



# IT Perspectives

An Inside Look at Business Technology

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## KOMODO SLAYS THE COMPLIANCE DRAGON

Businesses around the world are under pressure in recent years to comply with ever-changing regulatory regimes, with greater requirements for recording and documenting business proceedings. While the changes have been difficult and expensive for many companies to navigate, they have created new opportunities for technology developers to build the systems needed for meeting compliance requirements.

For Melbourne-based internet software developer Komodo CMS, teaming with the Sydney law firm Nova Legal and Advisory it is opening new doors for its existing content management system (CMS) software. The two organisations are creating products that can deliver compliance policies and procedures within an organisation. According to Komodo's Director, David Warwick, the system ensures a level confidence for particular areas of compliance, such as training of employees and checking competency, enabling a company meet their compliance obligations.

"With Sarbanes-Oxley in the US, and a big focus on compliance post-Enron and the other collapses, compliance and compliance systems are a pretty hot topic," Warwick says.

He describes the system as capturing expert knowledge, which is then sold to customers on a monthly subscription basis. Interest is high, especially among recently listed companies, franchises, and companies working in highly legislated industries, many of which would have tackled the problems of compliance on their own.

Warwick will soon venture to San Francisco where he will head up a roundtable discussion on how a CMS can be applied to compliance needs within organisations.

Komodo is also continuing with development of its regular CMS product, which is designed for companies in the marketing and creative industries. Komodo itself is an offshoot of the 12-year-old Melbourne technology and design company Smart Works.

"About three years ago we decided that we should turn this into a fully fledged product as part of our business strategy, and that we could find channel partners to take that to the market," Warwick says.

That channel was other design businesses, which use the Komodo CMS toolkit to create Web sites, including in-built dynamic functionality like chat rooms or e-commerce, that their clients can edit and maintain themselves. The first version of the Komodo CMS was launched at the CeBIT Australia exhibition in May 2004. A second version is planned for release at this year's event.

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