WHAT’S A PROJECT?

Essentially, a project is anything that’s not business as usual. It’s a group of interdependent tasks that possess the following criteria:

- They address an important predetermined objective.
- They’re self-contained, with preset time and budgetary constraints.
- They lead to a permanent improvement of business processes.

The unique nature of projects means that they often require skillsets not found in your in-house staff. We give you access to personnel with the expertise to help you pull off even the most ambitious goals.

PROJECT EXAMPLES

Projects can be large or small, taking months or just a week. Here are a few projects that we’ve completed:

- Security and compliance assessments (HIPAA, HITECH, FISMA, etc)
- Active Directory migrations, consolidations, and separations
- Converted multiple physical servers to a single virtualized host (“P2V”)
- Microsoft Exchange, Small Business Server, and SharePoint upgrades
- Infrastructure upgrades, including network, power, and servers
- Migrated in-house services to hosted/cloud-based and vice-versa

WHY CHOOSE OUR PROJECT SERVICES?

1. Our consultants bring a wide variety of business experience to the table; we’ll match you with a project team that understands the quirks of your industry.
2. We specialize in lateral thinking - analyzing the central business needs you want to solve and looking for solutions that are effective, not simply popular.
3. Whatever your project is, we’ve probably handled something similar before. We’ll give you realistic estimates of the time and money needed to reach your goal.
4. If we recommend a product to you, it’s because we trust it ourselves, and we understand how to integrate it into your business.

OUR APPROACH

Any firm can adopt a trendy project management system and claim to be on the cutting edge. At Net Friends, we understand that good systems can keep you from failing, but it takes good people to get truly impressive results. We pair Agile Project Management with a stringent hiring process; this lets us equip every team with veteran consultants working from a flexible, responsive system.

Agile Project Management breaks large projects into segments that last no more than a few weeks. Each segment provides the business owner with a visible, usable result, plus the chance to adjust project priorities based on your changing business needs. All segments follow the same outline:

1. The project team stages, implements, and/or tests a designated portion of the overall project.
2. The new work is analyzed to see whether it meets customer expectations and performs as needed.
3. The overall plan is amended based on customer feedback, and the team moves to the next segment.

This approach is particularly suited for small business because it emphasizes the needs of people, and the way people interact with systems, rather than ironclad schedules or predetermined outcomes. This fits Net Friends’ focus on customer service perfectly. We understand intuitively that projects will need to be adjusted to fit the needs of our customers - not the other way around.

THE BOTTOM LINE

We judge a project’s success by asking ourselves:

- Did we correctly understand the underlying problems that the customer presented?
- Did we implement a solution that effectively addressed those problems?
- Did we phase in that solution smoothly, without interrupting the customer’s business continuity?
- Did we help create an investment of permanent value for the customer?