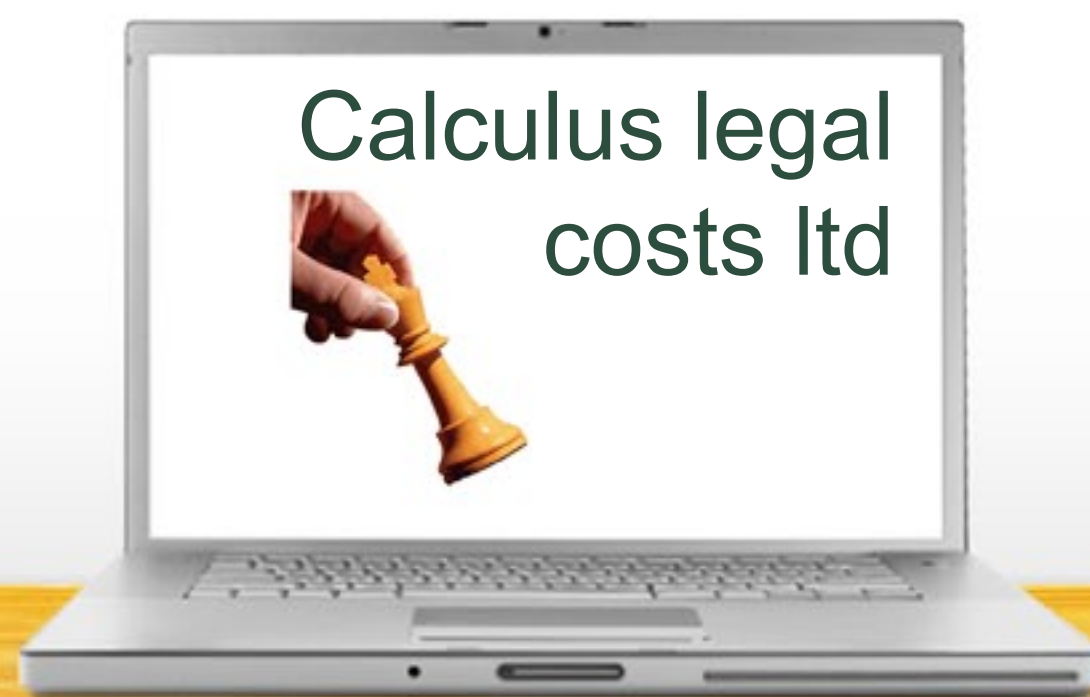


Calculus count steps to technical success



The Business

Formed in the beginning of 2003, Calculus has continued to grow both organically and with the acquisition of new clients and now employs almost 50 staff. Providing a National coverage from their modern open plan offices in Southport, they focus on Personal Injury and Clinical Negligence cases and regard themselves as experts in the management of costs on those types of cases.

They recently passed a significant milestone insofar as they have now recovered over £150M of costs for their clients since the company was established.

They have represented clients in high profile cases and have enjoyed considerable success at assessment, despite increasing technical challenges from paying parties and / or their representatives.

Systems Developed:

- Online client reporting
- Case management system
- Windows Services to synchronise office and online databases

Technologies Used:

- SQL Server 2005 DB
- VB dotNet
- Windows forms
- Windows services
- ASP.Net Website

The Challenge

Costing of legal cases is a complicated business! The ability to accurately analyse a case, manage it through the court process and finally play out many different what-if scenarios to agree settlement is something lacking in standard case management systems. Calculus needed such a system.

In particular, Calculus needed to have a system capable of handling the huge growth spurt they were experiencing and predicting to continue. It had to be flexible enough to incorporate custom processes per client and per job type.

Additionally, Calculus wanted to provide a real-time, transparent secure web facilities for client based reporting and analysis of Outstanding Costs and Settled Costs.

The Solutions

A SQL Server 2005 back end database was implemented to handle all the data requirements and to host the business logic.

A VB dotNet windows forms based application with embedded Crystal Reports provides the main interface for the case management system. A windows publishing service was deployed to cycle through online reporting publication needs and to publish individual Crystal Reports online.

The website made use of asp.Net Personalisation and Membership technologies integrated into the primary windows application



We approached IT Developers following a recommendation from a business colleague who had previously utilised their services. As this was our first attempt in utilising a case management system, we were unsure how to proceed or what functionality we required. IT Developers guided us through the design process on a step by step basis and within a very short space of time we had a case management system that truly reflected the nature of our business and provided the exact functionality required. Since the launch of the system, we have gone on to provide clients with on-line access to our data base for the purpose of case updates, thereby transforming our client management reporting capabilities. IT Developers have provided a cost effective solution and have always been quick to respond to any changes required.

James Mullen, Business Development Manager, Calculus Legal