

CASE STUDY

LEGAL ACCREDITATION ORGANIZATION



BUSINESS CHALLENGE

ThoughtFocus worked with a widely recognized legal accreditation organization (“client”) who provides law school accreditation, continuing legal education, and information about the law. The organization sought to develop a web based application to collect data online from law schools and address workflow related challenges.

- Because the client works with over 200 law schools nationally, the data submission and reporting system had to function seamlessly and efficiently to facilitate communication between parties
- Accreditation data collected from multiple sources included annual questionnaires, site evaluation questionnaires, foreign summer programs, and curriculum surveys which needed to be shared to different constituents.

APPROACH

ThoughtFocus partnered with the client to build a turnkey solution in .NET to manage data for numerous law school programs

- Business processes were transformed to create a new workflow to facilitate communication between the client and law schools
- Technologies such as .NET, SQL Server, SSIS, and MS Reporting Services were used for data management
- To maintain a consistent user experience, ThoughtFocus leveraged a ‘Smart Client’ API with other innovative solutions
- Law school administrators were given access to questionnaire applications along with data management privileges and user creation rights

RESULT

The solution enabled the client to consolidate all law school communications and manage the accreditation process more efficiently

- The system was rolled out in 3 phases over 18 months
- Costs related to annual accreditation process were reduced by more than 30%. Annual analysis time was reduced by more than 60%.
- Law schools were given access to reports not previously not available with the prior system
- ThoughtFocus is now the primary solution provider for the client’s Legal Education department