

smartsoftware

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Smartsoftware announces new solution for architects and engineers.

PERTH, WA - December 18, 2007 - Smartsoftware, an international provider of software and service solutions for the Engineering, Architectural and Professional Services sector announced today that they have partnered with US software company Newforma to bring a unique Project Information Management system to the Australian AEC market.

Newforma's flagship product, Newforma™ Project Center was designed to create a more productive environment for project-based teams by organising project information, facilitating information exchange, and enabling efficient project process. This system was developed after extensive client interviews to identify and validate the key issues facing AEC Project Managers. These discussions revealed that time-consuming information searches, disconnected project email, scattered project files and awkward handling of transmittals were among the main sources of disruption, frustration and inefficiency.

To ensure that these issues also applied locally, Smartsoftware conducted their own research with a dozen leading Australian and New Zealand architectural and engineering firms. The results were clear; managers easily identified with the difficulty of finding the right information quickly and easily, having project specific e-mail disconnected from other project data and the project team constantly exceeding their Inbox size. This reaction signalled to Smartsoftware that there was an urgent need to provide a solution that addressed these important issues.

As Mark Hansen, smartsoftware's General Manager explains, "We saw that by taking on this innovative product and combining it with our existing business management software, that we could really offer our clients significant value. By extending our scope to include Project Information Management it allows us to cater for the vast majority of our clients software needs.

Newforma Chief Executive Officer Ian Howell expressed his excitement about the opportunity to partner with Smartsoftware. "Newforma Project Center has experienced such a positive

reception in the US since its launch in June 2006, we were eager to expand into the international market. We were very impressed by the complimentary experience of the Smartsoftware team as not only being able to market and resell our solution, but more importantly to support and service Newforma users. We were also impressed by Smartsoftware's fundamental philosophies; like us, they continually strive to meet changing industry demands and provide solutions that harmonise with each firm's unique culture and existing processes. So the decision to partner really just made sense."

Unlike document management systems and extranet collaboration portals, Newforma Project Center software allows you to file Microsoft Office Outlook email with other project documents without having to move, copy or tag any files. Another unique function is the software's ability to search terms in 200 industry file formats, including Outlook and attachments, as well as in the BIM object properties of DWG and DWF files. One client described it as "Google for project information." Among the many additional features, it also provides a seamless way to assign, track and respond to issues as they arise, and makes managing large file transmissions a snap.

However, Howell believes that the aspect firms appreciate most about Newforma is the ability to "drape" its solution over a company's existing infrastructure. "Users don't have to stop using their existing applications or reconfigure existing servers. Newforma allows them to enjoy a quick and effortless win with minimal training"

Argest Technical Services, a Building and Compliance management company based in Wellington, NZ is the first in the region to implement the system. Tom Ludlow, Argest's Operations Manager said "we were searching for a solution that eased the burden of managing project information. When we discovered Newforma's Project Center, we were impressed by the fact that it was simple, yet highly functional. We are already finding our projects much easier to manage."

For more information contact info@smartsoftware.net

About Smartsoftware

Smartsoftware is an international provider of operational software and service solutions for the Engineering, Architectural and Professional Services sector. Our integrative, project-focused products are designed to streamline workforce processes to improve business performance, maximize resource potential and increase productivity. Our highly qualified team is committed to working with our clients to identify and fulfil their individual needs and provide first-class support to ensure that they continually achieve their business objectives and reach their full potential.”

Visit www.smartsoftware.net or email info@smartsoftware.net

About Newforma

Newforma is a software company serving architecture, engineering, construction and owner/operator (AECO) organizations worldwide. Its mission is to develop and market industry-leading software solutions which significantly improve the productivity of the building project team by streamlining work processes, reducing exposure from errors and omissions, improving coordination and communication, increasing visibility into costs and quantities, and enabling greater repeatability of project success. Newforma® Project Center, Newforma’s flagship product, creates a more productive environment for project managers and the project team by organizing project information, facilitating information exchange, and enabling efficient project process. Newforma Project Center is currently implemented on thousands of projects in industry-leading AECO firms. For more information about Newforma, phone +1 (603) 625-6212.

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