Library Management

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Microsoft® Office SharePoint® Server 2007

REQUIREMENT

Company X has an extensive library which includes technical, soft skills books, magazines and CDs. The handling of the library activities like list of books, magazines, CDs, lending and return of the books etc has been maintained in excel. This is cumbersome and with the increasing number of books in the library, it was proposed to automate the library management using SharePoint. The Librarian is responsible to maintain the database of the books, magazines, CDs etc. Employees of the company should be able to browse the list of books, request and borrow books. The librarian should be able to receive requests from the users and the librarian will have to physically handover the book. The library management is a single site to gather all information related to the library.

SOLUTION

The SharePoint team achieved the automation of the library management using workflow. The team enhanced a pre existing Window SharePoint Service 3.0 (WSS 3.0) application template called Lending Library. This template supported request for a book, availability of a book (borrowed or available), Proposing for a new book, magazine etc, remainder alerts on book due date.

CUSTOM DEVELOPMENT

This template was enhanced further to set up groups and permissions. Custom workflows were used to send remainder emails to the person 2 days prior to the due date as per the requirements.

Requests for a borrowed book could be placed in a reservation queue on a first-cum-first- serve basis. Timer service was integrated to send the email alerts to the respective users on the appropriate date. The details of the book can be exported to other applications like MS-Excel etc. Web part and custom workflow was developed in .Net 2.0, ASP.Net 2.0 and C#.

BENEFITS

Search - Extensive search capabilities will enable users to quickly and easily find the information that they need, regardless of how that information resource is categorized within the portal's navigational structure.

Audit trail - The system holds a detailed log about all the transactions and emails sent using events.