

Web Bristol: Bespoke IIS web server

Bristol based web development company Web Bristol, asked Leading Edge Hosting to supply them with a Windows virtualised dedicated server with some unique requirements.

Web Bristol had been commissioned by their client, Barriers International Ltd to develop a bespoke web-based quoting engine to allow their worldwide sales representatives to use a common platform for producing and storing quotations.

Web Bristol are a small web development firm based in Bristol, but their client Barriers International is a multi-national business supplying fencing and barrier solutions for a number of different uses such as horse racing courses and other outdoor events.

Barriers International wanted to provide their worldwide sales force with a system generating sales quotes online. Since they have offices in the UK, and in Australia, a major requirement was for a good uptime record. Barriers International also wanted to produce their quotations using the Microsoft Word format. To meet these requirements Web Bristol needed a Windows server running Microsoft Word. The server was had to run the Apache web server software with PHP and the MySQL database engine in order to support the CodeIgniter PHP framework.

Knowing that many web hosting companies would be unable or unwilling to provide such a bespoke web server configuration, Web Bristol approached Leading Edge. We provided a Windows server with Apache, MySQL and PHP and Microsoft Word. We assisted Web Bristol in setting up the server, including creating system accounts to allow Microsoft word to run as a system user and to be queried by the PHP scripting language. The server is a virtualised server and weekly dumps are made of the virtual server disk drive. We also installed a daily backup system backing up the MySQL database files and web folders. The server has FTP access and Web Bristol have a limited user account to enable them to perform work on the server as required. We also provide technical support on an ongoing basis.

The work we did allowed Web Bristol to deliver a working quotation engine available worldwide 24/7 that produces quotations in Word-document format. The system has been online for many months and has greatly benefitted Barriers International.

Leading Edge Hosting provide bespoke virtualised dedicated servers and amazing support.



Leading Edge Hosting LLP
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