

What is your business and what makes it successful?

Buda Consulting is a team of expert database developers and administrators that help companies manage mission critical data. We ensure that our clients data is secure, that their applications are fast and reliable, and that they stay compliant with regulations relating to data security, retention, and consumer notification.

Buda's customers include chemical manufacturers, financial institutions, food distributors, and health care providers, among others.

Buda's key services include:

- Database Architecture: Helping clients understand they type and number of database environments they need for their applications.
- Database Infrastructure management: Helping clients to design, implement, and manage the servers, operating systems, and storage they need for their databases, including IAAS or infrastructure as a service, also known as cloud infrastructure:
- Database Management : Managing databases on an ongoing basis to ensure that their mission critical applications have fast and reliable access to they data they need to operate their business. Weekly database health checks, space monitoring, backup validation, and performance tuning ensure that the data is always available and there are no surprises.
- Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity: The design and implementation of high availability databases and robust backup/recovery mechanisms to ensure minimal impact to critical business processes in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.
- Compliance Assurance: We ensure that the data is secure, available, and managed properly to help our clients comply with regulations from regulatory agencies ranging from the Office for Civil Rights (HIPPA) to the Occupational Safety and Health Organization (OSHA) and the the European Data Protection Board (GDPR).
- Application Development: We design custom applications for companies that need a specific application that is not available in the marketplace. Some applications that we have built include a specialized Material Safety Data Sheet application and an automated product regulatory review and customer notification system for two global chemical companies, a parts and supplies inventory management system for a large scale building contractor, and an application to manage funeral trusts for a financial institution.

Our team includes experts in the leading database management systems including Oracle, SQL Server and MySQL, database architecture and design, and infrastructure management including virtualization and cloud configuration management for cloud providers such as AWS and Azure.

What is your biggest lesson learned as an entrepreneur so far?

I always focused on serving our customers well. But I have learned recently that creating goals and tracking progress is critical. I ran my business for about 15 years before I started paying attention to running the business well in addition to serving our customers well. That change has made a significant difference in both revenue and profit. While we are still small, this change has also positioned us well for future growth because we now have a stable income stream rather than significant ebbs and flows.

What are your core values as an entrepreneur and how do they help drive you.

My most significant core value is to build strong, mutually beneficial relationships with our customers, employees, contractors, and vendors. I strive to make every interaction a positive one both during the interaction (friendly, helpful, humorous), and afterwards (that these interactions were worth our most valuable resource, time).

This helps drive me because knowing that every interaction will be positive makes it easy to want to go to work every day. I want my team members and customers to feel the same way.

What would people be surprised to learn about your industry?

The information technology (IT) field, and database technology in particular is changing very rapidly. Both the amount of data that we process, and the ways that we use it is expanding at a blinding pace. Significantly, many functions in IT are shifting to cloud technology and there is a perception that this will result in a decreasing the need for infrastructure experts and database experts, among others. In reality, the skills that are necessary to keep database-dependent application is both changing and growing as the use of cloud technology expands. My team is constantly building their skill set to make sure that we can help our customers as they make these changes.

Is there anything of a personal nature that you would like to share to help other EO NJ members get to know you better.

I have been married for 32 years and we have two children. We have a 24 year-old daughter who is a deaf-education teacher, and a 19 year-old son.

I have been a board member for 19 years of Project Freedom, a non-profit housing developer that builds homes for people with physical disabilities. I chaired the organization for six of this years and I am very passionate about helping to break down the barriers to a dignified, productive life for those with physical disabilities.

I serve on my town's (Robbinsville) zoning board. I am an avid (but poor) golfer and try to make as many Monday night poker games with the boys as I can.

What inspired you to join the NJ EO community.

I was introduced to EO NJ by EO member R.J. Lewis, who I had met through a business coach that I had been working with for a few years. After seeing the benefits of focusing on the business itself in addition to the work the business does, I knew that meeting on a regular basis with other small business owners would keep me focused on moving the business forward. It has not disappointed. I look forward to our sessions each month and the tidbits of wisdom shared by our EO coach Scott Peloquin.

Buda Consulting was founded in 1997 by Bob Buda. The main headquarters are in Hamilton Township, NJ.