



▶ Employee Giving Software Solution

The importance of “corporate social responsibility” has been a growing trend in large organizations. This initiative not only benefits local communities, charities and programs, but also provides for additional public relations opportunities to enhance the corporate brand.

The Challenge

A “giving community” software provider wanted to offer an application to help large organizations account for all their corporate and their employees’ charitable donations/volunteering activities. Corporate philanthropy can take on various forms, making tracking and recording a daunting task – especially for an organization that is widely distributed. For many firms, there is also a need to have the ability to provide a record of charitable donations that could be examined for inappropriate use and questionable practices. The software provider saw a need among their customer base to provide an application to help increase the effectiveness of their community involvement programs and to provide an avenue to promote employee’s giving efforts.

Emtec’s Solution

Emtec engineered and developed a community giving application for the software provider. The new system allows corporations to manage all types of giving including: employee gifts, regular payroll deductions to approved charities, tracking the use of paid time off (PTO) for volunteering, events and corporate matched funding all under a single umbrella. The ability to integrate with HR & payroll modules was built into the application.

Offered as a subscription based service, the application provides comprehensive online management reports and metrics to improve effectiveness of employee giving by measuring program expectations and outcomes. Additional website administration features were incorporated to make the application more user friendly for administrators by giving them the ability to easily run reports to provide pertinent information to HR, Finance and any other internal departments as needed.

Beyond the initial use of the portal to allow employees to allocate fixed giving per pay period to approved corporate charities; the system provided an effective communication and social platform to not only raise awareness but to also manage volunteering and fundraising opportunities. These opportunities were not limited to company sponsored events but could include individual employee projects. In the case of volunteering projects, the details of the event; purpose, location, number of volunteers needed, date, time, etc. would be posted. Similarly, a fundraising project could be created with many of the same details including the fundraising dollar target. All the employees could easily see the various opportunities and events on the portal. Interested employees could register for volunteering efforts and in the case of fundraising, the employees could choose from a one-time donation from their payroll or pay by credit card using an integrated payment gateway.

Emtec's Solution - continued

After the event was complete, success stories could be published including event details, photographs, a list of participating employees, and the amount of funds raised. This helps to build a culture of giving within the company by increasing awareness of employee participation. The organizations can also measure the effectiveness of their community involvement programs by measuring the number of employees participating, PTO hours donated and total funds raised.

The Emtec team managed all aspects of both engineering and development of the application. During regular architecture review meetings, our team worked with the client to suggest and implement changes to improve the performance and scalability of the application within the client's portfolio. The application as built by Emtec programmers on the LAMP platform, which included PHP, PEAR libraries, and MySQL. Whenever possible, existing PHP4/MySQL 4 code was upgraded and converted to PHP5/MySQL 5.

The Benefit

Emtec developed an employee giving application that allows organizations to comply with corporate governance guidelines. The software provider now offers an application to its clients to encourage and track employee giving while centralizing data in one place. The application allows users to coordinate programs, manage budgets, and report data from multiple types of giving programs. Effective integration tools were provided to allow for data transfer to HR and payroll systems. Reporting tools allow clients to effectively communicate information with all stakeholders internally and externally.

The giving community software provider now offers this solution within their product portfolio to help all their clients, which include many multinational firms, improve the effectiveness of their corporate philanthropy.

About Emtec

Established in 1964, Emtec, Inc. is a systems integrator that provides IT services and products to the federal, state, local, education and commercial markets. Our market leading value-based management methods, coupled with best-in-class IT technology, consulting and development services, address a wide range of specific client needs, as well as support broader IT transformation initiatives. Emtec's service capabilities span the United States, Canada and countries around the globe.