

STCS PROJECT PROFILE

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# Disclosure Scotland

## DISCLOSURE SCOTLAND

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STCS has worked as a sub-contractor to BT on some aspects of their project for Disclosure Scotland.

The Disclosure Scotland system is the Scottish government's equivalent of the English Criminal Records Bureau (CRB).

### PROJECT REQUIREMENT AND SCOPE

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This project was initiated to make a number of significant improvements to existing systems including:

- Basic Disclosure On-Line (BDO).
- The scanning software and environment, which scanned in forms completed by the public.

The output from both systems feeds into a background document workflow and archiving package called eiStream which is then used to control the path of the application through the Disclosure Scotland system.

The main body of work as described in this project profile was carried out during 2006/2007. Since then we have managed to secure further work on the Disclosure project on two separate occasions.

### TECHNICAL APPROACH

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For each system a full technical design was written and signed off by the customer prior to development.

BDO necessitated changes to client facing JavaServer Pages (JSP's) in respect of additional content or removal of existing fields and labels. The flow between pages was altered and the background logic to capture and validate information was also changed. The underlying xml schema using to generate an XML interface file to feed in the eiStream system was also altered in accordance with W3C standards.

One of the changes required a new form whose content and layout differed greatly from that of the existing forms so it wasn't feasible to simply alter the existing recognition scripts and processes. This new area required a detailed and in-depth study into the area of scanning and recognition in order to meet the needs of the project.

The requirement to accommodate existing and new format Disclosure forms meant that the initial recognition process needed to be changed to identify whether a new or old style form was being scanned in and then to apply the necessary scripts and logic applicable to the form type. This was successfully implemented despite a number of shortcomings in the underlying tools.



**From the BT programme manager responsible for Disclosure Scotland:**

"Congratulations to the Disclosure Scotland team which has just completed a highly successful new release, enabling the system to handle the new Disclosure application form. It was one of the largest and most complex changes to the system since it went live in 2002 and contained not only substantial application changes but also the restructuring of the code base to improve manageability and performance. This release was the culmination of a major system improvement programme which has included six major releases in the last 12 months.

Many of the changes to the application form which this delivery enabled were made as a result of legalisation and encompassed a number of recommendations from the Bichard Enquiry. The new application form release also included several key end user-suggested improvements and replaces the form which has been in use since the beginning of 2005."

**The release was wide-reaching and had an impact across the entire system, requiring changes to the core Disclosure application, scanning sub-system and the Basic Disclosure online service. However, due to the thorough planning, hard work and dedication of the Disclosure Scotland team and consultation with the customer throughout, the release went smoothly and was completed within the agreed timescales. Brian Gorman, Head of Disclosure Scotland, was extremely satisfied and described it as a "dream implementation".**



## KEY TECHNOLOGIES USED

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**Languages:** J2EE, JavaServer Pages, JavaScript, XML, XSD, ANT

**Database:** Oracle

**Other:** Indicius, InputAccel.