

Harris, Tony

From: "Terrabase" <newsletter@terrabase.co.uk>
To: <tony@terrabase.co.uk>
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Terrabase Newsletter - August 2006

Remember us? We provide off-the-shelf and bespoke software solutions for the business community.



Tony Harris
(Managing Director)

"Through our new monthly newsletter we hope to provide our valued customers, partners & agents with a little inspiration and news about the latest developments. Your company's future might be depend on what's written below!"

Terrabase developments

New new new...

We're converting our Microsoft applications over to the latest technologies. This has many benefits including...

- You can customise your own reports - no longer do you need to rely on us to format and build your program's print-outs
- You can use your program from anywhere through the Internet - be released from the office
- Your experience is even more intuitive through the use of animations and transparencies
- The look and feel of your software is awesome
- You can take advantage of your mobile - be warned of problems in real-time, send notices to customers, there really are amazing possibilities

Flashy

With the new version of Flash rapidly becoming available we are working hard to implement all the exciting new features. Flash is installed on virtually all computers regardless of whether they're Windows, Linux or Mac and full business programs can be written for it.

The platform is extremely robust and reliable, but most excitingly, we write the software once and you can use it from any computer. No install required! We are one of the very few software houses that can develop for this environment and, as the Web2.0 frenzy continues, you could do worse than to email us for some inspiration for how you could start saving time by using this technology.

Ruby on Rails

We are also developing web applications using the Ruby on Rails framework. This cutting edge technology provides us with a tool to build feature rich web applications at great speed ([right in-front of your eyes](#)). In addition to reducing the time it takes to produce an application, Ruby on Rails also helps us developers provide you with the newest web technologies reliably. Just check out the AJAX on [Flickr.com](#) (explore around a bit). We can do this for you!

Industry news

Growth in open-source and other operating systems

At Terrabase we believe that the IT industry thrives on diversity and competition. Of particular interest is the growth in the adoption of Apple Mac machines which use its own operating system (currently [Mac OS X Tiger](#)) and the sensational success of the open source (and free!) [Ubuntu](#).

In the office sector we have seen some interesting moves by Google, which have since produced a [web based spreadsheet program](#) and are currently beta testing a word processor they recently acquired called [Writely](#). Although the features, speed and usability are still not in the same ball park as Microsoft Office they offer some very interesting features which use online storage and the integral ability to share and collaborate on documents.

Windows Vista and us.

Have you seen [Windows Vista](#) yet? It looks pretty good, and for us programmers there are a load of new ways we can manipulate what you see and how you interact with your program. It is also much more secure, to the point that your existing programs may stop working! We'll keep an eye on this for you.

Helpful links

[Terrabase](#)
[Terrabase Blog](#)
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[Ubuntu](#)
[Google Writely](#)
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