

Re: Senior Developer looking for your asst in employmt issue (not job seeking!)

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From: Timo (*timo_at_noneofyer.biz*)

Date: 05/08/04

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Xavier,

In light of your boss's instructions to you to use "a Microsoft tool" and his express desire to get "rid" of the Access application, his bringing in FileMaker Pro's putative RAD capabilities and his own skills with that tool as evidence of your alleged incompetence is both irrelevant and unfair. FileMaker is not a Microsoft tool. And what are the Microsoft counterparts to FileMaker Pro? Access and FoxPro.

Where you seem to me to have miscalculated, is in thinking you could successfully convert in only 5 man-weeks (plus whatever overtime you were willing to work) a project of the described scope: 8 tabbed pages containing ~15 controls each, bound to a 40-table SQL Server database via undocumented client-side queries, where the original application apparently had bugs or was not functioning as expected. It could be that some of those queries were flawed and would require investigation. Was there any client-side enforcement of business rules? Was the server enforcing the referential integrity?

Perhaps you would have had a slightly greater chance of timely success by converting the thing to Access ADP. That would have let you focus on the logic of the app without having to spend so much time on the custom databinding classes and presentation layer. But to begin to judge the situation really requires that we know if your boss wanted to get rid of Access entirely, or simply wanted to get rid of the problems arising from the original two-tiered client-side implementation, whatever those problems were.

However, it's quite evident to me, from your description of the situation, that you are not an incompetent developer. If there is incompetency to be found in this situation, it is in the arbitrary deadline of 5 man-weeks to fix a broken application of this scope.

Regards

Timo

P.S. I've been developing multi-user database applications since

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1985 (shared CPU mainframe with dumb terminals, DOS shared-file networked apps, networked Access.MDB apps, Access ADP against SQL Server, VB 2-tier and 3-tier client-server apps against Oracle and SQL Server, and most recently .NET WinForms and ASP.NET. Also earning today only about 35% of what I earned throughout the 1990s.

In article <eKQxY64MEHA.3348@TK2MSFTNGP09.phx.gbl>, suggestion@x2sw.com writes...

>*Community*,

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