

CHRONOS SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS

Discussion Forum - Intranet Application



Chronos Systems completed a discussion forum development project for intranet. This type of application can be a stand-alone application or part of an existing intranet.

BUSINESS OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

The discussion forum was the first application of this intranet fitting into the existing software infrastructure and corresponding with company technology standards.

A discussion forum can be the most important medium for internal communication to exchange or discuss ideas between different departments.

THE PROJECT

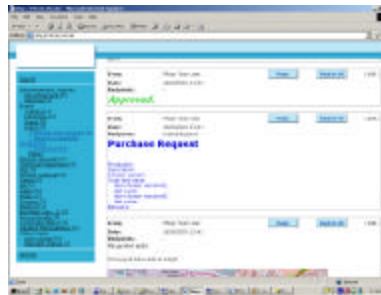
Discussion topics are **categorized** on the forum site; categories can be organized into hierarchy.

Each user is able to create a new topic in the hierarchy.

Everybody is allowed to post **messages** into the topic.

It is possible to define **recipients** of a new message. These selected

users will be **notified via email** if the message is submitted to the topic.



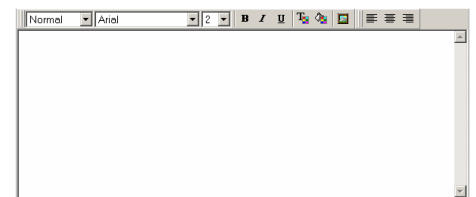
The list of recipients is inherited from the previous message, but the list can be extended or restricted by the author upon posting a new message.

Formatting capabilities are available for creating a new message. It is possible to change:

- Font type and size
- Font color, font background color
- Bold, italic, underlined

or insert images into the message.

Topics can be **archived** when the topic is closed.



System architecture

The overall system architecture is based on Microsoft **DNA** (Distributed Network Architecture) using SQL Server on the database tier, ASP on the business and presentation tiers.

Operational Environment

Operating system: Windows NT 4.0

Web Server: IIS 4.0

Database engine: SQL Server 7.0

Browser compatibility: Internet Explorer 5.0 and above

User/group management

NTLM authentication is used. Domain users are authenticated automatically with the domain controller, and they are not prompted to enter username or password.

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