Medellin (Antioquia, Colombia) is the Displacement People Attention Unit (a local government institution created to help displaced people who arrive in Medellin). This institution has used our software since 2007, and after the implementation of the software, they went from 50 people to 850 per day, and reduced the time to answer to legal suits. They could report to the Constitutional Court and National Government about the help they were giving to this population and the goals they've achieved. Colombia has more than 3 million displaced people; Medellin is the second city in displacement population due to geographical and economic reasons. One of the main problems for local governments is to get real time information about displaced people, the conditions they live in, their main needs, their home conditions, natural hazards, their education, etc. And that is what the software provides to them, so with the software we are helping this institution to focus resources in main impact needs.

A gold medal with a ribbon is visible in the top left corner. The medal features a classical architectural column and the word "HONORS" is partially visible. A large, light green laurel wreath graphic is positioned on the right side of the page, extending from the top to the bottom.

Would this project be considered an innovation, a best practice or other notable advancement that could be adopted by or tailored for other organizations and uses? If yes, please describe that here. (In 300 words or less.)

We think that this software is an innovation because it brings important information about the victims to the government institutions in real time, providing them with the ability to respond quickly and efficiently to the needs of this population.

If there are any other details that the judges should know about this project, please note them here. (In 300 words or less.)

Our company is small but the problems caused by the armed conflict in Colombia are enormous and technology is the way we found to help.