Case Study
Rackspace

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Goal:

To create a Windows 8 application that can be used on PCs and tablets to provide access to the Rackspace Cloud powered by OpenStack and allow management and administration of a customer's account.

Business Challenge:

Rackspace is the service leader in cloud computing. The company delivers enterprise-level hosting services to businesses of all sizes and kinds around the world. It started in 1998 and since has grown to serve more than 190,000 customers. Rackspace integrates the industry best technologies for each customer's specific need and is strongly committed to fanatical support.

As Rackspace was getting ready to launch Windows Server 2012 in the Cloud, it was necessary to get a Windows 8 application developed that could have a Windows 8 style UI and engage with the Cloud Servers located in Rackspace's open Cloud.

Rackspace was working against the clock and chose Making Sense as their partner to create the Rackspace Cloud for Windows 8 application. Rackspace was absolutely convinced that in order to develop a responsive custom application it was first necessary to team with a creative company experienced in developing Windows 8 apps.

The Solution:

Results-oriented and with a team of highly qualified professionals passionate for delivering quality projects Making Sense completed the project in less than 5 weeks on budget and on time. Rackspace's main goal was to enable an entire new experience for its customers and to give them the possibility to choose how to access their Rackspace account. Making Sense developed a custom application built for a Windows 8 style interface, putting focus on the User Experience to be provided by the application to Rackspace customers.

Value to Business:

Making Sense has enabled a very broad set of features to Rackspace customers' fingertips. Today, users with a Cloud account and the Windows 8 application for the Rackspace Open Cloud are able to: delete or create multiple Cloud Servers at once; reboot, rename, resize, and rebuilt them; view create, update; delete Cloud Load Balancers and have support connecting to the US and UK Rackspace Cloud, as well as a custom API endpoints for Open Stack users among many other features.

The partnership between Rackspace and Making Sense has demonstrated developers around the world that it is not impossible to develop a custom application in a very short period of time. Due to Making Sense's experience helping partners to excel in their projects, their use of agile software development, and their endless creativity, the application was created in a 45 days record time. In October 2012 Rackspace and Making Sense together were able to present the application in the world's famous Microsoft Build 2012 conference in Washington and the DevConnections conference in Las Vegas, USA.

Client Reference:

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Key Services:

• Windows 8 application development.
• User experience design.
• Enterprise architecture.
• Custom Software development.
• Quality assurance and testing.
• Project management.
• System integration.
• Access Open Stack platform.
• Windows 8 style UI.
• Engagement with Rackspace Cloud Servers.
• Reporting.
• Application support and maintenance.

Key Benefits:

• Integration into the Windows 8 platform.
• Access Open Stack administration services.
• Access to more and better features.

Technologies:

• Windows 8.
• Microsoft .NET
• Rackspace Open Stack API.

Executive Summary:

• Industry: IT hosting company leader in cloud computing.
• Business Challenge: Create a Windows 8 application.
• Solution: Development of a custom application built for a Windows 8 Metro interface.

Business value:

•.Creation of a Windows 8 custom application.
• Increase in ways to access the account.
• Increase of new and better features.

Getting Started

To learn how Making Sense can save you time and money with your application development and maintenance, contact us!

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