

CASE STUDY:

## Nexteer Automotive

ahead of the curve



*ahead of the curve*



### Background

Nexteer Automotive employs engineers around the world who work on multiple projects simultaneously. New international accounting standards needed to be implemented to properly capitalize engineering labor hours. In response to the demand for very quick design and implementation Nexteer assembled a team involving Engineering, Finance, and IT departments. IT called on SAMSA.

### The Challenge

As a global company, Nexteer's biggest challenge was streamlining the process for engineers to report their project time without impacting productivity. Existing applications were giants, offering too many bells and whistles, were costly, and would take too long to implement globally. A need had risen for a simpler solution, but one that would be available 24 X 7 X 365 and would withstand rigorous SAS-70 auditing standards. Most challenging, the new application needed to be designed and implemented within one fiscal quarter.

### About Nexteer Automotive

Nexteer Automotive is a global leader in advanced steering and driveline systems. Nexteer's in-house development and integration of hardware, software, and electronics gives the company an unmatched competitive advantage as a full service steering supplier.

Nexteer draws upon a 100-year heritage of vehicle integration expertise and product workmanship. The company has a strong foundation and a reputation for providing dependable steering solutions and enduring customer relationships.

"I am amazed that SAMSA was able to take our basic information and expand on it enough to make a workable application meeting our deadline *and* budget constraints". ~ Bonnie Toyzan, Manager - Global IT Application Development & Support

### Results

Nexteer Automotive has streamlined engineer time reporting with the rollout of Nexteer Engineering Time (NETT) application, which:

- Easily identifies the projects associated with the engineer's time.
- Provides time tracking with minimal impact to productivity.
- Automated processes provide hands-off statistical reporting.
- Engineering labor costs can now be properly capitalized.

This application has strengthened the reporting and time constraints for deadlines associated with projects within Nexteer on a global basis.

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### Steps that SAMSA, Inc took to complete the project on-time and on budget:

- We had multiple meetings prior to application design to determine the scope of the project. The project wasn't fully defined, so our team was consulted and assisted in some design decisions.
- Created a high level timeline for Nexteer with deliverable dates.
- Created an internal detailed timeline for development. We used this to break up large tasks into smaller items. Each task is assigned to a developer with target hours and completion date.
- Scheduled regular meetings throughout the course of development. With NETT, we met in person nearly every 2 weeks, and maintained direct contact with our client on a daily basis.

### Solution

Nexteer Engineer Time Tracker (NETT) was designed as the custom application for Nexteer Automotive. A few quick specs are as follows:

- Custom solution
- Built within the quarter time frame
- Finished within the budget
- Automated operation
- Easy to use and maintain
- SAMSA hosted application for worldwide use
- SAS 70 and IFRS compliance

### Learn More

SAMSA, Inc. is happy to provide an evaluation for your next custom application! After meeting to discuss and understand your requirements we prepare a written quote with a proposed cost and time line for the application.

### About SAMSA, Inc.

We have found ourselves involved in many different facets of information technology as our 24 years in business have progressed. Our original heritage was software development (long before anyone knew about the World Wide Web ), but we've branched into many more areas since those early days! While we're always open to new IT challenges, we find ourselves focused on: Internet Services, IT Services, and Support and Custom Programming.

We measure our success by our clients' satisfaction. In the rapidly changing high technology world, many companies measure success only in terms of revenue, growth, quarterly earnings, and market share. SAMSA thrives in the high-tech sphere of modern information and business management, but avoids short-term growth and closing a business agreement at any cost. SAMSA is fully invested in our clients' business, especially delivering high quality work and showing a strong value of service. We also take pride in helping and working directly with our clients. SAMSA is built on the founding principles of honesty, fairness, quality, dedication, and producing great results.

We strive to build long lasting relationships with clients that last for years, assisting them with the ever-changing technology of today.

