



Profile

Since 1973, Tulsa, Okla.-based Nameplates, Inc. has been creating and producing a full line of metal signage, nameplates, aircraft markings, identification plates, decals, polycarbonates, mylar and industrial labels, etched and filled plates, architectural signage, brass, aluminum, and stainless steel plates, and much more.

Computer Technology Solutions (CTS), located in Tulsa, Okla. was founded in 1978. The firm's mission is improving the business success of small and medium-sized firms by providing superior computer services and products. CTS is a Microsoft Certified Partner (MCP) that specializes in implementing and supporting business systems. CTS has been involved with the MCP program since its inception and derives all revenues from Microsoft services and products.

Web Site

Find out more about Nameplates, Inc. at www.nameplatesusa.com
Find out more about CTS at www.ctshq.com

Microsoft Products Used

Windows Server 2000
Exchange 2000
SQL Server 2000
Office 2000
Windows 2000 Professional
Internet Security & Acceleration Server 2000
FrontPage 2000

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Brad Stieben, chief financial officer, Nameplates, Inc.

Nameplates, Inc.

Nameplates, Inc. has state of the art equipment, technical services, art and CAD design resources to assist the most demanding application. When it was time to adopt an integrated family of computer products, Nameplates, Inc. partnered with Microsoft Certified Solutions Provider Computer Technology Solutions (CTS) to meet current and future needs with Microsoft products.

Smooth, seamless, reliable

Like many companies, Nameplates, Inc., had adopted a variety of computer applications over time. Needing greater integration and efficiency, the firm turned to Microsoft for solutions. "We were looking for something seamless and smooth, with no problems and no downtime," said Brad Stieben, chief financial officer. "We wanted everyone on the same wavelength. With that in mind, we decided on Microsoft products. Microsoft is a proven commodity. We knew that if we went the Microsoft way, we would be going down the road of reliability."

"Another advantage is that Microsoft products are universally accepted," CTS President Kevin Fream said. By having Microsoft products, Nameplates, Inc. is able to seek candidates from the biggest possible pool of candidates, because so many computer-knowledgeable people know Microsoft. "It's easy to add people, train them, and move forward."

Winning applications

"One reason we work exclusively with Microsoft products is that Microsoft offers the widest range of products," Fream said. "This gives companies a competitive edge by ensuring that, whatever the situation, Microsoft has the solution for them."

That begins with the platform. "Windows 2000 has simplified life here a lot," Stieben said. "It's secure, it's stable, it's up all the time. It's quick to set up and it integrates well with existing programs."

For example, with Outlook's online calendar and scheduling, "People are more organized and productive," Stieben said. Or consider Microsoft Internet Security and Acceleration (ISA) Server 2000, which provides secure, fast, and manageable Internet connectivity. Among other functions, ISA has enabled Nameplates, Inc., to home in on Internet activity and ensure all staff members maximize their online productivity.

The Microsoft competitive edge goes beyond products, Fream said. Microsoft has compiled best business practices that enable companies to make most profitable use of their systems. Moreover, by using Microsoft products, Nameplates, Inc. can rest avoid the trap of being stuck with an obsolete platform or system. "At CTS, we don't try to capture a client with a mystery approach, and that's why we use Microsoft products exclusively," Fream said. "With Microsoft products, a company such as Nameplates, Inc. won't be stuck with a system that only the original vendor or a consultant can work with."

Microsoft products give Nameplate, Inc. an edge by making it more productive. "Since implementing Microsoft products, our productivity has increased significantly in all areas" Stieben said. And with Microsoft, Nameplates, Inc., can rest assured future growth will go smoothly. "We know the updates will keep coming," Stieben said. "I fully expect Microsoft products to help us continue to grow, be more profitable, make our people happier and help us communicate better."