

Forestry Commission Scotland

Creating Efficiency and Enhancing User Experience at FCS



Forestry Commission Scotland (FCS) serves as the forestry directorate for the Scottish Government. The organisation plants millions of trees every year to create new woodland and replace the trees harvested. FCS also manages Scotland's National Forest Estate and advises ministers of the Scottish government on forestry policy.

Originally, there was only one Forestry Commission website that covered the UK. In order to improve the user experience and to provide the user with the most relevant information, Forestry Commission Scotland decided to create its own separate website with a new design and a modern and flexible IT solution.

Aims and Objectives

The main aims and objectives of the project were to:

- Implement a new, modern website system with flexible development options; Joomla!
- Create custom features to integrate into the Joomla content management system and meet FCS's specific requirements
- Create a clear structure, helpful search facility and user friendly navigation options to help users to find the information they are looking for
- Provide a fit-for-purpose platform for meeting current and emerging business and end user needs over the medium term
- Maximise site usability, meet accessibility standards and FCS brand guidelines
- Cater for mobile users by building a website with a responsive design that alters depending on the size of the user's screen

FCS was looking to engage with an IT partner who could redevelop the existing website onto a new flexible web platform, with an new front-end design and improved user experience. It would be vital for the chosen partner to work closely

with Forestry Commission Scotland so to fully understand both the technical and branding requirements. A key deliverable of the project was also to provide site administration training to FCS publishing staff. FCS invited several companies within the Public Sector framework to tender for the project which resulted in Pulsion Technology being awarded the contract.

A Tailored Solution

Utilising the Joomla! content management system, version 2.5 with a MySQL database and custom PHP components, Pulsion built FCS a flexible web platform with custom features so to meet with all the requirements. Having a flexible publishing system allows FCS's publishing team to be more productive and focused on giving the user a fulfilling experience. The website is more structured, usable, and accessible for the FCS's end users. Pulsion has built the system with the future in mind, ensuring that, as the FCS grows and needs change, the system is flexible enough to change with it.

Visit the new Forestry Commission Scotland Website at [scotland](http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/).
<http://scotland.forestry.gov.uk/>

About Pulsion Technology

Pulsion Technology engages with its customers to deliver innovative products and digital solutions to help unlock efficiency within their business. Headquartered in Glasgow, we are a trusted provider to the public, private and third sector.

Our skills and capabilities focus on digital, mobile, consultancy and predictive analytics services. Our collaborative approach means we deliver products and solutions central to our client's business objectives; whether that is driving productivity, increasing revenue or reducing overhead costs.

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