App and Web Development for School

PROJECT DETAILS

🏷 **Mobile App Development**

📅 **Jan 2019 - Ongoing**

💲 **$10,000 to $49,999**

❝ *"Even if something wasn't in the scope, it was easy to make changes without being charged more."*

PROJECT SUMMARY

SapientPro developed a unique web tool that allows a refugee school administrator to monitor attendance using QR codes. The client plans to reengage to add functionalities.

PROJECT FEEDBACK

The final product functions effectively and scans codes more quickly than similar platforms. Transparent and communicative, the team thoroughly explained their technical process and took time to understand project goals. The client was impressed with the flexibility of the scope of the effort.

The Client

Introduce your business and what you do there.

I own e-commerce companies and started a school for refugees two years ago with my wife.

The Challenge

What challenge were you trying to address with SapientPro?

We needed a way to record attendance because the government requires it. There aren't readymade systems for this on the market, so we decided to build it on our own.

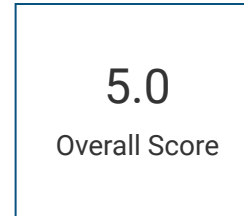**Sander Cramer**
Director, Nederlands de Baas

Education

Netherlands

CLIENT RATING

5.0
Overall Score

Quality: 5.0

Schedule: 5.0

Cost: 4.0

Would Refer: 5.0

The Approach

What was the scope of their involvement?

SapientPro developed a web tool for monitoring my students' attendance. It allows me to export reports and send them to the parents. To start, I made a small briefing on the required features. From there, they created technical specs, and we had some Skype calls to go over all the features that should be included. Afterward, they took on the whole project, handling the app and web development.

The product is quite simple, with only one core functionality. It scans a student QR code to determine who is present. Users can enter the app as an administrator, school representative, or teacher. Each one has different rights and permissions. As an admin, I can create accounts for other schools, market the platform as a white-label product. As a school director, I can view attendance statistics, GPS locations, and real-time reports. We created the apps for Android and iOS natively, not using hybrid technologies.

What is the team composition?

I was in contact with their sales manager, and I mainly dealt with our project manager. Otherwise, I spoke with the designer and the app developer on Skype calls. But, for 90% of the partnership, I was only in contact with the project manager.

How did you come to work with SapientPro?

I studied with one of their owners and knew they'd started a company. After looking at their website and chatting about the project, I decided to use them. I'm very happy about my decision, and we'll likely do additional projects together in the future.

How much have you invested with them?

We invested €12,000 (approximately $13,000 USD).

What is the status of this engagement?

We started working with SapientPro in January 2019. The majority of the work is done, but I identified some new features I want in the app. We're reopening the project now.

The Outcome

What evidence can you share that demonstrates the impact of the engagement?

SapientPro did a good job of learning the scope, planning, and adhering to deadlines. I don't have any statistics, but I'm happy with the results.

The main feature of the app is to scan a QR code. I'd used a similar product in the past, and I wanted that functionality in my app. With that product, it would take three seconds before the QR code got into the system and was scanned. If I had 10 students to scan and had to wait three seconds every time, it would add up. Now, it's way faster, taking less than a second to scan. It saves a lot of time and frustration.

How did SapientPro perform from a project management standpoint?

They gave me a good outline of the timeline. It was clear from the beginning what we'd include in the project. Despite not having a technical background, I was able to communicate the features I wanted. This was due to their understanding and ability to translate my ideas into technical features. They even helped me approve those technical features before starting the project.

What did you find most impressive about them?

I thought they were flexible. Even if something wasn't in the scope, it was easy to make changes without being charged more. We didn't determine the design beforehand, but they took the time to get satisfactory results in that area. I also asked them to make some more design work for other products, and they did a good job with those as well. Flexibility was a big pro.

Are there any areas they could improve?

The project started in January, and I wanted to start selling the product in September. I got tied up and didn't respond to their daily messages about the progress. Had they been more proactive with me, the project might've been finished in time.

Do you have any advice for future clients of theirs?

It's important that both parties understand each other before the project starts. All the client's requirements should be listed, and both parties should know exactly how much time and money it will cost. These technical projects can be complex, but the primary functions need to work well before anything else. Get an MVP together before diving deep into functionalities.