



Founded in 1946, Northwest Door is a leading producer of

high quality, high value residential and commercial doors and equipment.

Headquartered in Tacoma, Washington, Northwest Door has recently experienced a spike of growth, growing their company to include nine separate plants in nine different locations around the country...and so begins their journey.

Challenge

Jean Patterson, NWD's IT manager

wanted to give their executives a centralized place to access uniform reports, tied to their powerful Frontier ERP system, and tied into their nine separate plant databases.

One of the biggest difficulties with packaged software is creating applications that fit your business, and are custom to your needs.

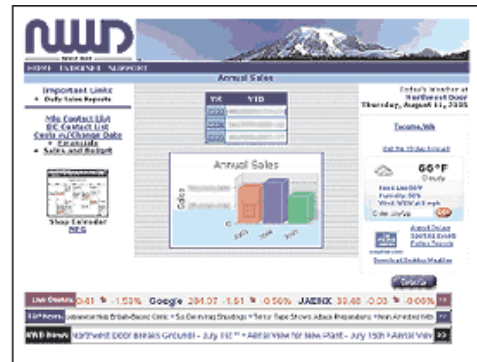
"We knew if we were going to build a centralized place to access all the necessary data, like a dashboard, we would have to create custom views and specialized menus, each running off of a separate database," explained Patterson.

"And, most importantly, we needed to make sure individual Frontier users would only see the data they needed to see, or had permission to see."

This level of complex security was particularly worrisome to NWD's IT department because no one in the department had any prior Java or Web experience at all.

Solution

However, by using m-Power, in just 3 days of training and twelve weeks of planning and development, Jean Patterson and her IT colleagues, designed, built, and deployed this



Northwest Door's new executive dashboard

complex Java-based dashboard system that was tied to their Frontier ERP, with a 60 times faster speed-to-market than had they produced it manually.