



What is an Intranet?

How and why have companies begun implementing Intranet software?

What are some current Intranet trends?

THE STRUCTURE OF THE EBOOK:

- **1** 1990-1991:
The very beginning of Intranet technology.
- **2** 2000-2015:
Web 2.0, socialization, new key benefits.
- **3** Modern Intranet trends.
- **4** The benefits of LS Intranet.



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BIRTH OF THE INTRANET



The earliest versions of Intranet websites and home pages began to appear first sometime during the 1990-1991s after common Internet networks began to take off.

WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY INTRANET? AND HOW DOES IT DIFFER FROM THE INTERNET?

An Intranet is a classified network that enables connection between computers/devices in a limited group which is accessible only for one staff or workers.

The main principle behind the development of the intranet was to supply organizations with a platform for an easy exchange of data between its closed groups of employees.

Before the digital era, information was relayed manually via exchange of printed documents, phone communications, and face-to-face meetings.

Once organizations adopted computer networks, the information exchange took the digital path meaning employees were able to use emailing or shareable folders to accomplish those very tasks but with greater efficiency and effectiveness.

Finally, the adoption of the World Wide Web permitted a lot of companies to host web pages internally allowing information to be exchanged much more quickly and easily than ever before.

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THE FUNDAMENTAL INTRANETS

The most fundamental versions of the Intranet contained only the company's internal web pages and were used to store organization's general facts and figures and broadcast information from a head office.

These softwares had numerous drawbacks, as they didn't stimulate co-operation amongst workers and lacked the proper design elements to be user-friendly. They consisted of the only company page – the general information about the organization.

As you might imagine, due to the clear lack of unique content, the staff were not attracted to check the network on a regular basis.

INTRANET GENIE – INTRANET INGENUITY AND BEGINNING OF A BREAKTHROUGH

In 1996 a new and improved intranet software was presented to the world by the company Frontier Technologies - Intranet Genie solution. The intranet was different as it wasn't just a simple organization homepage but was targeted to improve employees' participation and knowledgeability then all former solutions.

Genie featured applications for easy exchange of documents and message, had a more effective design to enhance workers' communication and cooperation.

Though improved, it still wasn't a user-friendly enough corporate software – it was difficult to set it up and had an unpleasant UX design.

Since it consisted of a server solution and a collection of Intranet components set up on each separate client's computer, the software wasn't even a proper website, but rather a client-server application.

Despite its shortcomings, employees could exchange information, file and even take part in online accessible discussions due to the attributes of Genie Intranet software.

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2000-2015 CHANGES WEB 2.0 & SOCIAL NETWORKS

In 2005, users began to generate and upload material onto social networks themselves through the development of the technology of well-known Tim O'Reilly's Web 2.0.

Some models of Web 2.0 include but are not limited to social networks, Wikipedia pages, e-blogs, folksonomies (keywords tagging on the websites and links), audio-video exchange sites, web apps, and collaborative platforms.

Once Web 2.0 was launched, users shifted their focus towards generating data themselves and commenting and sharing using Web 2.0.

Then, in 2006 there was a rapid surge in the engagement of social network sites. Such networks like Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter have ushered humans into a new age of Internet data transfer, even in the work setting.

5 CORE FEATURES INTEGRATED INTO INTRANETS:

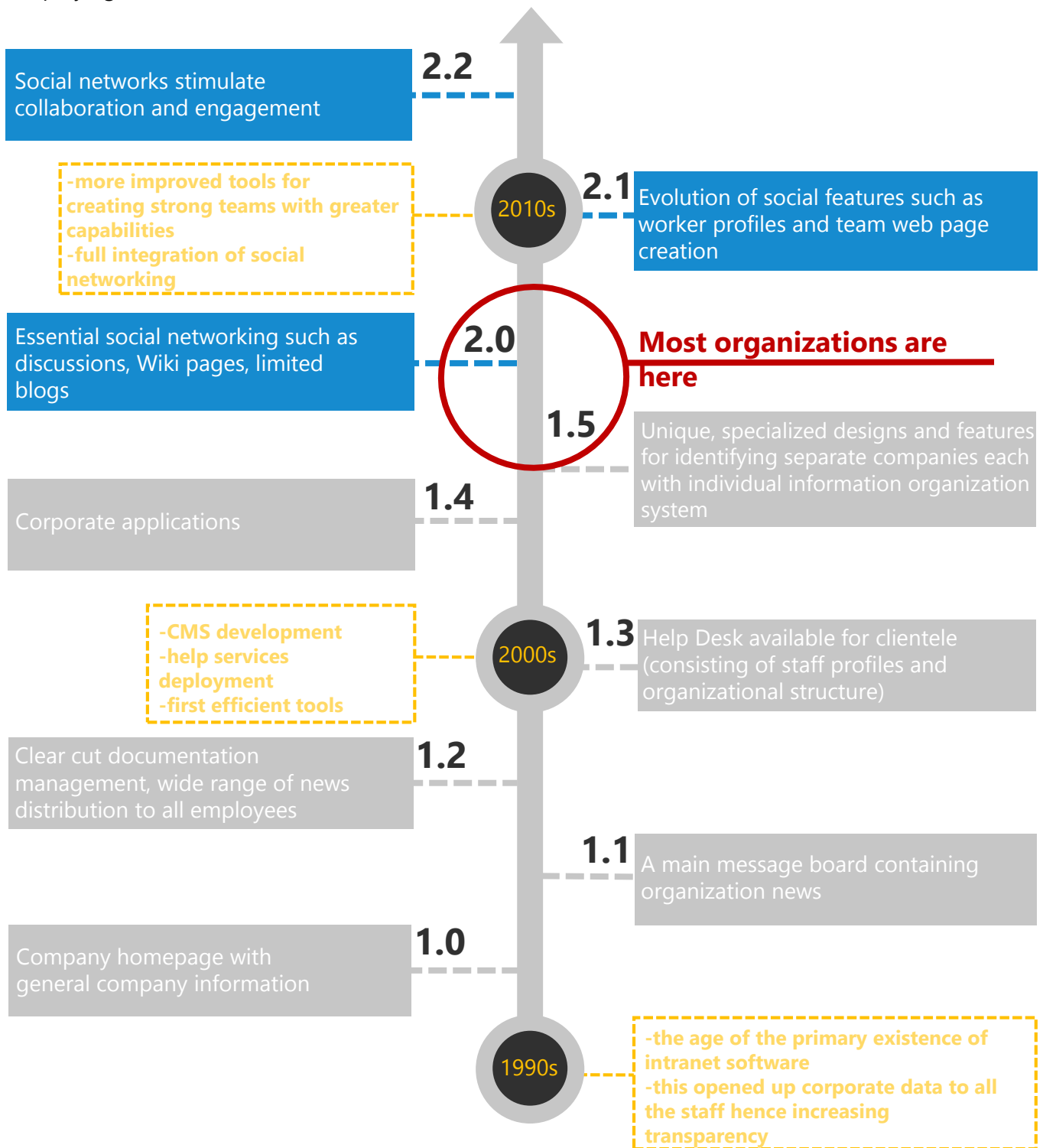
- **1** **Customer help desk (with employee profiles and organizational structure)**
- **2** **Data management system**
- **3** **Office implementation**
- **4** **Company identity in design and features for separate companies**
- **5** **Crucial collective online connections such as:**
 - a) Corporate wikis (as an example, content management systems - for providing organization's internal knowledge sharing);*
 - b) Specialized blogs (so that management can easily share ideas with all the staff);*
 - c) Online, inclusive forums (unites all the staff members, without and discrimination based on occupations, professional interests or departments).*

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This leap forward made the Intranets solution to be more useful and attractive for a lot of companies.

But still, even in 2017, the great variety of corporate Intranet solutions are remaining at this stage of deploying.



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As the years have passed, Intranet technology and features have developed, varied and have notably transformed. Utilizing intranet solutions has even begun being a part of less expensive organizations.

MODERN CHARACTERISTICS FOUND IN INTRANETS:

..... 1

User-friendly UI/UX

-presentation on data is more customized, meaning it changes based on individual employees' priorities and the devices they prefer to use (the screen size, needed bottoms etc.).

-collective number of pages is often less, however, each page contains more relevant quantity of data. In-page navigation is also applied so as to make information access more convenient and user-friendly.

..... 2

Integration of only beneficial tools

-by monitoring and evaluating how workers respond using Intranet bars and classes, help each organization identify the most necessary features to set on the website subsequently making it more responsive and advantageous.

..... 3

Elimination of irrelevant data on the site

-companies can reduce outdated or irrelevant content as well as less preferred data, rather bringing emphasis on more quality data storage and sharing.

..... 4

Content personalization

-targeted content let deliver only relevant data to separate worker.

-role-based content (employees get all required data depending on their location, specialization, specific tasks, priorities, permissions and at the particular time they have to see it etc.)

..... 5

Enhanced inclusion via multilingual services

-large enterprises with diverse offices and personnel are enabled to provide all types of team members with services based on their first language, so that they can work even more efficiently.

..... 6

Personal assistance services

-intranet providers are directed to making use of really useful help sections not for theoretical aid but for *practical, hands-on* assistance.

WAYS IN WHICH CURRENT INTRANET SOLUTIONS VARY:



The design is more straightforward, comprehensible, simpler and minimalistic (so that, only necessary tools, documents and data are displayed on the users' screens);



Augmented visual content (photos and videos): availability and usage of multimedia content has been increased amongst users. Hence, they can go through their own photos or those of other colleagues in higher quality. Also, users can easily be informed about recent news and event by watching corporate or product videos;



Smart search feature enables staff to locate relevant data even over a wide storage system including the People Directory, Blog, News Feed, File Share, Library, etc. The use of metadata and keywords are a powerful addition to this instrument allowing search to be more efficient;



Feedback to improve management: management wants to create and upload good content to motivate employees to work and use the corporate site as well as to identify any arising issues which they can do via feedback from users;



Useful footers: footers found at the end of the page contain helpful prompts and button, which significantly improves employees' work quality;



Social networking is the peak method of information exchange (so companies create similar social network-related instruments to cover all staff needs: access to external sites, links, polls and workers' achievements deployment);



Mobile responsiveness: is not a miraculous tool, however, it is obligatory to have nowadays since increasingly, employees are working remotely and spending more time for mobile usage.

It's clear that as each year progresses, Intranets features have been adapting to meet best global trends and organizations' requirements.

Thus, especially in today's time, when launching the latest innovations and modern business approaches, such intranet services are even more relevant for most organizations than it was ten years ago.

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So, the most successful companies haven't wasted any time and have grabbed and implemented the top-quality intranet software for to make their businesses highly effective and efficient.



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Lizard Soft is one of the leading suppliers of intranet services and online office resolutions for companies. By applying state of the art global technology, our software operates in Microsoft Office 365 and helps staff co-operate and work productively.

OUR AIM

The LS team's core mission is to develop advantageous and easy-to-use software applications and make them as accessible as possible. Each day, we brainstorm new ways to improve LS Intranet to make the software more beneficial for our priceless clientele.

Our company likes to focus on the UI/UX design because it is our opinion that the core functioning of the software is more important than having software with an attractive facade but useless core system. Our graphics and layout specialists do keep themselves up to date on intranet and web design formats, to make our product of the latest designs.

In the two levels of highest importance competencies of developing a digitized office product, which include Collaboration and Content, Cloud Productivity, Lizard Soft is a Gold Microsoft Partner.

Furthermore, this means that our company has a firsthand arrangement with Microsoft which awards us an official label of Cloud Solution Provider. This status enables our company to work as a reliable consultant on a whole different level as we can merge LS Intranet with Microsoft Cloud products (Office 365, Azure), providing this combination with tools like customer helpline, consultations and billing all from one location. The label signifies a contemporary age of Microsoft partners that radically transforms the experience of customers by the utilization of Microsoft's technical tools.

The LS team is made up of 50 specialists: programmers, QC designers, software managers, graphics planners, support engineers, customer success managers.

Our company consists 100% of only Intranet evolutions and working in collaboration with Microsoft Office 365/SharePoint. We are proud to state that we have been the recipient of the following awards from Microsoft: Solution Provider of the Year, Best Project of the Year and Best Partner in Business Productivity Solutions.

By developing and implementing new methods, approaches, and tools, LS Intranet tries to make enterprises' work better and more productive at every stage and for every employee. Each update is made in accordance with the latest Intranet trends and our own vision to enhance workplace efficiency.

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OUR 11 STRONG ADVANTAGES ARE:

- 1 24/7 customer support with 15 min response policy
- 2 'Drag, resize and drop' feature to customize widgets and page layouts
- 3 Unique Task Management Tool that helps accomplish work in seconds
- 4 Native iPhone and Android apps
- 5 Intranet analytics based on PowerBI or Google Analytics
- 6 Satisfying all Top10 global intranet trends
- 7 Multi-language services for diverse workforce
- 8 Bilateral Yammer integration
- 9 Online published pricing plans starting from \$499 per month
- 10 1-hour deployment, 3 days for end-to-end process
- 11 Accommodates completely free services for 50 users

Our customer support

Our company provides customer support to all our clientele 24 hours a day and 7 days a week via email, online chat, and service desk tickets. Our helpline response time is 15 minutes, so users get the help they need without much wait.

All paid subscription plans include software assurance and they cover updates on a 3-month basis. Preliminary users are allowed to put newly designed features to the test every fortnight using our Scrum methodology.

Additional support alternatives include consulting services, training and custom upgrading of individual tools and features.

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Furthermore, our team is constantly striving to comply with all modern feature trends and have enhanced some of them:



Branding Tool

- this tool enables users to choose, enact and edit all applications as per the specifications you require: widgets' indentations, proportions, layouts, color scheme, additional effects, every element's style, items, the range of workspace, etc.



Slider Tool

- will let the user direct the attention of his/her co-workers to focus on the most crucial and relevant events of the organization, its achievements, strategic aims or recent/top news.



Idea Box by Idea Management Tool

- gives all the staff them an interactive role by providing them with the unique opportunity to express their own counsel and ideas to make substantial contribution to your business' growth.



Reward Tool

- enables management to reward good workers, subsequently helping your workforce feel valued, self-realized, proud of what they do and even to become in some way a rock star.



Advanced Search Tool

- helps you make the best use of your time as it indexes all Intranet networks: mail, website, organizational structure, files etc.;
- offers user with various options and preferences, based on the personal preference calculated from request history of particular worker;
- even catalogs misprints to reduce redundancy;
- you can take a quick look at documents without having to actually open them using the preview function.



Workflow Management Tool

- helps every employee to automate his/her workflows for different time intervals and heightens productive business process.

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As a result, the entire company is able to conserve valuable time, capital and centralize focus on increasing corporate processes, directing them to be profitable and surpass your business counterparts.

Whether you should implement your own corporate Intranet is your decision. However, keep in mind that our team is ready as ever to create your company a unique Digital Workplace, wherein the needs of each and every worker will be taken into consideration to help your company reach its highest potential and productivity.



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Let us know what you think. Give us a call or send a message with your feedback or wishes about further eBook topics.

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