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Delivering a SharePoint Intranet in a Professional Services Firm

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Allens is an independent partnership operating in alliance with Linklaters LLP.

› 'We've got SharePoint now.'

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> ## Excitement

Pilot group ready to go

- Six of our most experienced intranet administrators.

- Work with their pilot sites and provide feedback.

- Involved in creating templates and defining the functional requirements for their sites.

- No prior SP experience.

- Undeterred – how hard could this be?

- Working with SP out of the box.

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> ## Confusion

What is this?

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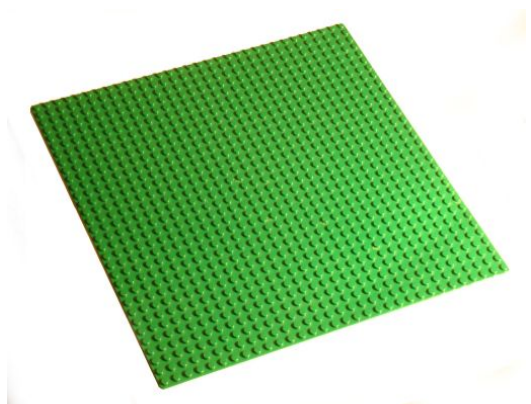

> ## Ah ha

'[SharePoint] is rarely purchased with any specific purpose in mind. It is most often bought bundled in with other products when an IT department negotiates an enterprise agreement with Microsoft.'

James Lappin: What is SharePoint good for? http://thinkingrecords.co.uk/ 2011/11/13/what-is-sharepoint-good-for/

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> ## Light-bulb moment

SharePoint is 'an ambitious enterprise platform' upon which business applications can be built.

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> ## We need help

- We do not have all of the necessary resources in-house.

- Developers (usually) have little idea of good intranet design and usability.

- We launch in 10 weeks.

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> ## Time starts now

Project group:

- Internal Communications
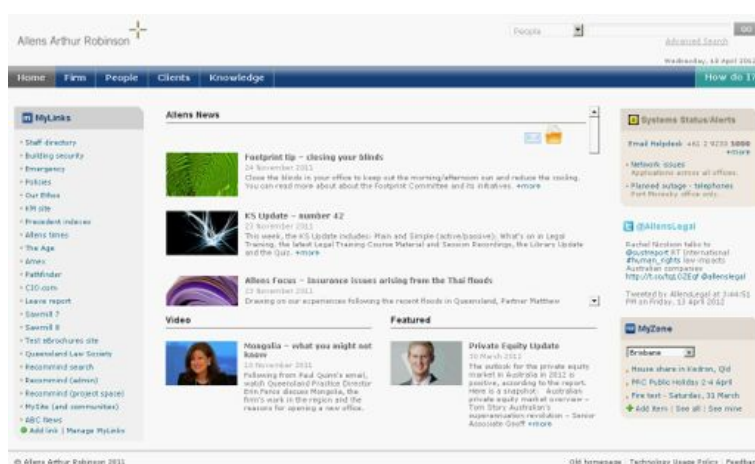- Information Technology
- Knowledge Services

- [External consultant]

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> First mock-up

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> New home page (as launched Nov 2011)

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› Task based information

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› Soft change management

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> ## What's next?

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> ## Lessons learnt

- Get help – expert consultants, technical knowledge, knowledge transfer to in-house developers.

- SP is not like any CMS you have used before – change your thinking.

- Invest time learning, researching and understanding SharePoint. Use peer and specialist networks.

- Think of your content authors and editors. You need to make it easy for them to work with SharePoint.

- Forget about the platform, no-one cares that it is SharePoint, it's the intranet.

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> ## Credits and Resources

- What is SharePoint 2010? Vision and Reality
  http://www.cmswire.com/cms/enterprise-20/what-is-sharepoint-2010-vision-and-reality-007513.php
- SharePoint Glossary, Terminology and Acronyms
  http://www.rharbridge.com/?page_id=60
- SharePoint Server Virtual Labs (free online training)
  http://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/cc707678
- Migrating a Corporate Intranet to SharePoint: A Case Study
  http://www.uxmatters.com/mt/archives/2010/08/migrating-a-corporate-intranet-to-sharepoint-a-case-study.php
- Planning your SharePoint Intranet Project
  http://www.steptwo.com.au/papers/kmc_planningsharepoint/index.html
- Manager's Guidebook on Intranet Redesign Projects
  http://www.pebbleroad.com/perspectives/managers-guidebook-on-intranet-redesign-projects
- Intranet Case Studies
  http://intranet-matters.de/intranet-case-studies/
- Understanding SharePoint (USP Journal)
  http://www.understandingsharepoint.com/journal/

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