

Accounting for a developing country

Industry: Government, Finance
Keywords: People, Process, Information, Connectivity, Re-use

Summary

A developing country's Department of Finance upgrades its bespoke accounting system to operate in today's server environments and continues to achieve substantial ROI and value creation as it achieves more than 20 years of productive life.

Business need

The Department of Finance has operated a bespoke accounting system for over 20 years, using Multibase's CL4 language and database. The system includes a Budgeting System, General Ledger System, and Payroll System. Originally deployed on NCR Tower servers with Unix System 5, the system was later implemented in 20 provincial sites and 39 national government department sites using SCO OpenServer Enterprise system. Over time this PC server and serial device technology became obsolete, and the Department decided to move the system from its legacy SCO OpenServer operating system to Red Hat Linux.

Key challenges

- Communications.
- Remote and often technically difficult locations in which the system is deployed.
- Ensuring that all required hardware and OS environments are in place.
- Providing as much automation as possible to enable very simple installation of CL4 and the application onto new servers.
- Integration remotely of peripherals such as network printing and CD drives.

Solution

Multibase developed CDs which contain RPM (Redhat Package Manager) software packages on RedHat Enterprise Linux 4 with interactive scripts to run the CD on each server to be upgraded. These contained CL4 (the application technology and database), and the applications in two versions. The scripts run the overall upgrade process, including detection of the correct application version to install, and identification from backup CDs to be created by the local server administrator of user information, databases and printer configurations for each server, for transfer to each new server.

Results

The system is upgraded successfully and continues to provide financial services for the nation. Confidence in the system and return on investment is such that the Department decides to make further upgrades to the system.

Customer information

The Department of Finance supports the Government of this developing country to achieve its economic and investment objectives by providing prudent management of the economy.

strategy
development
integration
support

Case study

make **IT** work harder
make **IT** cost less
make **IT** do better

multibase

There are only solutions.

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