

Testimonial

“The Smallworld v4.2 upgrade has presented very significant technical and project management challenges, which could only be overcome through flexible thinking, strong collaboration and a continual focus on the ‘end game’ by the we-do-IT and Ausgrid implementation teams.”

- Craig Hersant

Executive Manager - Geospatial & Metering Operations
Ausgrid, February 2013

Background

Ausgrid is Australia's largest energy corporation supplying electricity to over 1.3 million customers in Sydney, Newcastle and areas of rural NSW. The Smallworld 4.2 Project upgraded the existing v3.3 to v4.2, replaced SQL with a custom adapted GSS solution, and deployed SIAS 4.2 and Thematic Mapping. we-do-IT was awarded the fixed price contract after a competitive tender and commenced work in March 2011.

The Challenge

It is the largest and most complex upgrade performed in Australia to date, involving the rationalisation, re-development, and cleaning of code from over ten years of customisation. It involved twenty we-do-IT consultants specialising in design, development, test case design, testing, documentation, training and project management. It was structured into three stages.

- Stage 1: Database upgrade
- Stage 2: Basecode upgrade, GSS solution, SIAS and Thematic Mapping
- Stage 3: Custom applications upgrade

Our Solution

Agile was successfully applied as the development methodology in Stage 3 delivering the six month program on schedule. Four week sprints delivered monthly releases accompanied with training to assist Ausgrid's assessment of completed scope. This greatly reduced risk, facilitated Ausgrid's early learning ahead of the UAT and improved confidence and visibility. Ten we-do-IT developers in disparate locations (Sydney, Melbourne and India) were required full time.

Benefits

- The production system will be rolled out to the first group of Ausgrid users on schedule in February 2013.
- Successful application of Agile Methodology
- A comprehensive documentation and training program accompanied each stage; to update existing manuals, assist the businesses transition from Classic to SWAF interface.
- Training in the use of GSS, SIAS and Thematic Mapping.
- Independent training channels were delivered for development/administration and general user (data capture operations).

For further information:
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