Accelerating Portal Application Deployment using WebSphere Portlet Factory

Frank De Sa
Chief Technology Officer
e-CentricInnovations Pty Ltd

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e-CentricInnovations

- **Established in 1999**

- **Boutique IT Consultancy**

- **Trusted Advisor**

- **20+ Staff, average experience 15+ years**

- **50% IT Consulting, 50% Development**

- **IBM Certified Partner (Websphere & Lotus Brands)**

- **Bowstreet Partner since 2004**

Portal – The Why?

- **Browser based work desktop with access to applications based on individuals role**

- **Single unified access to applications for content, people & processes**

- **Simple and consistent look and feel across all applications**

- **Security framework for access to portlets, pages, and content**

- **Framework for development, integration and delivery of applications**

- **Single Sign on access to applications**

- **Provide business context across multiple backend systems**

"It is the place to be"

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Portal – The Reality

- **It quite often starts with content...and sometimes ends with content!**

  - Deploying content is "familiar ground"

  - It is relatively simple (governance is hard but publishing is simple!)

  - It shows quick "progress" after investing in Portal technology

Portal Anatomy
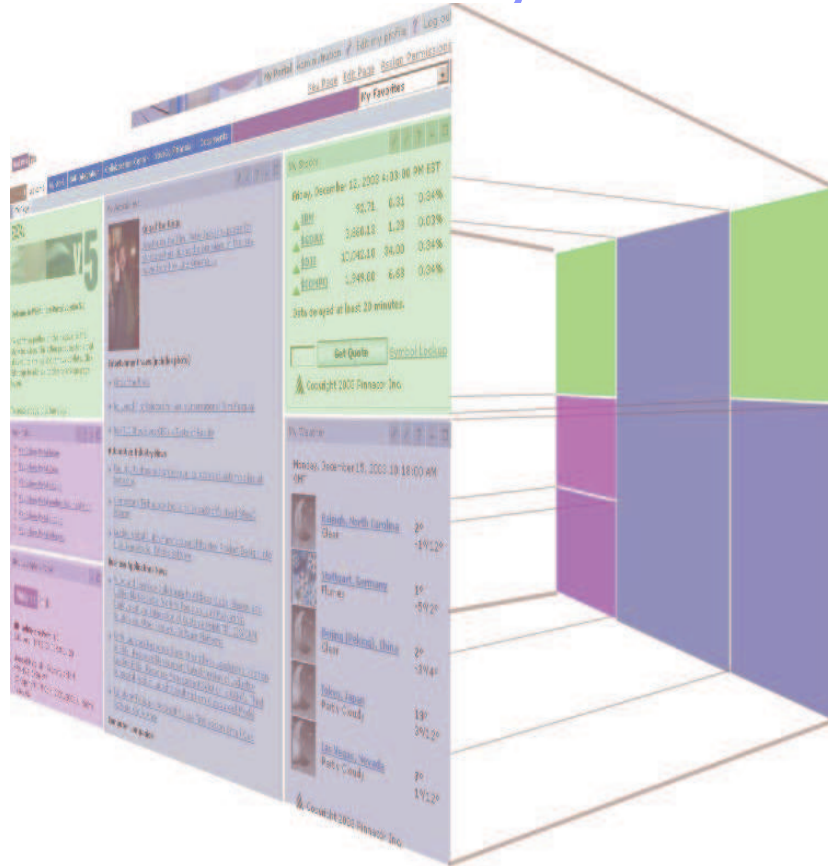
Out-of-Box
- News
- Stocks
- Weather
- etc.

- Out-of-Box Portlets typically provide a portion of required enterprise Portal functionality

Custom
- Enterprise Apps
- Legacy Apps
- Databases
- Web Services
- New Development

- Custom Portlets will make up most of portal content
- Development in J2EE is powerful, yet can be complex and time-consuming

Other
- Web Clipping
- Wizard-based

- Web clipping portlets and portlet wizards provide surface level application integration

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Portal – The Reality

- **Out of the box will never be enough**

  - Stock ticker's and weather portlets don't cut it !

  - Mail/calendar is not the killer Portal application !

  - Web clipping is a good way of removing the "unified" from a "unified portal experience"

  - Wizards & out of the box portlets only go so far…

  - Developing portlets is not easy

    But applications are where the value is…

WebSphere Portlet Factory

- **Rapid application development with little or no coding**

- **Able to start with standalone J2EE web applications and move to Portlets – with no rewrite!**

- **Reuse is inherent in development approach**

- **Strong Service Oriented Architecture support**

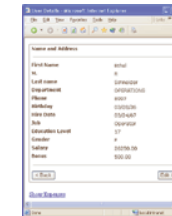- **Standards based JSR168 Portlets**
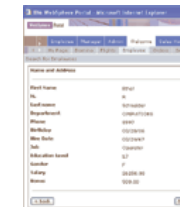
Multiple Deployment Options

One Model…

Can be deployed as a …

{ **Without any additional coding!** }

Standalone Web App

WebSphere Portlet
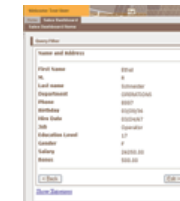
JSR 168 Portlet

Web Service

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global supplier
of automotive technology, systems and components

- **Supplier Quality Requests Application (SQR)**
  - Internal to Denso – Notes workflow based application
  - External to Denso – Portlets allowing secure access for suppliers to review, edit, submit responses to quality concerns

- **Supplier Performance Assessment Application**
  - Application to score suppliers monthly on Quality, Delivery and Cost
    - Takes feeds from SQR, Denso staff input, delivery information from iSeries
    - Produces real-time charts (portlets) to supplier with current assessment
    - Provide drilldown on charts to actual transactions affecting score (i.e. quality issues recorded, early/late deliveries etc)

- **Contact Directory**
  - Simple portlet showing sortable list of staff and searching capability

- **Simple content - News, events, corporate information**

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- **PBR**

  – Intranet surfacing content from multiple applications into unified interface

    - Developed portlets into existing Domino applications to surface via the portal (safety alerts, quality alerts)
    - Ability to present portlets into multiple applications in single user interface
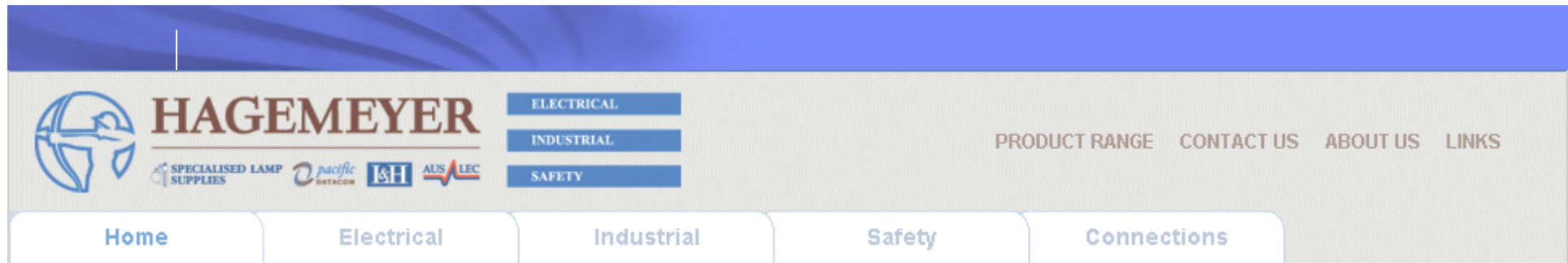
- **Hagemeyer**

  – Not ready for Portal yet but plans in the future

  – Used WPF to develop J2EE web applications:

    - Product catalog
    - Branch locator
    - Catalog Subscription
    - User enquiry

In Summary…

- **It starts with a Vision**

- **It continues on to a prioritised roadmap**

- **It culminates in a pilot implementation**

 As opposed to

- **It starts with some software**

- **It continues on with some infrastructure**

- **It culminates in no business case**