

Microsoft .NET Application Development by Catapult Systems



The .NET framework connects information, people, systems and devices through software. Integrated across the Microsoft platform, .NET technology provides the ability to quickly create and use connected, security-enhanced solutions with Web services.

The .NET framework enables you to:

- Open the door to new business opportunities by making it easy to connect with partners
- Deliver more personal, integrated user experiences
- Save time and money by cutting development time
- Increase revenue streams by enabling you to make your own Web services available to others

The Microsoft .NET Framework 3.0

The Microsoft .NET Framework 3.0 is the new managed code programming model for Windows. It combines the power of .NET 2.0 with new technologies for building applications that enhance user satisfaction and productivity with:

- *The Windows Communication Foundation*: a unified framework for building secure, reliable, transacted and interoperable distributed applications.
- *Windows Presentation Foundation*: the next-generation presentation sub-system for Windows, providing developers and designers with a unified programming model for building rich Windows smart client user experiences that incorporate UI, media and documents.
- *Windows Workflow Foundation*: the programming model, engine and tools for quickly building workflow-enabled applications. It provides radically enhanced abilities to model and support business processes.
- *Windows CardSpace*: a platform for information cards that enable users to provide their digital identities easily and securely, obviating the struggle with usernames and passwords.

The Catapult Benefit

Catapult .NET engagements integrate well-architected, supportable solutions into your mission-critical systems.

Our experts possess the industry's leading-edge .NET knowledge base. This enables them to leverage the power of .NET 3.0 to create reliable, extensible, high-quality, custom applications that achieve your business goals while offering:

- Visually compelling user experiences
- Seamless communication across technology boundaries
- The ability to support a wide range of business processes

Our consultants have the expertise to plan, design, build, test and implement applications that fully integrate into your organization's existing business processes and system environment.

We create highly effective user-centered applications utilizing

state-of-the-art tools and a proven methodology by which we:

- Study your processes
- Understand your systems and infrastructure
- Plan a custom application that meets your needs
- Implement the application on time and on budget
- Support your IT staff with training

Catapult services provide rapid functionality delivery and reduced cycle times, to minimize project risk and cost while maintaining high-quality results.

Look to Catapult Systems to provide the full range of .NET development services:

- *Technology strategy and architecture*: we assesses the situation and lay a plan for meeting the project's requirements.
- *Business analysis*: we guide you through a formal process of analysis, requirements definition and process improvement.
- *Project management*: we have the skills required to work as your business partner while providing the leadership to manage the complex requirements around this cutting-edge technology.
- *Application design and development*: the heart of the matter; we help you create competitive advantage in the form of custom .NET applications and enhancements that marry leading-edge technology to your mission-critical processes.
- *User experience*: we encompasses branding, information architecture, interface usability, and the integration of business functionality and supporting infrastructure.
- *Mobile solutions*: let us show you where mobile technology makes sense for your business to streamline processes and enhance communication with partners.

Real-Life Catapult Client Experiences

80% of Catapult clients are repeat customers. Here are the stories of two such clients, which leveraged Catapult's industry-leading knowledge of the Microsoft .NET Framework 3.0.

Home Goods Manufacturer

Gaining Competitive Advantage with Fast Time to Market

This company manufactures and sells to homebuilders carpets, flooring, countertops and other finished goods for new houses.

The company continually aims to improve homebuilding experience for both its customers and homeowners, and leverages technology to support that mission whenever possible.

The company recognized a market opportunity for a solution that could immediately calculate accurate building goods costs for customers, show them a complete picture of a home with those options, and let them see how different materials look, all to enable them to make more informed choices.

Given the requirements – to pull information from disparate data stores, perform the needed calculations and display the results in a customer-pleasing interface, all on the fly – the development effort would clearly need to be within the .NET framework.

The problem: the company's internal IT team estimated that, with the vast amount of data involved in those processes, building this type of application would require upwards of three years of dedicated effort.

Further, because the IT team was not expert in .NET 3.0, the application's interface would not support the stated objectives of design and function.

Enter Catapult Systems, the industry leader in developing applications in the .NET 3.0 framework.

Catapult consultants built a complete requirements document, analyzed the infrastructure to ensure the new application would be able to access and use information from all the systems holding data integral to its functioning, and developed the application within these parameters.

As a result, the client realized:

- **Faster time-to-market:** whereas, by its original estimates, the application would have required three years to build, the Catapult approach leveraging .NET 3.0 resulted in a sellable solution in less than 12 months, making them first to market.
- **Lower costs, higher return and less risk:** the client is saving money in conserving internal resources in its solution development and predicts increased sales in the millions because of the greater value the company can offer its customers.
- **Improved solution quality:** Catapult's .NET 3.0 application is more maintainable, and delivers more robust functionality, presentation and performance, than what would have been deliverable in .NET 2.0.

*County Court Agency
Developing More Comprehensive, Efficient Systems*

Accurately processing paperwork for citizens as they pass through court is critical to a well-run justice system. This county agency faced challenges maintaining an efficient flow of information due to its aging, cumbersome court-clerks' systems.

The paperwork and systems based on Oracle Forms were difficult for staff to use and time-consuming to modify to accommodate changing legislative requirements. In addition, the agency managed its court traffic with an IBM mainframe running applications that had been developed in-house 25 years ago. The mainframe was nearing the end of its life cycle, and it was becoming more difficult to find staff people to maintain it.

Concerned about the effectiveness and reliability of its systems, the agency decided to overhaul the supporting technology, to update applications so that they would be easier for staff members to use while providing a flexible long-term solution.

It turned to Catapult Systems to recreate the court-clerks' applications. The agency originally stipulated that the applications be developed in .NET 2.0. However, upon performing its technology strategy and business analysis processes, Catapult recommended a switch to .NET 3.0 as a more comprehensive environment for development. The client recognized the benefits, and Catapult developed the new applications in .NET 3.0 and deployed the necessary infrastructure to support them. As a result, the agency now has a solution with greater functionality and flexibility, and yet the new solution will not require additional time or budget to deploy or maintain, ensuring:

- **Responsible stewardship of taxpayer dollars:** as a government body, the fiscal soundness of technology outlays is of paramount importance. The new applications require less IT resources, and their flexibility and maintainability means they will provide enduring value.
- **Better solution with same timeline and budget:** Catapult's unique .NET 3.0 expertise ensured the solution met the client's business requirements more quickly and cost-effectively than could otherwise have been delivered.
- **User- and IT-friendliness:** a key requirement of the new applications was that they make life for both users and IT easier, and their full functionality, coupled with ease of maintenance, fulfills that need.

Learn more today!

Visit www.CatapultSystems.com

or contact 800.528.6248 or info@CatapultSystems.com