Research and Development Enterprise Project (RADEP) for the Californian Department of Social Sciences (CDSS)

OVERVIEW & BUSINESS NEEDS
The CDSS is responsible for the Food Stamp Quality Control (QC) system and Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Disaggregated Data reporting process that captures and reports critical performance information about these programs to Federal oversight agencies.

The CDSS current case review system has been in existence for many years. Complexity of reviews and their financial importance to the State increased dramatically. Modifying the Case Review Application to collect and report data on the newly formed CalWORKs/TANF and increasingly complex Food Stamp program presented substantial challenges. Continual changes in Federal laws and regulations controlling these programs, performance based program funding, and increased financial accountability for accurate and timely reports on performance of these programs compounded challenges to the State’s case review system. To address these challenges, the CDSS adapted its original case review system and decided to create a new Case Review Application. The objective is to substantially reduce California’s exposure to penalties and eliminate problems and limitations of the current system. The system is to be deployed to nineteen (19) counties and to the Field Operations Bureau (FOB).

R Systems was hired as the software development Contractor to design, develop, and implement the new system.

OUR APPROACH & SOLUTION
We are currently in the development phase of this project and are also responsible for training CDSS staff. Our solution is a fully web-based, utilizing a centralized SQL Server database. Users will have access to the application on the web server, but will not have direct access to the database. Access to the databases will be only through stored procedures and will not have any access including select on any of the tables.

Our solution will automate and integrate all process steps from receiving sample Skeleton Files, through submitting files/reports to Federal oversight agencies. This includes case review functionality currently provided by the Case Review Application, plus many additional steps performed outside of the Case Review Application by Bureau staff. The solution will improve accuracy of information collected and reported. Opportunities for corruption of data and errors created by separation, distribution, and reintegration of case files in review/report cycles will be eliminated. Manual steps associated with moving case files between the Bureau and Case Reviewers will be eliminated and the number of manual steps will be reduced.

ENVIRONMENT
- Windows XP, ASP.NET
- Visual Studio .Net,
- .Net Framework,
- SQL Server 2000,
- Visual Source Safe,
- Microsoft Visio,
- ADO.NET,
- XML,
- XSD
- Crystal Report 10
- Stored procedures and User Functions