



Success Story

National Retail Trade Association

Benefits

Allows the client to quickly and efficiently schedule appointments between attendees at large events considering individual preferences and time availability. Allows user to add or delete participants without modifying the schedule integrity of the remaining participants. Eliminated many hours of manual work and recalculations to generate a non-optimal solution.

See a message from Craig L. Fuller - President and CEO of NACDS (June 09, 2003) about the success of using this application for the first time.

<http://www.nacds.org/wmspage.cfm?parm1=4460>

Background

National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) needed a Meeting Scheduling Application that they could use to schedule appointments between buyers and sellers for their NACDS annual *Marketplace Conference*, held on an annual basis. This 2-day conference brings new products and vendors together with buyers for guaranteed pre-arranged appointments. Each Vendor indicates the products they are selling and ranks the products in matter of priority for individual meetings. Each Buyer indicates their products of interest. Eight thousand appointments needed to be scheduled between buyer and seller for a specific time block and a specific product.

See: http://meetings.nacds.org/conferences/nacds_main.cfm?page_id=4822

Our Solution

Profit Point designed and built a sophisticated conference scheduling application that permitted NACDS to optimally schedule thousands of sessions matching buyers and sellers based on scheduling constraints and product criteria. The application allows NACDS to match up 3,000 suppliers and buyers at their national retail conference each year.

Our Profit Scheduler for Meetings application uses a proprietary linear algorithm with user directed optimization parameter options and was designed to operate with a Microsoft Access Database under Microsoft Windows 2000 or Windows XP operating environment. Pre-defined data tables are loaded with the required data. The user runs the optimizer from a form in a Microsoft Access Database. Results are written back into a Microsoft Access table. Can be linked to a web-based reservation system.