

Harris, Tony

From: "Terrabase" <newsletter@terrabase.co.uk>
To: <tony@terrabase.co.uk>
Sent: 26 September 2006 10:33
Subject: Terrabase Newsletter



Terrabase Newsletter - September 2006

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



Tony Harris
(Managing Director)

"The second edition of our new monthly newsletter. Even better than the last one? We know how you skim read newsletters so it's been written with that in mind, except for an Appendix item on the advantages of AJAX. Enjoy!"

Ricky Jervais in Training Video

Microsoft secret training video. Have you seen it? Hilarious. Search on Google for "The Office Values" and you'll find it.

Free advertising - improve your Google Rank (you pat my back and I'll pat yours)

Your Google rank relies heavily on people linking to you. Put a link to us, or the following code, on your website, then tell us and we'll link back to you

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<a href="http://www.terrabase.co.uk">  </a>
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Let us know you've done this and we will scramble our forces to get our link to you up and running. It will only take a moment to do and could make a big difference.

Computers compute, people produce

The Internet is a network of networks, in the same way databases are joining together to create an Earth-wide database of databases (the 'Terrabase'?).

We would advise you to ask us to connect your database with your suppliers' and/or your customers' systems before your competitors do

Bang our own drum

Just a few of our company and staff accreditations

- Microsoft certification
- ISO 9001 Registered firm
- Members of the British Computer Society

All our programming staff have relevant degrees from top universities.

Thanks for reading all the way to this bottom part of the newsletter. Let us know if you don't want to receive anymore, I'm sure we'll understand.

Appendix

Cleaner programs with AJAX

Last month we briefly mentioned AJAX. Though the scramble for this is old in the development community it's going to take some time to filter out to your applications. AJAX basically means your web-page does not need to disappear and re-load to reflect any changes. You can see a good example of this on ebay when you click the Refresh link while watching an auction. The time remaining changes but the whole page remains on screen.

Sounds boring? Maybe, but for you the user it makes a great difference. It means you can have fast, responsive programs which have a web-interface. Normally, if the user needs a fast, responsive system, we use installed desktop software, however these programs have some disadvantages. Web-based programs are normally great; you can use it from anywhere (your mobile computer, your villa in Spain, your gite in France, your mobile phone, an Internet cafe in the Maldives!). The trouble is the slow screen refreshes and lack of responsiveness.

However, now you get the best of both-worlds, the real-time information and usability of an installed program with the reliability and world-wide access of a web-application. Imagine browsing through your job records on a webpage which never needs to reload itself, the records change in the blink of an eye and the screen just morphs to let you intuitively control the data.

What's the business advantage in changing? Well,

1. Your system will be at least as fast and responsive as your current one
2. You'll be able to use it from any Internet connected computer
3. The system will be ready for connection to your customers' and suppliers' systems
4. You will be able to interact more with your customers and suppliers, even getting them to do most of the data entry work

5. You may be well aware that your systems may need a revamp anyway.

Let us know if you'd like us to arrange a free systems analysis from which we'll put forward a proposal.

This really is the bottom of the newsletter. If you got all the way down here then you should certainly congratulate yourself on your thoroughness, and hopefully you've managed to pick up some new ideas along the way. See you next month.