



"I'm glad to have had this opportunity to work with ProjectM. They worked very closely with us, and I really appreciated their professionalism and their attitude.

I totally recommend them without any reservations"

Alan Gilmour,
Managing Director,
Cheshire Crystal

ProjectM has been established for 16 years, developing software solutions and websites through best practice methods and frameworks to deliver technology to our clients who use us to enhance and market their organisations.

Creating a bespoke retail group of websites

The Background

Cheshire Crystal is a specialist in providing crystal based trophies, awards and giftware to the public and to corporate clients. With a full range of products with both standard and specialist engraving services, Cheshire Crystal has a wide reputation for quality service.

The Challenge

Cheshire Crystal has a number of websites that provide niche presentations to specific sectors of their market. A centralised database of products and availability dictates that each microsite, in addition to the main site, extracts this data to provision the e-Commerce section of the website.

The Requirements

Cheshire Crystal needed to create a common platform for all their websites through which a centrally controlled management of up-to-date data may be provided.

The Implementation

ProjectM took the remit, using a Content Management website platform as a common base, and designed an application using web-services that communicated between all the sites, ensuring what was presented to the visitor on any website was true at the point of presentation. The design met the detailed technical specifications agreed between all parties.

These included:

- **Data centre:** The central database provided a single point of reference for all websites with stock levels managed dynamically.
- **Websites:** Each website, designed to reflect the specific market niche, has a completely separate identity and resource base, ensuring that the visitor loading could be managed individually in both software and hardware terms.
- **Security & Scalability:** Designed as a federated solution, each component: database, communications, and websites has a clearly defined security layer applied to it to ensure complete confidence in the whole. The solution is designed to ensure that each part may be scaled exponentially without major change should that be commercially appropriate.

The solution was designed, implemented and made operational on time and to budget.