

E-COMMERCE APPLICATION
DEVELOPMENT
AND
INTEGRATION

E-Commerce Application Development and Integration:

- Client is the America's leading cheese purveyor, who needed a more robust system that would cater to its fast growing Internet customer base along with the capability to automatically and effectively handle the orders and promotions mailed to its customers using catalogues.
- First, we had to develop the right application to handle the client's phone and web customers efficiently. Second, we had to integrate this developed application with the existing Microsoft Retail Management System software that was being used to maintain client's store inventory. Finally, third party modules for handling Shipping, Credit card processing, had to be linked to the developed application to handle shipments and payments efficiently.
- Due to the time constraints placed on us by the client, we preferred using the proven Mail Order Application solution which addressed some of the issues, instead of building the entire application from scratch. Our plan was to incorporate the missing functionality into this Mail Order Application. After successful incorporation of the required functionality, we had to transfer all the data used by the existing osCommerce application to Mail Order Application tables (Visual FoxPro Database).
- We developed a conversion tool using Java technology to load all the relevant data from existing databases (SQL Server, MySQL, and Excel document) to Visual FoxPro Database. This tool also had to be equipped with additional capability to load updated information from the existing databases to Visual FoxPro database without manual intervention. NetBeans and Eclipse development environments were used to develop the stand-alone conversion tool.
- After successfully transferring all the data to Visual FoxPro Database, we had to integrate the data published by the resulting application with the code provided by SiteLINK into the newly designed web pages. Client wanted to infuse a lot of additional functionality that was not provided by SiteLINK, into its web pages.
- ASP.NET was our preferred technology to develop the web pages. Dreamweaver MX development environment was used in developing the pages.
- Third Party tools for Shipping (FedEx module) and payment processing (Authorize.net module) were then integrated with Mail Order application to handle shipping orders and to process payments.
- Finally, Java language was used to create an agent to update RMS inventory with orders placed by phone and web customers. This agent also had the capability to update Visual FoxPro Database with RMS pricing and product information at regular intervals.