- The majority of the examples in the book are used to develop one main application (ABC Canine Shelter Reservation System). As the book progresses, the application is built from the beginning, in stages, showing the reader that application development should be broken into stages. Only after each stage is completed and tested, can the next stage begin. This approach works hand in hand with multi-tier design. Additional programming exercises and a term project are provided to enhance the understanding of development.

- The creation of user, change, and error logs are introduced. This allows the reader to gain an understanding of how to provide backup and recovery ability to keep an application functioning properly when security breaches or exceptions occur.

- The introduction of data objects and the data tier demonstrates to the reader the importance of creating an application that provides the ability to change data storage techniques and data storage location without requiring a major rewrite of the application. XML, JSON, and MySQL examples are provided.

- A natural relationship between PHP, HTML5, CSS3, and JavaScript is demonstrated throughout the book. This relationship is one of the major strengths of PHP.

- Throughout the book, web links are provided to point the user to additional resources to help understand the material or to dig deeper into the subject matter. Updates to link locations are provided on the book's web site.

Special Note for Teachers

The design of the content of this book provides flexibility in teaching styles and approaches. Each college and university approaches the initial education of programming concepts in different ways. This book provides three different types of programming exercises, which allow teachers to pick and choose what would work best in their environment. "Do It" exercises are provided in each chapter to allow the student to gain hands-on experience with techniques shown by modifying existing examples to produce the desired results. These exercises provide a level of confidence before the student attempts to program exercises at the end of the chapters. In addition, a Term Project is provided that builds an application that uses the same types of algorithms and programming techniques shown in the book.

Teaching tools, including test banks, course outline, and PowerPoint slides are available for use from the book's web site and from apress.com.

Code Examples, Images, and Links

Every effort has been made to catch any errors in code (and grammar). Please let us know if/when you discover problems in this book. Please send all corrections to Steve Prettyman (steve_prettyman@hotmail.com).

All code examples, images, and links are available for download from apress.com and the following location. You can download code examples from either web site. Copying code from the book may cause errors due to format requirements for publishing.

Book's web site: www.littleoceanwaves.com/securephp/