

Enfold Systems empowers Amtrak to take advantage of the Federal Stimulus Package



The Industry: Public Transportation

About Amtrak:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation, doing business as Amtrak is a government-owned corporation that was organized on May 1, 1971 to provide intercity passenger train service in the United States. Amtrak employs nearly 19,000 people. It operates passenger service on 21,000 miles of track primarily owned by freight railroads connecting 500 destinations in 46 states as well as Canada. In fiscal year 2008, Amtrak served 28.7 million passengers, representing six straight years of record ridership.

The Challenge:

Amtrak needed to publish a list of capital projects to be funded by the \$1.3 billion from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The list included railcar and locomotive restoration to augment the current fleet, projects to bring stations into compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), facility improvements, track, bridge and signal replacements and upgrades.



However, the federal stimulus package included a stipulation for state and local agencies to move very quickly on “shovel-ready” projects in order to take advantage of the funding. In addition, it was predicted that the high dollars available for these projects would result in a large volume of eager website visitors.

Speed and Expertise:

The Amtrak team knew they needed an immediately available, reliable and scalable system to make store and publish all bid opportunities with the public. They chose Plone. They selected Enfold Systems. They succeeded.

A very aggressive project timeline was necessary to make the site a reality and meet the goals of project team. Enfold worked with Amtrak to quickly contract for the project and outline requirements for the website. In only one week’s time, the team was able to implement the content management system, a custom graphic design, and the features required to easily allow procurement staff to upload and tag bid documents for their vendors.

Worry Free Solution:

Amtrak chose Enfold’s “Mission Critical Hosting & Support” solution for deployment of their new system. The Plone experts at Enfold continue to provide dedicated systems administration and application support services to ensure the reliability and performance of the procurement.amtrak.com website. Enfold handles the technology so Amtrak can focus on its business.

Overview



<http://procurement.amtrak.com>

Business need: Amtrak needed a website to share bid opportunities with its potential vendors. Their procurement staff needed an easy to learn and simple to use system to manage the multitude of bid documents available. In addition, security and archiving capabilities were needed to ensure the long-term viability of the solution

Solution: The Plone Content Management System was chosen for its cross platform flexibility and its out-of-the-box award-winning user interface. In addition, a robust and efficient caching server was implemented to ensure reliable performance under heavy traffic conditions.

Benefits: Amtrak continues to release and update its capital project opportunities on the procurement website. Staff and vendors are able to easily and efficiently share and maintain the information necessary to quickly issue and respond to bid opportunities.



For more information: visit us on the web at:

www.enfoldsystems.com