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### :: INTRODUCTION TO GT PORTALBASE



GT portalBase (GtpB) provides a corporate platform for building business applications.

The last year has seen growing interest in this area with companies such as CogHead, WebEx WebOffice and WyaWorks focusing on end users developing applications.

GTpB is, by contrast, a tool for business analysts who have in-depth understanding of both technology and a business' needs. They have the analytic thinking necessary to make the best use of an enterprise database's flexibility and power, while appreciating the clear and pleasant user interface of a well designed application.



### :: KEY BUSINESS BENEFITS



**1. rapid application development -** solutions geared to real-life requirements increase the chance of successful adoption

## 2. agility -

applications grow with an organisation and adapt as requirements emerge

## 3. reporting -

managers quickly access information that is relevant to them allowing them to base important decisions on pertinent, live data

## 4. user experience -

application builders and end users alike immediately understand an application so little training is required

**5. software is delivered through a web browser -** there is no complex software to install and maintain on client machines



### :: RAPID APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT



GtpB is explicitly structured to allow business analysts to develop database applications using the RAD model.

- a simple but powerful interface allows analysts to concentrate on business requirements not learning technology iterations can be released daily
- data storage areas can be quickly created and amended new requirements are easily incorporate
- data reports are grouped into any number of easily modifiable application modules users see a coherent and meaningful application, no "imagine you were clicking here..."
- extra functionality can be rapidly developed and incorporated advanced customisation to incorporate complex requirements is feasible
- the software is easily exposed to authorised users throughout an organisation stakeholders have immediate access to provide rapid feedback



### :: AGILITY

Once completed, many software applications are as if they were set in stone. Even a small change at a business level may mean going back to specialist technical programmers for hours of laborious recoding — only to have to repeat the cycle soon afterwards when yet another requirement emerges.

No so with GtpB. That businesses and their requirements change is a fact of life and GtpB is agile and scalable to accommodate this. Authorised users can, at any time, access the nuts and bolts of an application to make adjustments or even create whole new modules through the administration screen.

## :: REPORTING

A key benefit to implementing GtpB is the ability to accurately report and search real time data. Application modules comprise reports which are easily created by business analysts or managers. Users can filter the reports to extract further information or locate specific records.

All reports have a summary view which can be customised to show a breakdown of the records contained in the report.



## :: USER EXPERIENCE



Many customised business applications are built inhouse using technology such as Microsoft's Access.

While such solutions may function on a technical level, it's rarely possible to pay much attention to how the application appears to the end user. By building user interface components automatically, GtpB creates a rich user environment from the word go.

- the application is pleasant to use end user resistance to the new tool is significantly reduced
- familiar environment boosts users' confidence and reduces training and support overhead
- **simple data entry** increases speeds up input and increases accuracy



### :: FEATURES OVERVIEW



- full SQL power create reports that use all the relational database features available, including aggregates, calculations, inner and outer joins
- see the results of filters as you type with on-the-fly filtering
- metadata can be included in reports, e.g. last edit data/time and record editor
- custom functionality and integration with third party products
- customisable templates for specific applications, e.g. invoice printing
- data import and export
- tailorable user friendly interface allowing anyone to understand it quickly
- wiki integration
- speed up data entry with record cloning
- bulk update records with global editing
- user, group and privilege management
- automatic visualisation of outlying data values based on data colouring for numbers and dates
- usage stats
- audit trail and daily backup
- integration with google calendar and maps



## :: TECHNOLOGY SUMMARY



GTpB is server based application. The user interface uses AJAX to transfer data to and from the server over the internet or company network.

The server side software is written in Java and uses the open source postgreSQL database so is platform agnostic and can be run on a Linux or Windows server.

The client application is delivered through the Firefox web browser allowing GtpB to be used on Windows, Linux or Macintosh computers as well as may hand-held devices.





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