

Case Studies



RateSetter.com Case Study



www.RateSetter.com

Using Aspose Words for .NET to generate contract documents for web delivery.

Paul Hughes, Developer, 26th October 2010

About RateSetter.com

RateSetter is an innovative new web-based consumer exchange which enables people to contract directly with one another to lend to and borrow from each other. RateSetter was set up to offer people an alternative to the regular banking system for their saving and borrowing needs. To become successful RateSetter's key challenge is to gain the trust of a material number of consumers, that trust can be created by longevity and good reputation but in the early days it depends on providing a seamless service of the same quality and substance that a bank can provide.

Problem

Given the nature of our business, the contracts which underpin each consumer transaction are absolutely crucial; these contracts need to be generated in a web environment but to look like a bespoke contract that has been generated by Microsoft Word rather than an html document. This is a function that needs to be automated and highly scalable. This was a business critical requirement because every transaction that goes through the RateSetter exchange requires its own personalised contract so it affects every customer experience.

Solution

We considered a number of options; from a styled HTML page rendered on demand, Microsoft Automation and even direct PDF editing. All were ruled out because of complexity and/or an incomplete feature set for our needs. Ideally we needed the simplicity of a Word document but create these documents entirely in server side code. So for this we looked for a 3rd party tool and Aspose was top of the list.



Lender money available £491,913

Borrower requests £37,112

Money matched £748,175

Welcome John

Log Out

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Lend direct to other people

Instead of lending your money to your bank, with RateSetter you lend it directly to other people (to get a better return on your money)

4.1% or 6.7%

(Rolling Monthly) (36 Months)

Returns available now (See [New Lender Offer](#))

Borrow direct from other people

Instead of borrowing from a bank, with RateSetter you borrow directly from other people (keeping the cost of borrowing down)

6.8% - 12.8%

APRs available now

RateSetting is easy...

£?

Decide how much you want to lend or borrow

⌚?

Decide how long you want to lend or borrow for

%?

Accept the best rate on offer, or set your own rate

%

We match you up

Figure 1. www.RateSetter.com home page

Your Loan(s)

| Loan Date | Loan Number | Market | Amount | APR | Balance | Action(s) |
|------------|---------------|---------------|--------|-------|---------|--|
| 20/10/2010 | L974214808891 | 36 Month Loan | £615 | 25.0% | £615 | View Repay |
| | | | £615 | | | |

Figure 2. A web page section where 'John' can view or download his contract document(s).

240204e7-2c25-4cee-a463-f23afaa79cd8[1].pdf - Adobe Reader

File Edit View Document Tools Window Help

1 / 4 75% Find

Loan Contract Schedule (Number L974214808891)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1. Date | |
| Date of the Agreements | 20/10/2010 |
| 2. Contact Details | |
| Creditor(s) | 1e74bab2-6a90-42ae-97e1-1e2ce4dcfc68 |
| Address | c/o RateSetter, Unit 327 Great Guildford Business Square, 30 Great Guildford Street, London SE1 0HS |
| Telephone Number | 0844 249 0115 |
| E-mail address | contactus@ratesetter.com |
| Web address | www.ratesetter.com |
| Credit Intermediary | Retail Money Market Limited |
| Address | Unit 327 Great Guildford Business Square, 30 Great Guildford Street, London SE1 0HS |
| Telephone Number | 0844 249 0115 |
| E-mail address | contactus@ratesetter.com |
| Web address | www.ratesetter.com |
| Supervisory Authority | Office of Fair Trading |
| Consumer Credit Licence Number | 633741 |
| Borrower | 353cd092-0f6e-42c8-8564-f133cbf6a10 |
| 3. Type of Credit | |
| The total amount of credit | £615.00 |
| How and when credit would be provided | The total amount of credit minus the RateSetter fee of £115 will be advanced to the Borrower's Nominated Bank Account on the working day following the date of the Agreement. |
| The duration of the credit agreement | 36 Months |
| Repayments | 35 payments of £19.92 followed by 1 final payment of £20.21 to be made as set out in the Repayment |

Figure 3. A sample contract page.

Experience

We had used Aspose products before and found them very easy to integrate into our .NET code. We immediately downloaded the latest version of Aspose Words for .NET and within an hour had generated our first test document. The degree of control we had over the structure and content of documents made development a breeze and soon we had our final document layout completed. In addition we also wanted to be able to allow the customer to open and download copies of these documents through the website, so the decision was taken to move the files into binary data for storage in our database - again Aspose made this easy; just a few lines of code changed and our document was now being pushed directly from point of generation into our database without ever touching the file system.

Summary

The cost of Aspose Words for .NET was repaid almost immediately by the time saved in developing our document solution. It is easy to get started and its .NET library makes creating and editing Word documents simple. Our contract documents now look polished and professional and are delivered to the customer in seconds - exactly what we wanted.

I can thoroughly recommend Aspose Words for .NET and on any future projects I will sure to use their products again.