



Brandt

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt - Case Study

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Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Learning Technology provides a collection of educational software solutions to enhance student achievement in activities such as reading, language, mathematics, social studies and science. HMH Learning Technology works to enhance understanding and critical thinking. The material is delivered in an innovative style that is easily integrated into the existing curriculum.

TESTIMONIAL

Sarah Gayed, Director of International Product Development for Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, commented, “Brandt were selected for this project due to their innovative approach and tools that they made available to us, to leverage and minimize the amount of work to be done, therefore delivering a cost effective solution to us. Their project management skills and attention to detail during the project planning phase helped us to achieve our schedule. The quality of work Brandt delivered always met with our expectation. I can confidently recommend Brandt as a solid and reliable supplier, and experts in their field.”

PROJECT OUTLINE

HMH had a requirement to port 7 of their learning software products that were originally developed on Microsoft Windows 98 to all 5 versions of Microsoft Windows Vista. Each of the products consisted of 6 individual e-learning modules. The project comprised of porting the software in the following language set: Arabic, Brazilian Portuguese, British English, Hindi, Japanese, Polish, Russian, Simplified Chinese, Spanish, and US English.

HMH were looking to partner with an organization that could provide software-porting services. This type of project is non-standard and requires many skills, which include:

- Software development
- Reverse engineering
- Installer creation
- Build automation
- Help creation
- Documentation integration



BACKGROUND TO PROJECT

HMH had worked with a number of companies in the past to provide this service but selected Brandt based on their innovative approach and tools to optimize the effort expended on the project.

APPROACH

HMH approached Brandt with a project that involved porting a 7-application product in 10 languages from Windows 98 to 5 versions of Windows Vista. This required engineers to modify the existing code to function on the new operating systems. The deliverable was a complete product including installer, software, help and documentation for all languages.

The product had to be tested on the full test matrix for each language, application, and operating system, in as efficient a manner as possible in order to meet the deadline and manage costs.

SOLUTION

Brandt's development solution demonstrated exceptional innovation - where one source for all languages was created and new installers developed. The Shadow™ solution demonstrated superior scalability, allowing engineers to complete the entire test matrix.

Brandt carried out the process design, software development, build automation, automated testing and actual production of the localized e-learning content for Vista.

RESULTS

After the initial project specification was agreed, Brandt completed the project from process specification to final delivery with minimal HMH involvement. Brandt also provided HMH with peace of mind, knowing that their project management and attention to detail would ensure that HMH achieved their schedule. The project was delivered on time, within budget and with the highest level of quality.