



TopCoder Case Study

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Thecasesolutions.com Company Overview

- TopCoder was founded by Jack Hughes in 2001
- Headquarters in Glastonbury, Connecticut
- Crowdsource software development firm
- Development conducted via competitions
- Model is two sided: Client and Community

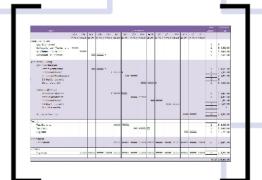
Thecasesolutions.com History/Timeline 2001 Founded 406,943 people registered at the TopCoder website 2005 Use of community to take on more complexity 50,000 members Acquired by Appirio Focus on completing all tasks via competitions Competitions for tasks previously done by Platform

The Competition Thecasesolutions.com

The two different types of competition:

- Algorithm
- Client software development









Strengths

- · High quality and less expensive software
- Reusable software components as value propositions
- Helps in completion of all tasks in software development
- · Top performers get good prize money
- · Objective assessment of ability

Threats

- Emergence of competitors with similar business concepts or service.
- · Loss of interest in projects.
- Holding more competitions than usual might result in inexperienced competing.

Thecasesolutions.com SWOT ANALYSIS

Weaknesses

- Active participants are low
- Prize money not evenly distributed among the community
- · Intellectual property and security
- · Cultural change
- · Participation depends on prize money

Opportunities

Clients

- Access to elite programmers throughout the world
- · Great Ideas.
- · Large options.

Programmers:

- · Build public reputation.
- · Enhance skill set, learn and improve
- · Good income for developing countries.

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Our Analysis



Positives

- Innovative and interesting business model: Competition, incentives, and reusable catalog components
- High software quality in low costs and less time.
- Good for both average and large software.

Negatives:

- · Bachelor's Sport.
- Good for developing countries but not as good for developed countries.
- Could be discouraging for companies with trade secrets and sensitive data.