



The Computerworld Honors Program

Honoring those who use Information Technology to benefit society

Final Copy of Case Study

LOCATION:
Glens Falls, NY, US

ORGANIZATION:
Consilience International LLC

YEAR:
2011

ORGANIZATION URL:
<http://www.ideate.com>

STATUS:
Laureate

PROJECT NAME:
Ideate Framework

CATEGORY:
Collaboration

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Modern research is not only an archetype of collaborative knowledge-work; it's complex in its own right, it represents a tremendous management challenge due to the intense administrative, financial and regulatory requirements of the field. The rules are extensive, subject to routine change and exception. Complying in this environment is an inordinate burden that detracts from the primary research mission. Ideate addresses these headaches with smart processes that help reconcile compliance requirements to streamline management so more time can be spent on the science itself. Ideate is an interaction-driven system that responds to the inputs of users, calculating compliance requirements around the study particulars. Individuals are free to initiate a project and invite colleagues within their institutions and anywhere in the world to collaborate on a project. The participants can work contribute to secure, study-specific, blogs and wikis, as well as add study documents. In addition, specific Task components of a Case can be divided and subdivided as necessary to best staff the project. As the study is elaborated by the participants, the system refines the requirements, while allowing for users to opt out of rules, rates, and requirements with justification. There are no static flowcharts to follow as the lifecycle of a long-running research project is indeterminate. Rather the system follows the user, and guides them flexibly within rules. As a result, Ideate reduces training requirements, facilitates compliance efforts, and puts the focus back on research itself.

SOCIETAL BENEFITS

While research is the pursuit of discovery, unfortunately as much as 40% of researcher time is taken up dealing with the administrative burden. This translates into billions of dollars being spent on overhead that could be better spent on science. The Ideate smart processes let researchers focus on their mission.

PROJECT BENEFIT EXAMPLE



The new software has already been deployed at University of Mississippi Medical Center where it will support the management of thousands of human subjects protocols. It improves the user experiences and streamlines work, while increasing operational transparency and research compliance.

IS THIS PROJECT AN INNOVATION, BEST PRACTICE? Yes

ADDITIONAL PROJECT INFORMATION

New York-based startup. Partner-owned, self-funded. The team has over 100 years domain expertise in the R&D arena.