How the City of Hoorn built a secure data portal under pressure

GEMEENTE HOORN

The City of Hoorn needed a secure data portal to coordinate and manage their social services--and they needed it fast. Betty Blocks helped the municipality continue to provide its citizens with the care and services they need, by building a fully secure and certified portal for confidential data. And all in record-breaking time.

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The Application

BB-Web: A secure data portal through which assignments can be sent to social services care providers, and care providers can send declarations back--all managed by the municipality.

Time crunch

When social services were decentralized in the Netherlands on January 1st of 2015, city governments and municipalities needed to prepare for an increase in social services management. One of the most important tasks was to develop a secure portal so that cities and care providers could exchange confidential information so that confidential messages would not be sent over e-mail. In late November of 2014, however, it became clear that the nationwide Municipal Information Hub (GGK-VECOZO portal) would not be ready in time for the change over. The City of Hoorn turned to Betty Blocks for a solution.

"During our first meeting in December, a working proof of concept was delivered. The desired results were ready after only two days, and the total application was ready before the end of the year."

Arnoud Huijgen
Senior Information Advisor, City of Hoorn

2 hours
to develop working proof of concept

8 days
total development to create the working portal

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Why Betty Blocks

There was an instant connection with Betty Blocks because entrepreneurship is one of the core values of Hoorn. But there was still some skepticism. "The proposition looked too good to be true. We would be able to develop our application 8 times faster, and without programming," said Arnoud Huijgen, Senior Information Advisor of the City of Hoorn. "We decided to give it a chance during a demonstration--we'll believe it when we see it!"
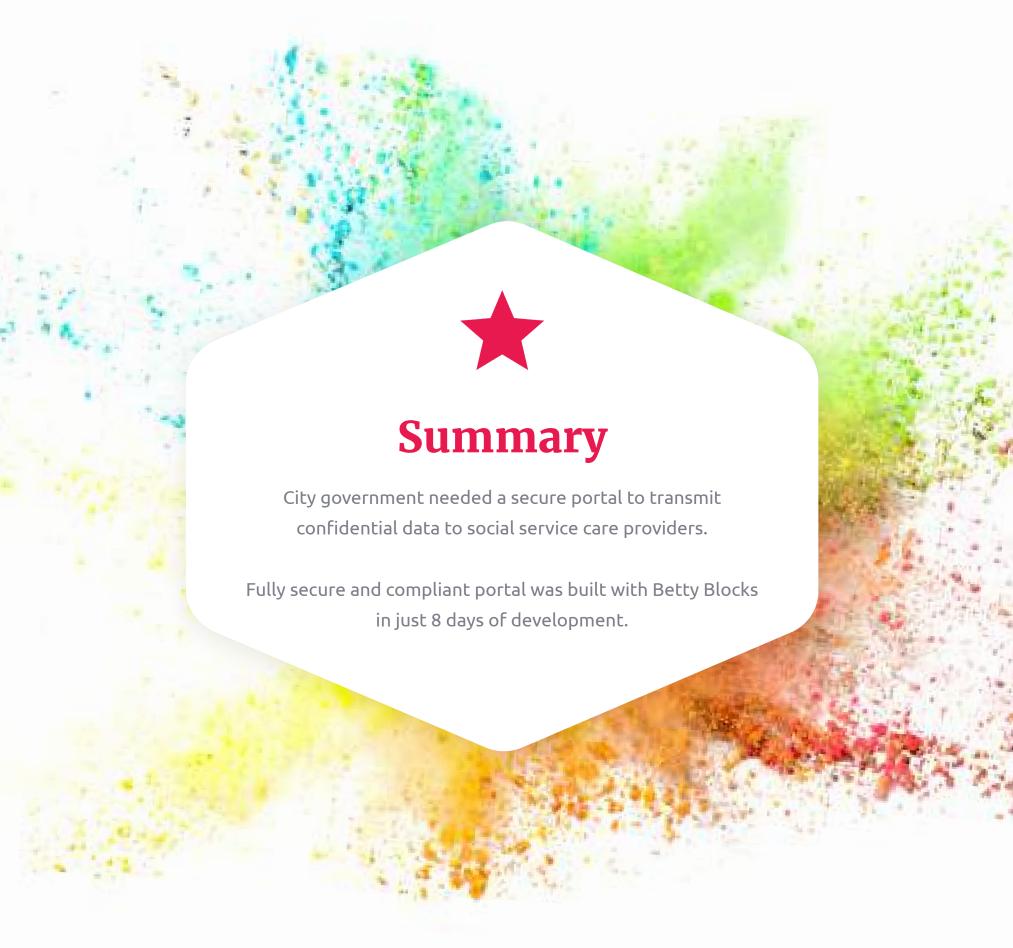
Results in two hours

During the initial meeting with Betty Blocks, the personal demo delivered a working proof of concept in just 2 hours. Arnaud was convinced, and the deal was sealed. Betty Blocks would build the city a secure data portal to stand in for the nationwide GGK-VECOZO portal.

To the rescue

The City of Hoorn and Betty Blocks built, tested, and implemented a portal, called BB-Web, in just 8 days of development total--leaving plenty of time to spare even with such an urgent deadline. Care providers could immediately exchange confidential messages with the municipality, assured of the security of their data. Assignments could be delivered to the care providers, who could then send back declarations--all according to iJW and iWmo standards.

High-quality partnership

The BB-Web portal also allowed other cities and municipalities (Koggenland and Opmeer) to connect with the portal, and Hoorn was able to successfully navigate the delay of the Municipal Information Hub without risking any sensitive data or violating iJW and iWmo standards. "We are very happy with this collaboration. We have made a mapping of other projects we want to automate as well!" says Arnaud.

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Summary

City government needed a secure portal to transmit confidential data to social service care providers.

Fully secure and compliant portal was built with Betty Blocks in just 8 days of development.

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Want to see how else Betty Blocks helps other cities?

Check out our [blog post](#) on using Betty Blocks to integrate CRM software with an API!

By 2023, anyone can build an application. The future of innovation lies in the hands of humans, not systems.

Inspired by how Betty Blocks helps Gemeente Hoorn innovate?

Find out more about no-code and Citizen Development by diving into our whitepapers

Check it out

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