Business Challenges

With the exponential growth of critical information needed to manage businesses today, a key challenge for most employees is managing time spent sifting through these sources of information to determine what is relevant and important to their work. As this information flow increases, both inside and outside the enterprise, the challenge becomes not just overwhelming to the individual worker, but extraordinarily costly to the company.

Dell Professional Services’ (DPS) intranet and extranet portal solutions are designed to help ensure that your employees, partners, suppliers, and customers can find knowledge and information quickly and easily in these critical scenarios “I know the information exists and I know where it is,” “I know the information exists, but I don’t know where it is,” and “I don’t know if the information exists.”

With a collaborative portal solution, organizations can leverage the knowledge of the extended enterprise to:

- **Improve organizational responsiveness** by improving access to customized information, and by helping identify expertise in the extended enterprise.
- **Increase employee productivity** by facilitating the reuse of knowledge and best practices through efficient storage and retrieval of documents and emails.
- **Foster greater innovation** by helping employees avoid “reinventing the wheel” and concentrate on building upon proven successes.
- **Optimize collaboration** within the enterprise and in the extended enterprise the value chain that includes partners, suppliers and customers.

Our Fast Track to SharePoint Portal Server can help organizations implement an initial platform and framework to help achieve these objectives.

Key Benefits

Dell Professional Services’ experienced team of collaboration professionals has a proven track record of delivery and a keen understanding of real-world business problems. With the Fast Track to SharePoint, you get:

- **Expert assistance from experienced professionals:** There’s no substitute for experience when building business-critical applications like information portals. DPS experts can work with your staff to achieve a successful implementation of Microsoft SharePoint Portal Server – a solution that meets your current and evolving business needs.

- **Reduced development time:** Over the course of many engagements, experts at DPS have developed best practices that speed the development of solutions based upon SharePoint Portal Server.

- **Rapid return on investment:** Our professionals help ensure that you avoid development pitfalls and take advantage of DPS’ internal knowledge base of both technical solutions and business and operational best practices for portal solutions.
Features
The Fast Track to SharePoint Portal Server solution is designed to quickly get your organization up and running with a collaborative portal. During the engagement, we help:

– **Validate** your business objectives for a portal solution.
– **Identify** key business processes necessary to make sure your portal solution will provide sustainable and measurable value to your organization – “if you build it, they will come.”
– **Conduct** a comprehensive information assessment to help us understand your current sources of information.
– **Develop and implement** a SharePoint portal that will meet your immediate and high-priority needs, and provide a platform for expanding and adding both content sources and business processes as your needs and budget evolve.

Deliverables
The Fast Track to SharePoint Portal offering is typically a four to eight week engagement, depending on organizational and content complexity and the initial scope of the portal. A critical success factor for this engagement is the availability and involvement of client stakeholders, line of business executives and IT managers. During this engagement, the following deliverables are produced:

– **Introductory SharePoint Workshop**: This interactive seminar includes an overview of SharePoint Portal Server, its business impact and features demonstrations. This session will help you validate your business objectives for a SharePoint portal solution, create a preliminary business case for an initial implementation, and identify any key risk areas and mitigation strategies.

– **Organizational Assessment and Architecture Review**: An assessment is conducted of your organizational content, workflow and collaboration needs. We develop an information structure that facilitates document storage and retrieval, and that is customized to your business objectives and flexible to accommodate growth. Standard web parts to be implemented during the project are identified, along with options for custom web part development and automation of file importing. Concurrently, we evaluate your server structure, integration requirements and security needs.

– **Portal Development**: A basic SharePoint portal is developed providing a practical foundation to address the business and technology issues uncovered during the Assessment and Architecture Review step.

– **Portal Review Launch**: SharePoint Portal Server is installed and the solution is implemented and tested in your environment. We will deliver a one-hour training/introduction to the portal for your end users and an additional one-hour training class for content authors. In addition, we will conduct a two-hour training session with the Workspace Coordinator. Final deliverables will include an operational SharePoint portal plus an overview of our findings, recommendations and best practices for portal management and governance, a design/implementation plan, and estimates (if any) for custom web part development and scripts for automating the import of content into the portal.