Intranets 101

An Overview of Intranet Development

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Why discuss Intranets?

Intranets are important because:

- increased efficiency
- cost reduction
- probable widespread migration to this platform
Topics

- Definition of an intranet
- Benefits of an intranet
- Applications of intranet technology
- Design styles and issues
- Implementation issues
What is an Intranet?

• Definition of an intranet

An intranet is the use of a TCP/IP network and other Internet technologies within an organization that are used as a way to achieve better results than the traditional means of data access and transfer.
Internet vs. Intranet

- How are they alike?
  - Both use TCP/IP network protocol
  - Both use e-mail and World Wide Web standards

- What’s the difference?
  - An intranet is local and private
  - An intranet has broad bandwidth - more speed
  - An intranet is more secure
  - An intranet is regulated
Benefits of an Intranet

- Quick and easy access
- Platform independence
- Rich information environment
- Faster searches
- Multimedia as well as textual information
- Improved communications
Applications of an Intranet

- Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- Threaded Discussion Groups/Chat Rooms
- Forms
- Policy/Procedure Manuals
- Search
- Contact Lists/Employee Directories
Intranet Design

• Design Styles
  ♦ Hierarchical vs. Horizontal
  ♦ Centralized vs. Decentralized
  ♦ Server Push vs. Client Pull
  ♦ Thin client vs. Fat client
  ♦ Incremental vs. Start from scratch
Intranet Implementation

- Implementation issues:
  - TCP/IP network protocol
  - Firewall security
  - Hardware and software components
  - Platform considerations
Summary

- Definition of an intranet
- Benefits of an intranet
- Applications of intranet technology
- Design styles and issues
- Implementation issues
Resources Used

http://www.cio.com/WebMaster/sem3_intro.html

“Intranets” How the Web is Used Within Enterprises

http://www.intrack.com/intranet/

The Complete Intranet Resource

http://sd.znet.com/~zoro/is698/index.html

Intranets: IS 698: The Information Superhighway

http://www.mindspring.com/~rchris/ct00002.htm

Intranet: Misspelling…or Megatrend?


Specific Intranet Applications

http://techweb.cmp.com/intranet-build/1e.htm

Intranet Designs: Bauhaus and Beyond