
GE Fabbri enhances internal communication and human resources with Intrexx

London, 1 June 2009. United Planet (www.unitedplanet.com), one of the leading developers of Enterprise Portal software in Europe, is pleased to announce that GE Fabbri, (www.gefabbri.co.uk), a major UK-based partwork publisher, producing top-quality publications for international markets, has invested in Intrexx to enhance its internal communications and to augment its human resource and project management capabilities.

GE Fabbri has used Intrexx to create a web-based, platform independent employee portal that acts as a centralised communication platform for the whole company. Over 100 employees now benefit from optimised work processes and a variety of applications integrated into the portal that are designed to increase efficiency and productivity. Information that is critical to performing a task, for example, is stored in a central location and easily accessible via a web browser so that time consuming searches are no longer necessary. Company news is made available via the portal starting page, providing a quick overview of key issues at the start of the working day and ensuring that everyone is briefed on important topics at the same time, instead of being lost in general email traffic.

The Human Resources team has used Intrexx to increase knowledge sharing and to simplify a variety of general HR activities. New employees are able to create their own profiles that provide key information about their skills and qualifications etc for referencing by project managers and other employees. PCs, laptops and mobile phones that are assigned to each employee can be identified and tracked throughout their employment on the portal. The automation of the entire holiday request and approval process via online form submission and approval, speeds up the entire procedure and ensures that absences can be monitored centrally and holiday entitlement accurately recorded. Paperwork and time required to follow through each holiday request has been dramatically reduced, freeing HR for other activities.

Intrex has also enabled GE Fabbri to simplify the workflows and processes associated with handling investment proposals, with low value proposals processed electronically on the portal and only higher value proposals submitted to a rigorous review procedure.

Stuart Ward, IT Manager at GE Fabbri, recognises the benefits of the portal solution: “With Intrex, we have been able to simplify a wide variety of workflows and processes. This saves us a lot of time and money. Internal communication has improved dramatically thanks to the use of web 2.0 applications available on the portal, such as Wikis and Blogs.”

Looking to the future, GE Fabbri plans to integrate the company’s SAP Business One data and other international third party software, such as editorial management software, into the portal to automate and simplify a variety of complex processes. It also anticipates the development of a courier handling application which will automatically direct online courier requests to reception for action. A stationary ordering application will also simplify requests for essential equipment. External web links are also expected to be integrated into the portal.

Alexander Marsch, managing director, United Planet Limited, said: “We are delighted that GE Fabbri has selected Intrex as its Enterprise Portal, ahead of strong competition from MS SharePoint, Joomla and Intranet Dashboard. Intrex is well regarded as a cost effective, easy to deploy enterprise portal that promotes platform independence, and we are pleased that we have been able to provide GE Fabbri with a highly flexible and functionally-rich portal that is able to integrate the wide variety of MAC and PC systems currently used by the company under a single graphical user interface.”

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About GE Fabbri

GE Fabbri is a major UK-based partwork publisher, producing top-quality publications for international markets. The company prides itself on the quality of its editorial content and has an excellent track record in taking brands into this dynamic sector of the publishing industry. GE Fabbri is a joint venture between GE PUBLISHING and the major Italian publishing company, Rizzoli Corriere della Sera (RCS). The combination of GE's experienced managerial and editorial resources and the large financial resources of RCS has created a significant and successful company in the partwork business.

About United Planet

United Planet is one of the leading developers of Enterprise Portals in Europe. Its Java based, standard software, Intrexx Xtreme, enables companies to create out-of-the-box Enterprise Portals, Intranets and Web Applications cost effectively, without the need for programming by using 'drag and drop' technology and pre-created solutions for quality management, document management and process management to optimise internal workflow. Intrexx Xtreme runs on Windows as well as on Linux and Sun Solaris, and incorporates several Business Adapters to ensure that third-party data from Lotus Notes and other ERP solutions can be easily integrated in the Intrexx Portal. A special Business Adapter for MS Office also makes it possible to integrate and edit Microsoft Office Documents without the need for Microsoft Office SharePoint Server (MOSS). United Planet is headquartered in Freiburg and also has offices in Windsor. The company is supported by over 100 Business Partners worldwide.

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