

# **1 Modperl at the world's largest discount commodities trading firm.**

## 1.1 B. W. Fitzpatrick <fitz (at) onShore.com> exclaimed:

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30000 customers looking at live quotes, dynamic charts and news.  
"[...] More importantly, mod\_perl allowed us to work the webserver and code around our design--not the other way around."

> I'm looking for more mod\_perl success stories like the one that Jeff  
> posted the other day. They will be used for vignettes in an  
> introductory chapter of the book that Doug and I are writing. If you  
> have a story you'd like to share (particularly one in which mod\_perl  
> "defeats" one of its competitors) could you mail it to me or post it  
> to the list? For the vignettes we need some sort of identifying  
> information, either along the lines of "a major Southwestern  
> University" or "Kulturbox company of Berlin, Germany".

We just completed a website for Lind-Waldock & Co.  
(<http://www.lind-waldock.com/>), the world's largest discount commodities trading firm. The site is to be used by their customers (>30,000) for live and delayed quotes, dynamic charts, and news pertaining to the futures industry, as well as access to their online order entry system. The site will take quite a beating once all of their customers transition to it from Lind's previous Windows application--plenty of live and delayed data is auto-refreshed.

Scenario: Client needed to develop a website that could authenticate off their existing customer database, and many links needed to be dynamically generated to reflect the level of service that the customer subscribed to (this info also kept in the database). The customer area had to be SSL enabled, fast, and support a slew of Perl scripts that the quote vendor had already written. And of course, they needed the whole thing yesterday.

They already had Netscape Enterprise Server and we investigated some NSAPI solutions but were terribly disappointed with what Netscape had to offer. We did some tests and decided to run with Stronghold and mod\_perl. We wrote less than 10 lines of code to get the site authenticating off the database using Apache\_DBI and just a few more to handle the dynamic URL generation.

We began analysis on Dec 1, and delivered the completed site on Mar 4--with 2 weeks off for Christmas, no less! Two days after release, the site is averaging about 3 requests a second--and that is certain

to grow exponentially as more customers make the switch from the old Windows application.

More importantly, mod\_perl allowed us to work the webserver and code around our design--not the other way around.

-Fitz

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