

Government agency saves \$1 million with the help of Fujitsu Software NetCOBOL

The mission of the Washington State Department of Licensing (WADOL) is to ensure public safety and welfare in vehicle and driver services. In addition, it's responsible for the secure collection of over \$3.4 billion in revenue annually. To support its daily operations, WADOL relied on a mature set of applications running on a Unisys 2200 mainframe.

These applications, developed over 30 years, were comprised of close to 1.5 million lines of COBOL code, accessed thousands of files, large databases (DMS and RDMS), and hundreds of user interface screens, and were controlled by over 50,000 lines of job control language (Unisys' ECL and SSG).

Client

Washington State Department of Licensing (WADOL)

Industry

Government

Challenge

Update Unisys systems and convert 1.5 million lines of COBOL code to .Net platform

Solution

Adaptigent Distributed Fujitsu Software NetCOBOL



Challenge

WADOL's Unisys applications used a six-bit character set which limited the applications to all uppercase characters. WADOL knew it needed to improve its operations, but upgrading that proprietary Unisys environment to work with industry standard ASCII would involve an expensive transformation and increase costs by over \$500K annually. Furthermore, internal and external analysts were warning WADOL that its operations could be at serious risk if it delayed a replacement/migration plan. Fortunately, migrating from its current Unisys platform would solve several of the challenges it currently needed to overcome, including:

- Its mainframe was expensive to maintain—more so than Unisys PC Configurations.
- Usability, flexibility, and reporting were falling behind other platforms.
- Independent Software Vendors stopped developing add-on tools for the platform.
- Workarounds were cumbersome and created redundant work WADOL was anticipating a significant loss of Unisys expertise through retirement.

Solution

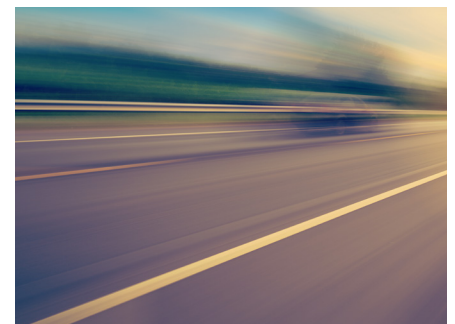
WADOL decided that the time had come to make the move from the Unisys mainframe to commodity hardware in the form of Windows-supporting computers. WADOL decided Adaptigent™ distributed Fujitsu Software NetCOBOL would give it the strongest technical feasibility, and hence the highest probability of success.

By using Fujitsu Software NetCOBOL, WADOL could maximize the use of its existing COBOL code, minimize changes, and consequently minimize risk. .NET was the target platform, and Adaptigent's NetCOBOL was the only COBOL compiler that actually produced .NET MSIL code and charged no runtime fees. The solution needed to:

- Migrate the remaining 35 Unisys based applications to Windows/SQL Server.
- Use .NET-compliant COBOL or Visual Basic.
- Perform the migration quickly with the lowest possible risk.
- Allow user interfaces and reports to retain their format, style, and navigation.
- Ensure all applications operated within an aggressive timeline.

“The beautiful part of the solution was the ability to take our current COBOL code, some which is over 20 years old, and remove the screen and data interfaces and port that to Windows using Fujitsu Software NetCOBOL without changing any of the business logic.”

-CIO, Washington State Department of Licensing



Results

To execute all the details of the proposed solution, Fujitsu Consulting provided teams of consultants already familiar with the Unisys and .NET environments. The key advantages of Fujitsu's approach was:

- Minimize source code changes (COBOL to COBOL).
- Reduce risk by preserving investment in the business logic.
- Use Fujitsu Software's NetCOBOL to generate native Microsoft.NET executables.
- Simplify maintenance, with no need to deploy client-side components.
- Eliminate the need and cost to upgrade client hardware.

The benefits were even more than what they had anticipated:

- Savings of over \$1 million per year in hardware and software.
- No runtime fees as charged by other vendors.
- Less dependence on outside contractors.
- Saved 3,000 hours of staff time annually.
- Better systems integration, removing awkward workaround processes.

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“By moving to this new platform, utilizing XML and Web Services we were able to interface with other platforms much more easily and cheaper than before.”

-CIO, Washington State Department of Licensing



Adaptigent empowers organizations to unlock the potential of their core systems to enable enterprise-level innovation. The company's products, led by Adaptive Integration Fabric, help IT organizations provide real-time, business-ready results by creating a dynamic, no-code layer that allows modern applications to access the full treasure trove of data trapped on legacy systems. Built on a 35+ year history of digital transformation expertise, it is trusted by many of the world's largest companies – Credit Suisse, AXA, Lockheed Martin and Caterpillar – to accelerate their IT modernization efforts.