

About the RAISE Team

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1. About the RAISE Team

RAISE Team delivers effective solutions for MRP, MRPII, ERP, CRM – class tasks on Oracle Database and Microsoft SQL Server platforms. It targets custom demands of customer's business-specific issues and provides high standards for quality and productivity of software as well as for under time of manufacturing and implementation. Oracle Database -based solutions are manufactured using the original [Sphere CASE technology](#). The in-house designed Sphere CASE technology enables for supercharge of “client-server” corporate information systems development using automatic conversion of business-process descriptions (business-logic) into mobile metalogic units which are then interpreted on the fly at runtime by universal [Sphere Portal](#) client resulting in a fully functional customer-tailored GUI featuring rich set of functional capabilities and customization tools. These include flexible system of configuration options and internal tailoring tools like editors for application forms, analytical and printed reports, business logic, etc.).

The [RAISE Sphere](#) is an ERP system for geographically distributed enterprises manufactured using Sphere CASE technology and demonstrates a brilliant example of the Sphere CASE application. Distinctive features of this solution are high dependability and manufacturability. It demonstrates low dependence on network connection quality and can be successfully deployed on mobile wireless systems (PDA, Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11b) as well as quick deployment systems (close to real-time operation is provided at 9600 bps or higher). Seamless and fast implementation plus convenient upgrade and administration features are provided using mobile metalogic units. Considerable advantage over “off the shelf” products of a kind is possibility to accomplish modification, upgrade and administration tasks remotely via corporate LAN/Internet/Intranet connections.

The RAISE Team has rich experience delivering solutions using the Sphere CASE technology (Sphere CASE applications) to [domestic customers](#) in gas-and-oil transporting, trading and medicine industries. Presently the RAISE Team has been moving towards international software market offering mutually beneficial partnership to contractors and go-between businesses to utilize Team's experience and promote the Sphere CASE technology worldwide.

1.1 Concept

Streamline

Our primary trend for years have been implementation and continuous research in domain of distributed information systems design including systems for accounting, analysis, administration and systems for retrieval, storage and processing of data from diverse sources. On the basis of its experience and original in-house designed [Sphere CASE technology](#) we deliver MRP, MRPII, ERP, CRM -class solutions with “client server” architecture on Oracle Database / Microsoft SQL Server platforms. The Sphere CASE technology used provides for significant under time in manufacturing and implementation as well as for quality and dependability of a product which gains considerably by technology-specific issues like ability to deploy on portable devices (PDA, notebook), mobile wireless systems (Bluetooth, IEEE 802.11b) and systems with slow modem connections. Considerable effort has been put into research work to ensure our state of the art technology evolution and compliance with world working standards (UML, XML, ERD). The research is conducted on the basis of Computer department at Lviv Polytechnic National University (Lviv, Ukraine).

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| Objectives | <p>We offer mutually beneficial partnership to contractors and go-between businesses to utilize Team's rich experience and promote the Sphere CASE technology worldwide. We deliver highly effective and quality solutions as our streamline and manufacturing methodology provide overall business-process optimization through formal specification and common logical study. It is at the same time our endeavor to contribute to modern information technology elaboration on a basis of design and implementation of new issues addressing information system design boost and performance acceleration. This rests on a strong belief that no stable evolution is possible without continuous research in the direction pursued.</p> |
| Winning points | <p>The Team's primary advantage over competitors is the original in-house designed Sphere CASE technology ranking considerably over existing products of a kind. The intensive use of the Sphere CASE results in distinctively higher quality products delivered through reuse of most successful solutions which can easily be tailored to meet specific customer demands. This also provides for product dependability and considerable delivery term reduction. Other advantageous issue is use of transparent manufacturing process organization support scheme addressing ISO 9001 / SPICE QA standards compliance in all Team's endeavors. Integral part of Team's approach is the research component well justified with results successfully implemented in products delivered and effectively incorporated into overall improvement of Sphere CASE technology.</p> |
| Achievements | <p>Our evolution has been only promoted with internal resources and self-repayment-based commercial software delivery practice. No third-party investments have been involved as we have been practicing technological and production independence so far. Research trends in the Team have been extremely effective producing considerable amount of scientific publications and study materials for Computer Department at Lviv Polytechnic National University. It is for over 5 years that the Team has been providing consulting services in domains of corporate information systems design and implementation. The Team's rich experience originates from successful large-scale domestic market implementations highly valued by our customers. It is of critical importance that the Sphere CASE technology originally designed as the unique information system manufacturing tool ranking over the products of a kind from leading world vendors has successfully proven itself as such and, therefore, has extremely good chances to be well accepted on the international market.</p> <p>All of the above sets solid foundations for making contracts on solutions delivery to international customers and / or promoting Sphere CASE technology worldwide.</p> |
| Strategy | <p>We deliver MRP, MRPII, ERP, CRM –class solutions for geographically distributed middle- and big -scale enterprises (it is possible, however, to downscale the solution to meet small-scale enterprise needs on demand) on a contract basis. It has been the Team's main determination to use original in-house designed tools and research-based technology for manufacturing to keep technological independence and provide for further commercial promotion of the latter. As it is presently the time we move into international software market we offer flexible mutually beneficial collaboration conditions to contractors, consultants and go-between businesses.</p> |

1.2 Manufacturing

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| Manufacturing cycle | There is an efficient manufacturing and research process control plan implemented at the RAISE Team. It targets at compliance with most effective software design control standards (IEEE 730, IEEE 828, IEEE 1016). The refined manufacturing cycle scheme exercising state of the art standards for software requirements specification (IEEE 830) and software design descriptions (IEEE 1016) is used to deliver solutions. |
| Automation | Oracle Database (v.7.3 - 8.x) -based solutions are Sphere CASE applications. The in-house designed Sphere CASE technology enables for supercharge of “client-server” corporate information systems development using automatic conversion of business-process descriptions (business-logic) into mobile metalogic units which are then interpreted on the fly at runtime by universal Sphere Portal client. Third-party CASE tools like Rational Rose and Sybase Power Designer can also be used if required. |
| Quality Assurance | QA for both manufacturing and implementation processes is enforced in the overall manufacturing cycle framework. It targets compliance with international ISO 9001 and ISO/IEC 15504(SPICE) standards. QA’s methodology effectiveness has been well justified by extremely low miss ratio in solutions delivery on time and within budget. |
| Document Management | In-house designed internal document management scheme is a backbone of the overall manufacturing cycle framework and provides for increased process effectiveness and transparency. A resulting unified customer relationship approach avoids many misunderstandings in dealing with the customer thus reducing overall solution delivery terms. |

1.3 Foundations

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| Legal | In a legal sense the RAISE Team is an independent manufacturing division of the CENITEC (Lviv, Ukraine) company. All rights for results of Team's endeavors are reserved. |
| Skills | The Team consists of skilled developers capable of solving complicated manufacturing and research tasks in the domains described above. All of the Team's members hold higher education degrees / honors degrees in computer science and automation including PhD degrees. |
| Research | The research is conducted on Team's facilities and on the basis of Computer department at Lviv Polytechnic National University (Lviv, Ukraine). The rights for results of Team's research endeavors are protected with scientific publications and registered patents. |

2. Products

2.1 Overview

2.1.1 Solution Examples

The mission of solutions set out is to demonstrate high standard of the Team's capabilities and rich experience gained in respective domains. Any of the products presented can easily be modified and / or extended to meet specific customer requirements or become a basis for new solutions.

Oracle Database -based products are: [RAISE Sphere](#) (ERP system), [RAISE Clinic](#) (automated clinic management system), [RAISE InformS](#) (corporate information storage and retrieval system). These are applications designed with original [Sphere CASE technology](#). The cornerstone project in the [Sphere CASE](#) applications line is the [RAISE Sphere](#) – the ERP system for geographically distributed middle- and large-scale enterprises. It features basic functionality of ERP-class systems and can be shipped as a complete standard product or a customer-tailored solution. The critical difference between RAISE Sphere and other systems of a kind is that it is owing to underlying Sphere CASE technology that modification and / or extension process for existing RAISE Sphere instance takes strikingly less time than compared to full-scale standard system reengineering and code revision technique. This involves principle of basic separation of system functionality into two parts: basic – basic data manipulation capabilities, internal tuning and configuration, i.e. features independent of the application-specific business logic; application-specific – describing custom business logic i.e. what the system should do from a point of view of a customer. Application-specific functionality is maintained in mobile metalogic units interpreted with [Sphere Portal universal client](#) interfacing the Sphere CASE applications. Sphere Portal implements basic functionality which is standard for any Sphere CASE application and includes the following capabilities:

1. Browsing and editing of data stored in DBMS.
2. Interaction with other third-party software through OLE interface.
3. Sorting, search, filtering by complex customized pattern.
4. Configuring GUI settings and DBMS connection settings.
5. Document copying and specific data extraction.
6. Form editing.
7. Analytical report creation and editing.
8. Print report creation and editing.
9. Business logic editing (VB Script).
10. Analytical and print report printing.
11. Context-sensitive help.

Mobile metalogic units containing application-specific functionality are actually the core of what makes Sphere Portal present the “customer application” on top of RAISE Sphere (see [Sphere Portal universal client](#) for details).

Hardware / software requirements for Oracle Database -based products:

Server:

- Intel Pentium II / 64M RAM
- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 SP6a / 2000 SP1 / XP, UNIX clones, Linux clones
- Oracle Database 7.3-8.x (minimal configuration – core only)

Client:

- Intel Pentium 75 / 16M RAM / 800×600 resolution-capable display
 - Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 SP6a / 2000 SP1 / XP
 - Oracle Database Client: SQLNet/32 (Oracle Database 7.3) or Net/8 (Oracle Database 8.0-8.x)
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Microsoft SQL Server -based products are: RAISE EDM (Employee Data Manager – personnel management system), RAISE BTS (Bug Tracking System – software bug tracking system), RAISE SCS (Sales Control System – sales tracking and control system). These are based on standard design technology using CASE tools like Rational Rose, Sybase Power Designer (6.0-7.5) and RAD tools like Borland Delphi 4.0 / 5.0, Microsoft Visual Basic 6.0.

Solutions accumulated in fields of creating custom data exchange, manipulation and error-control components contribute to high standard for products quality and dependability. The entire manufacturing process is thoroughly planned and controlled aided with tools like Microsoft Project, Microsoft Visual Source Safe and RAISE BTS which results in transparency and controllability hence providing increased product quality. Solutions delivered are remarkable both for versatile GUI capabilities based on standard and custom designed components and optimised client-DBMS data exchange scheme exercising Microsoft SQL Server capabilities and internal development tools intensively.

Hardware / software requirements for Microsoft SQL Server -based products:

Server:

- Intel Pentium II / 64M RAM
- Microsoft Windows NT 4.0 SP6a / 2000 SP1
- Microsoft SQL Server 7.0 SP2

Client:

- Intel Pentium 300 / 64M RAM / 800×600 resolution-capable display
 - Microsoft Windows 9x / ME / NT 4.0 SP6a / 2000 SP1 / XP
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2.1.2 Gain structure

Design technology for Oracle Database -based solutions sets solid foundations for significant gain attained by users of [Sphere CASE](#) applications. It is owing to Sphere CASE incorporating design technology and the product itself, series of successful techniques for object-relational model interaction domain, data caching, analysis and distribution that it has been possible to refine gain structure for users of [RAISE Sphere](#) or any other Sphere CASE applications (Fig.1).

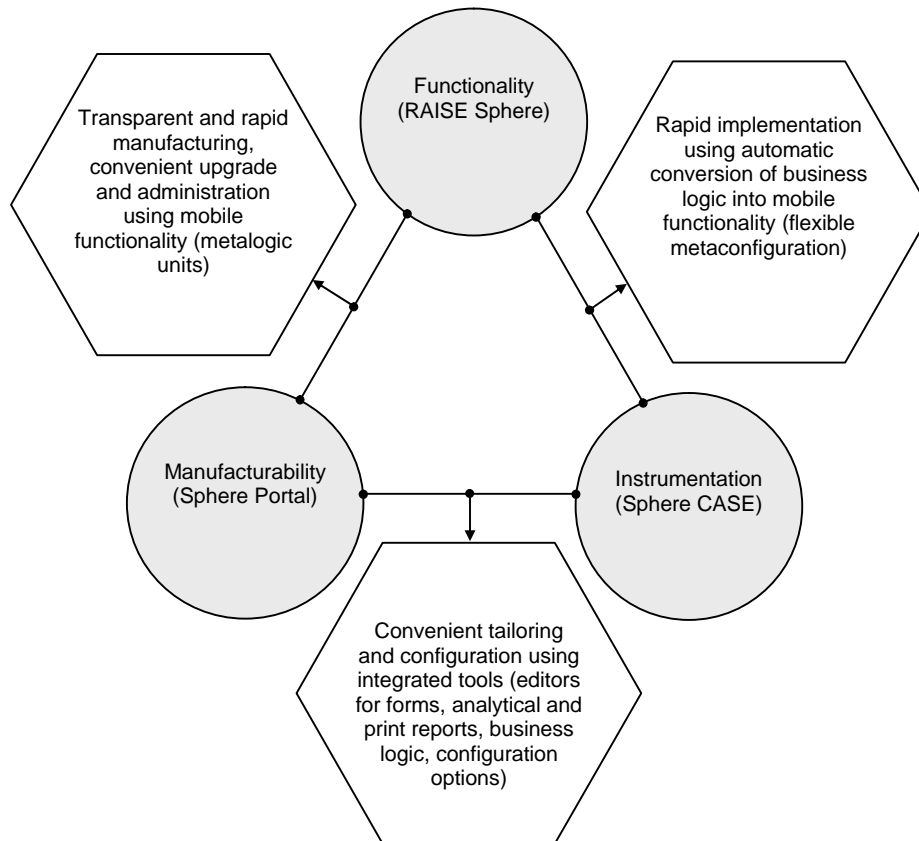


Fig.1. Gain structure

The primary distinctive features of Sphere CASE applications are:

- systems target middle- and big-scale geographically distributed enterprises;
- application-specific functionality can easily be modified and / or extended;
- integrated tailoring and configuration tools;
- fast implementation and convenient remote administration;
- systems can effectively be used with connection speeds of 9600 bps and higher.

3. Customers

- The State Joint-Stock Company “The Main Oil Pipelines “Druzhba” (Lviv)
<http://www.ngbi.com.ua/td/eng/about.html> (English version)
<http://www.ngbi.com.ua/td/index.html> (Ukrainian version)
 - Lviv Polytechnic National University (Lviv)
<http://www.polynet.lviv.ua>
 - Lviv Iv.Franko National University (Lviv)
<http://www.franko.lviv.ua/>
 - St. Alphons Monastery (Lviv)
 - "Contracts-Audit " Ltd. (Lviv)
 - EUROPLAK Ltd. (Lviv)
 - Public Corporation "Sambir Bread-baking Plant"(Sambir)
 - Public Corporation "Sambir Sugar-refinery" (Sambir)
 - em. Sommer Accessoires GmbH (Aschaffenburg)
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4. Contacts

