Going Paperless: Creating a Web Database

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Overview

- About the company.
- The goals of the project.
- The tools needed for the project.
- Creation of the web database.
- The testing environment used.
- Obstacles faced.
- Sources.
About the Company

The company that inspired this project is a remodeling company located here in Jackson, TN. Some of the services the company provides are:

- Room additions
- Decks
- Custom kitchens and Baths
- Painting
- Flooring
- Drywall
- Enclosed Porches
About The Company Continued

- Company system was paper-based.

What the company wanted:

- To convert to a electronic-based system.
- To make this new system accessible from anywhere.
- To design the new system around established business rules.
Goals of the Project

- Create a web database that follows the business rules of the company.
- The web database must require a login in to access it.
- The web database must also have the ability to tell who is accessing it.
Tools Needed

- MySQL
- PHP
- Apache
- Html
- Javascript
- Photoshop
Creating The Database

- Created four tables based on what the Company wanted right away.

The four tables were:
- Customers
- Projects
- Employees
- Users
Creating The Database Continued

- The projects table hold information about jobs that are taken on by the company.
- The users table is where the account information is held to validate a user on the web database site.
Creating The Website To Access The Database

- Created forty-two pages would serve to access the database.
- The pages were a combination of PHP, Javascript, HTML, and SQL.
- Created a validation script to recognize an employee of the company based on user name and password.
- Used sessions to hold information that I needed throughout the site.
Tailoring The Web Database To Fit The Company

- Made the web database pull together design-wise things that represented their business.
- Took logo from business card and turned it into a image to display on the site.
- Added an image that represented their trade.
- Developed the database queries in a way that represented how they would search for information.
I used the Uniform Server WAMP package for my developing environment. The benefits of using this package were:

- Open Source
- Portable
- Set up time is barely non existent
Obstacles

- BIG learning curve.
- Time.
- Finding good testing environment.
- Learning the business rules of the company.
Web Database Status

- All of the tasks I was asked to complete by the remodeling company are done.
- The company wants more tasks that are paper-based implemented with the web database.
Sources That Helped

- www.php.net
- www.zend.com
- Tutorials on PHP and MYSQL.