



Business Intelligence



Collaboration Portals



Application Development



Business Strategy



Executive Dashboards



Project Management Offices

Business Case – Merial

Solution Overview

Microsoft Gold Certified Partner

Blackstone & Cullen, Inc.

Scenario

Collaborative Portal

Industry

Animal Health

Situation

Hundreds of projects were underway at Merial. The company needed a central database for all projects with a clean interface for project management.

Business Solution

Blackstone & Cullen, Inc. (BAC) evaluated potential solutions. The best was to customize the existing eRoom and integrate it with Project Server.

Technology Deployed

- Documentum eRoom
- SQL Server 2000
- Visual Studio 2003

Since 1989, Blackstone & Cullen, Inc. has leveraged information technology to provide business solutions. Principal services include enterprise application integration, data warehousing, program office implementation, and custom application development.



Merial, a leading animal health products company, had 400 major, cross-functional, projects underway. An eRoom technology was in place for web-based collaboration, but Merial wanted a central database for all projects. Merial also desired a standardized project management tool, but needed it to retain the straightforward, already-accepted interface. Data for many projects was not accessible to people who needed it, and even more commonly, data could not be displayed or customized in a form most appropriate for the user. Further, the projects were managed by a variety of programs, including Project, Word, Excel, and custom applications. Merial need the tools to manage projects in a collaborative manner and to provide managers the ability to view project status and reports as needed.

Solution

Blackstone & Cullen, Inc. (BAC) provided a solution by customizing the existing eRoom interface, creating a custom project charter web application, and integrating it with Project Server. Having already completed a strategic planning project for Merial, BAC was asked to evaluate potential solutions for the desired project management system. BAC interviewed Merial personnel, then analyzed possible solutions using these weighted factors:

- 60% Functionality
- 25% Ease of Implementation
- 15% Total Cost of Ownership

An eRoom/Microsoft Project Server integrated solution ranked highest in functionality and total cost of ownership and tied for first in ease of implementation, clearly surpassing Lotus Notes, Primavera, Vertabase Pro, and Virtual Communications System, among others.