Joseph Maxwell

Goal: My portion of the project was to build the back-end required to build, support, and run the database so that it is available for the front-end. Along side that objective, I was also responsible to integrate the front-end with the back-end so that it was a complete service. For that, I built and hosted a web site platform using IIS on windows 7 ultimate edition.

Tasks:

1. Build a database
2. Build auto-updater for database
3. Set-up IIS webhost
4. Build production version of front-end
5. Integrate front-end to the back-end web host

Success:

1. The database is fully developed and functional. The data is accessible remotely for the front-end so that I can host the database on a separate server than the web host.
2. The Auto-updater, using java as the language, I was successfully able to build a standalone program that compiles data from the Nebraska state legislature, reformats it for the database and updates the database.
3. IIS webhost is running and functional
4. …Sorta
5. …Sorta

Failures:

1. .
2. .
3. .
4. Production version of the front-end compiles successfully, but still has issues with integration
5. The front-end is visible through the webhost, however it has a problem with CORS(Cross-Origin Resource Sharing) that prevents clients from viewing the data as it is pulled from a second source.

**What Did I Learn?**

I learned about IIS, webhosting, database management and I have a more sympathetic understanding of those who have to build and host websites in massive companies. Simply getting the right tools for the job became a pain, because I did not know what integration issues would happen that prevents one tool from talking to another. For as an example, java and JDK have a lot of tools and drivers available from the start. In this project, I needed to open a connection to a Microsoft SQL server in order to insert data. This required a new driver for java that was not available by default in the tool kit. Beyond my work, getting the team to coordinate on tasks and ensure everyone was on schedule was a problem that was solved for the most part by constantly prodding teammates for updates. I now understand why companies have constant meetings (that are often joked about). They are not just to bore people; they are useful in keeping people on schedule and ensuring everyone is on the same page.