PCA

Experience The PCA Team

Founded in 1992 and located in Needham, MA (Boston 128 Technology Corridor), PCA is an employee-owned consulting and software engineering practice that focuses on one thing — designing and developing custom Internet database solutions that run our Clients' core business operations.

PCA is comprised of a small team of senior, highly-experienced engineering and business professionals who specialize in different aspects of custom database solutions.   A Microsoft Gold-Certified partner, we focus our consulting and engineering practice exclusively on the Microsoft platform: SQL Server, the .NET framework, SQL Reporting Services, SQL Analytics, and compatible 3rd party controls and Data Visualization tools.

With advanced degrees in a variety of science, accounting and other disciplines, The PCA Team provides our Clients with valuable insights, domain expertise and critical thinking to tackle the most challenging business needs.

The PCA Team is recognized for its ability to translate unique and oftentimes complex financial and operational needs into fast, reliable and easy-to-use distributed database solutions — where increased performance, operational efficiency and data integrity provide our Clients with measureable business advantage.

Internet Database Design-Build Engineering Services

- Custom Solutions
- Remedial Engineering
- Legacy Migrations
- Engineering Audits
- Maintenance & Support

Practical Computer Applications, Inc.
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PCA

Professional Engineering Services

PCA engineering services cover the entire spectrum of business database application needs:

▶ Database application design and development

▶ Convert/migrate complex MS Excel and MS Access applications that our Clients have outgrown

▶ Custom reporting solutions, from SQL Server Reporting (SSRS), to ad hoc reporting interfaces, to sophisticated SQL Server Analysis Services (SSAS) and Data Visualization

▶ Engineering Audits of existing database systems to identify design and/or implementation deficiencies that impact performance, reliability and/or data integrity

▶ SQL Server performance optimization and remedial engineering services

▶ Maintenance and support services to refine/extend systems to keep pace with changing business needs

Our Clients

PCA serves Clients in a wide variety of information- and process-intensive industries. Our Clients are distinguished by their unique and oftentimes complex industry and line-of-business needs. Some Clients approach PCA to solve a single, particularly difficult challenge, while many others continue to rely and build upon systems that we designed, to keep pace with evolving business needs.   We approach every project — large and small alike — with the same rigor and perseverance.

The PCA Team

We pride ourselves on a talent pool as deep as any consulting and engineering practice in the US. PCA employs top professionals in their field: scientists and accountants, application interface and database engineering professionals, project managers, and reporting and data analytics specialists. We do not outsource — every professional at PCA shows up at the office each day, and is directly accountable to achieving excellent results for our Clients.

PCA

- Financial Portfolio Analytics
- Complex Claims and Payment
- Supply-Chain Management
- Call Center Operations
- Document Mgmt and Retrieval
- Logistics & Transportation Mgmt
- Sales Quotation Management
- Facilities/Asset/Equip Management
- Inventory / Projection Management
- Service Scheduling & Costing
- Manufacturing Process Automation
- Customer Relationship Management
- Project/Product Lifecycle Mgmt
- Customer-facing Reporting
- Accounting and ERP system integration

Sarbanes Oxley, SAS 70, HIPAA, 21 CFR Part 11, Section 508 compliant solutions

The PCA Team

Every service we provide our Clients is performed in-house by full-time, highly-experienced business and technology professionals. Our Client teams are small, focused and un-leveraged, with senior business and engineering professionals on every Project.

We tackle our Clients' toughest challenges with critical thinking, a keep-it-simple philosophy, and a proven design-build methodology. PCA solutions are unique to our Clients' business — and central to competitive advantage and operational efficiency. Our experts will probe for every opportunity we can observe to eliminate waste, bottlenecks, manual inefficiencies and errors from your business process, streamline workflows, and improve usability, data quality, and reporting and analysis capabilities.

Our Business Model

PCA charges fees for professional services, period. Clients own 100% of the application source code we develop on their behalf, and do not pay licensing fees.

Our business model makes good sense if you run a company or department and need to cost-justify a fixed investment, or you are a software vendor that earns a living around a product offering.

Our Business Focus

Our business focus with each project is always the same — identify and exploit new business capabilities and operational efficiencies that benefit our Clients' top- and bottom-line, and build a valuable business asset that is cost-effective to maintain and extend over time.

"Working with PCA was like night and day compared to other vendors. We measured their productivity in days, not weeks. Their Rapid Prototyping approach to application development worked phenomenally well, and helped us visualize our 'future state' quickly and cost effectively."

– Laura Nerney, Director, Management Sciences for Health

Industries and Clients We Serve

The PCA Client base is exceptionally diverse, spanning a broad range of industries and custom line-of-business solutions. PCA brings two decades of industry-specific knowledge and engineering expertise to tackle our Clients' most challenging data management, reporting and analysis needs.

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– Laura Nerney, Director,
Management Sciences for Health

"PCA provided us with a top-notch team of software engineers who demonstrated early on that they clearly understood our objectives, and had the business and technical acumen to execute. The coordination and communication between our two teams was seamless, enabling us to deliver in months what our original vendor failed to deliver in over a year."

– Anon Omous, Vice President
Private Investment Firm

Energy / Utilities

"The quality and professionalism of PCA's service is outstanding. Over the years, we've used several other companies to help us with a variety of software related needs, but PCA people and applications stand out by far exceeding our expectations. PCA is the only computer services firm we've used that fully understands our needs how to achieve them."

– David Askew, President, US Aluminate

Manufacturing / CPG

"From initial planning to project completion, our communications with PCA was extremely simple and clear. They provided us with a team of exceptional software engineers who also understood our business goals, enabling us to deliver a solution that far surpassed commercially available products. We are extremely pleased with PCA and our results."

– Daniël Van Eeckhoutte, Business Manager

High Tech / ISV

"PCA's Prototype Design process allowed me to verify the solution, budget and schedule up-front, eliminating the mystery over what I was getting and the business risk from the project. The PCA staff was right on it... from initial prototype design in just three weeks to deployment nine months later. We are thrilled with the service and the final results."

– Robert Petrisin, Founder and President
Strategic Reserves Corporation