

TIP Is Now Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions

Since 1979, Nakoma Group has provided outsourced application development, IT simplification technologies, and staff augmentation services for medium and large enterprises. In 2003, the company expanded its capabilities in the area of enterprise solutions consulting.

In April 2003, The Implementation Partners (TIP), an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Solutions Provider delivering innovative, flexible, and cost-effective solutions to organizations that use PeopleSoft Enterprise, EnterpriseOne, and World software, was acquired by Nakoma Group. Six months later, Nakoma Group also acquired the assets of EpicEdge, Inc., an Austin-based IT Professional Services company that specialized in public sector PeopleSoft consulting.

Effective March 1, 2004, the combined ERP organization is now Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions joining with our two other Nakoma Group companies: Nakoma Group Consulting Services and SimpleXNG.

You Need A Consultant That Can Say "Been There. Done That." At Nakoma Group, We Have.

Enterprises demand a proven approach when implementing PeopleSoft's applications – one that ensures success and minimizes interruptions to daily business operations.

PeopleSoft products are designed to maximize an organization's existing resources, helping them to deliver better service to their customers. Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions understands the complexities of working within education, government, and corporations when implementing or upgrading an enterprise application.

"One of the significant challenges in partnering with an outside source for an upgrade is coordinating the exact combination of skilled resources required for different project phases — without waste. Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions' flexibility and breadth of expertise ensured a perfect balance from start to finish. We could not be more pleased."

Anh Shade, PeopleSoft Project Manager

Company Overview

To simplify the process, our consultants use a template-driven methodology that incorporates industry best practices and provides for the flexibility and scalability required for customization.

A Partnership Committed To Your Success

Experience does matter. Since Nakoma Group's founding in 1979, more than 90% of our clients have re-engaged on another project. The strength of Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions is rooted in the Nakoma name which means "I do as I promise." This commitment is honored with experienced talent, a proven methodology, and a documented knowledge transfer process.

The company follows a strict hiring model, unique in the consulting world. Application specialists are full-time employees, not contractors or agents, and they must have a combination of both technical and functional skill sets. As employees, they are committed to standing behind the Nakoma promise.

Four Things To Expect From An Enterprise Solutions Firm

- 1. Experienced Consultants.** The average consultant at Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions has eight years experience with PeopleSoft, and project leaders are, on average, twelve-year veterans of enterprise software solutions. Their maturity and experience allow them to confidently manage the technology, the project, and change management issues.
- 2. Responsive Communication.** Good communication starts with realistic expectations and clearly defined roles. With weekly status reports and meetings, managers on both sides of the project avoid unwanted surprises and missed deadlines.
- 3. Knowledge Transfer.** Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions follows a defined process to gather project information step-by-step throughout each engagement so that clients have a clear record to reference after the implementation is complete. Documentation, training, and follow-on support are customized to meet an organization's specific requirements.
- 4. Budget Sensitivity.** Given that most organizations are budget-constrained, Nakoma Group understands the need for fixed-bid pricing with billing tied to deliverables. This prevents cost overruns and controls the scope of the project.

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Services At A Glance

Implementation Services. An efficient, proven process is critical when implementing an enterprise software package for the first time. Clearly defined goals, a well-developed plan, and a commitment to knowledge transfer is the formula for success. Consultants assist with all phases of an implementation including planning, configuration, testing, production support, cultural change management, and training.

Upgrade Services. Extensive knowledge of both previous and new versions maximize software functionality. Upgrade specialists work closely with clients to ensure a rapid, seamless upgrade process. This includes knowledge transfer on how to apply patches, fixes, tax updates, tools upgrades, or application upgrades.

Project Management. Our project management methodology is both flexible and scalable to ensure a successful outcome. All project managers have the functional and technical proficiency to deliver complex, high-quality initiatives on time and within budget. These consultants are team builders and leaders that deliver consistent results.

Technical Assessment. Sometimes it is difficult to determine how much can be accomplished with in-house resources and what needs to be outsourced to complete the project successfully. Application specialists can recommend system configuration, provide installation services, and help establish and document development and change control standards.

Boise State University PeopleSoft Financials Upgrade

Boise State University (BSU) decided to engage Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions for a PeopleSoft Financials upgrade. The mentoring approach that had been the foundation of our previous partnership — an HR, Payroll, and Student Administration upgrade also performed in the Upgrade Lab — had been so effective that BSU felt confident enough to perform some of the work themselves. That confidence paid off.

With Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions' help, BSU enjoyed a trouble-free project and celebrated an on-schedule go live.

Fit/Gap Analysis. The current environment must be analyzed to see what changes in business process and resource allocations may need to be implemented given the new functionalities provided by the software. Current customizations, if any, will be reviewed to see whether they can be retired by new functionalities.

Transition Support. Application specialists can assist in developing a support model and aid in preparing staff for "go-live." They can also plan and prioritize future enhancement requests or module implementations while being available to assist with ongoing production support.

Upgrade Lab Offers Cost-Effective Alternative

In 1996, Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions established an Upgrade Lab for off-site development, implementation, and upgrade activities. Using the Upgrade Lab insulates the enterprise from a majority of the problems encountered with new software and ensures less disruption to day-to-day operations. Conducting project work in this facility has proven to be an effective, budget-friendly option for many client organizations.

The Upgrade Lab is also used by application specialists to research new functionality and tools as they are released. This enables them to master advancing technologies and provide a safe environment to test and perfect innovations.

Nakoma Group Companies

Nakoma Group Enterprise Solutions' consultants use their extensive knowledge of the PeopleSoft suite of products and a proven methodology to assist educational institutions, government, and corporations with implementations and upgrades.

Nakoma Group Consulting Services provides technical expertise for application development, integration projects, and professional IT staffing.

SimplexNG develops robust software tools that automate and simplify IT tasks in the areas of application design, development, and platform management.

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