



Case Study: Loan Origination System

Client: MSI Services

Project title: Lending Center Express

Project domain: Business Applications Development

Business domain: Financial services

* Background

Since 1999, MSI Services has been providing forward-looking technology products and consulting services that proactively address business needs. From contact center solutions to networking and development services, MSI enables financial services companies to communicate and transact with unparalleled efficiency. Headquartered in Sunrise, Florida, the firm has a long history in the financial services industry with a comprehensive knowledge of integrating the latest technologies with third party and financial applications, including proprietary solutions. Project clients include ABN AMRO, Superior Bank, Valley National Bank, and Arvida.

Business relationship between MSI Services and StarSoft started in 2003.

* Project scope

In the fall of 2003, StarSoft was contracted to participate in the development of a comprehensive loan origination and processing system called Lending Center Express. The system is built utilizing the most up-to-date technologies like SmartClient and Microsoft 2005 series product line. StarSoft is taking part in all stages of the product development lifecycle including product definition, design and architecture, development, testing, documentation, and deployment. All the work is carried out in close cooperation with MSI development teams in the U.S.

* Product requirements

The new system designed jointly by MSI and StarSoft will take the loan application from initiation to the closing steps and will include all the necessary complex functionality such as credit history checks, ordering 3rd party documents (Appraisal, Title, Flood certificates), etc. The main purpose of the system is to improve and speed up the process of loan origination by managing and tracing a customer application from pre-qualification through processing and underwriting to final closing.

Due to the complexity of the mortgage related legislation in the US, a loan origination and processing document workflow is quite difficult to implement. The system goes through the entire standard process for loan origination, which consists of numerous sequential steps, and a lot of 3rd party documents are required in the process in order for the lender to be able to reach a successful decision.

At the basis of the system is the new SmartClient architecture, and MS SQL Server 2005 is used for data storage.





Best practices: **MSI**

StarSoft Development Labs, Inc.

* Technologies

Development Environment: MS Visual Studio.NET 2003, 2005

Operating Systems: MS Windows Server 2003

Hardware Platforms: Dell PowerEdge

RDBMS: MS SQL 2000, 2005

Programming language: C#, VB.NET

Technologies: SmartClient, ADO.NET, ASP.NET, WebServices, Application Blocks

* Project methodology

StarSoft's engineers work in a unified effort with a multicultural international, multi-site team of MSI engineers in the United States. This presents two sets of challenges.

The **cultural challenge** (varying languages, business customs and styles across the team) is overcome through StarSoft's long experience of working for international clients coming from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures.

The **management challenge** consists in the distributed nature of this project. Members of all segments of the entire project team – business analysts, developers, test engineers – are present on both sides of the Atlantic, and thus the project workflow requires constant in-depth communication between Russia and the US. StarSoft and MSI are working together despite the complex team communication and reporting structure and the time difference, thus making this project a successful example of truly distributed development.

* Project summary

Duration November 2003 – present time

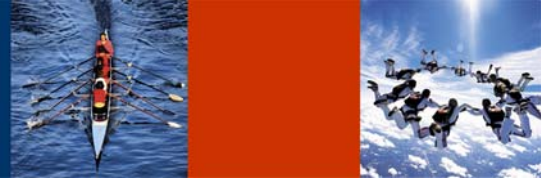
Team size 14

Pricing T&M

"StarSoft has proven to be an efficient and reliable development partner for MSI Services. Their project team has provided valuable support during the analysis stage and in defining business requirements. Their Russian staff have efficiently collaborated with our dispersed and multi-national development team, integrating seamlessly into our combined effort. They have also shown superb technical skills, leveraging cutting-edge technologies to meet our product needs. Overall, we are extremely pleased with StarSoft and are looking forward to leveraging their services for future projects."

Roberto Aguilar
VP Offshore Operations





Best practices: **MSI**

StarSoft Development Labs, Inc.

* **About StarSoft**

StarSoft Development Labs, Inc. is presently one of the fastest growing software outsourcing service providers in Russia and Eastern Europe. Headquartered in Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, StarSoft maintains a software development center in St. Petersburg, Russia. StarSoft specializes in implementation and maintenance of information systems, offering particular expertise in database development and migration of legacy systems to web-based environments. StarSoft offers its customers a wide range of engagement models including both project lifecycle services and dedicated Offshore Development Centers (ODC). StarSoft's former and current clients include CSC, T-Mobile, Macromedia, IBM, Dynix, Fellowes, Imagine Software, Contex, Tupperware, and others.

