Simons Group required a health, safety, quality and environment hazard reporting mobile application

We were engaged to create a multi-platform mobile application for their workers on building sites to report health, safety, quality and environment hazards. By using the Apache Cordova platform and Ionic framework, we were able to create apps for iOS, Android and Windows in a few weeks.

The Client

Simons Group have been offering property solutions tailored to specific needs for over 70 years. They are a long established, family owned business, focusing on retail, distribution and health. Over the years they have developed a portfolio of services matched to customer needs. Their teams find sites, assemble land, secure planning, design, construct and fit out space, effectively acting as an end to end service. They also offer a range of consultancy and aftercare services.

The Challenge

Health, safety, quality and environment hazards arise daily on a building work site. They can potentially cause a lot of harm to individuals and/or the environment as well as projects if they are not reported and removed. Simons Group needed a way to be able to easily report these hazards so that they could be sorted right away. As this was neither a revenue - generating project, nor a mandatory regulatory requirement, the available budget was fairly low. The functionality was not complex, but there was a requirement for the app to run on iOS, Android and Windows.

The Solution

We selected the Cordova platform in order to develop a multi-platform application within the required budget.

The application collected contact details from the user, along with which Simons Group site they were working at. It then allowed them to take a photograph of the hazard, and then add descriptions of the hazard itself and any actions already taken.

They could then upload the report to the back-end servers immediately, or save the report locally on the device to be uploaded later when there was a better mobile signal or a Wi-Fi network available.

Client >
Simons Group

Sector >
Construction

Project >
Mobile Application Development

"As a business we are delighted to have such a great tool, to ease reporting of events that give rise to concern, in such a straightforward manner.''

Mark Owen >
Health & Safety Manager >
Simons Group

CASE STUDY

Simons Group mobile application

The server-side code consisted of web services from which the app downloaded meta-data, such as the list of building sites, and to which it submitted the reports. These reports where then uploaded into a Lotus Notes database and a workflow was triggered to allow head office staff to follow up the issue.

The Expected Benefits

> The mobile application will significantly decrease the number of work injuries through early identification, and therefore removal, of hazards around a work site. Employees' will benefit as hazards are dealt with early.

> This will also reduce the amount of paperwork that individuals have to do when an accident occurs.

> There will be less chance for human error and a reduced possibility for employees to be off work due to injury.

> Issues around the work place are submitted faster, therefore these issues are resolved in a shorter period of time, reducing their risk.

> The app is more appropriate for the work environment the builders are in. Many won't have paper and pen available to make notes of hazards to which they then potentially report - if they remember.

> Management will see that efforts are being made to reduce work place injury and therefore increase productivity.

To watch a video of the app demonstrating these key benefits, click here.

More information

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