



Fidelity Information Services



Business Problem:

Fidelity Information Services needed to improve developer productivity across geographical regions for one of its core banking applications while reducing development costs.

" Corebank is one of Fidelity's critical solutions. We needed to find a vendor that would enable us to host our mainframe development in a highly productive, cost efficient environment. Micro Focus was best able to provide our developers with the necessary tools that were low in cost while remaining highly sophisticated. "

[John W. Gordon, Executive Vice President, Fidelity Information Services, Leveraged Product Development, Core Banking and Integration Solutions]

customer success

Modernizes its Corebank development environment with Micro Focus

Micro Focus enables Fidelity Information Services to reduce mainframe costs while boosting developer productivity

Product Solution

Micro Focus Studio

- Revolve®
- Mainframe Express® Enterprise Edition

Overview

Fidelity Information Services [Fidelity] is one of the world's largest providers of technology solutions and processing services to the mortgage and financial services industries. Fidelity provides application software, information processing management, outsourcing services and professional IT consulting to the financial services and mortgage industries, including core banking applications, retail and consumer lending and servicing solutions, commercial lending, mortgage lending and servicing solutions, channel solutions and integration solutions.

Corebank is one of Fidelity's superior next generation, customer-centric, core processing solutions for large global banks. Corebank is a strategic banking application that supports a wide range of customer, product build, deposits, lending, and payment functionality for the retail banking environment. Corebank utilizes a relational database environment and is based on the IBM eServer zSeries platform and architectures.

Challenge – The Increasing Need for Speed

In the highly competitive banking industry, the ability to work on critical applications quickly is imperative. Corebank's mainframe production environments are extremely sophisticated as they provide vital functions for global banks; therefore, the development and test environment must also be powerful and responsive. Fidelity's developers work across London, Copenhagen, Bangkok and Bangalore and, because they are spread out, require a development environment which allows them to work both remotely and independently from one another.

However, the development and testing of applications on the mainframe can be both expensive and time consuming. Fidelity initiated a project to reduce mainframe dependence and looked for a way in which it could host its mainframe development and testing in a more cost-effective environment.

The Corebank solution has a sophisticated three-layer server code architecture that made analyzing the code using traditional methods extremely difficult. Fidelity evaluated its options and ultimately selected Micro Focus based on their sophisticated and low cost development tools, which were not available from other vendors.

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Solution

Through Micro Focus' Leverage and Extend solution, the Fidelity mainframe development and test environment was modernized using Micro Focus Studio (Revolve® and Mainframe Express® Enterprise Edition), resulting in greater efficiency, lower costs and increased agility.

Fidelity has an integrated development environment consisting of software configuration management tools and processes, and a set of integrated development environments for the different components of Corebank. Working with Mainframe Express Enterprise Edition, a unified environment for mainframe application development, Fidelity's developers are now able to perform analysis, compilation, debugging and unit testing of applications on local and remote workstations because the product allows more than 50 developers to work on a decentralized platform.

"Micro Focus has allowed us to work independently of one another extremely easily, and we have reduced the time it takes to develop code and therefore saved costs."

[Armen Badal, Manager, Fidelity Information Services, Corebank Build and Environments]

Team collaboration is provided by the multi-threaded development environment implemented for the Corebank development teams, and source control has been integrated with the development environment through standard interfaces. With Mainframe Express Enterprise Edition, the source code can be developed, compiled and tested by diverse teams in a collaborative and controlled way, without the need for a mainframe connection.

Results

Cost Savings and Developer Satisfaction

Using Micro Focus, the development work can now be executed efficiently and accurately using PC- and LAN-based resources. Not only does this allow the development team to develop new code and analyze existing code in order to fix defects, but it also removes the need for a constant uninterrupted connection to the mainframe as the developers work. This significantly saves costs by removing the risk of a 'single point of failure' which often occurs when developers are dependent on a mainframe connection for their productivity tools.

Ultimately, the modernized environment has helped accelerate development and maintenance efforts and has become an integral part of QA procedure, keeping all documentation up-to-date and managing impact analysis.

The project was a complete success; today Fidelity's Corebank developers can work on the entire mainframe application (on-line and batch) from their workstations. Entire teams can work independently, share code and make changes to the base code while maintaining system integrity through process control.

The development team cites the flexibility and ease of using Revolve and Mainframe Express Enterprise Edition as a major contributor to its overall satisfaction and productivity.

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Helping the Sales Force

Prior to the project undertaking, the Corebank product had required connection to a powerful mainframe environment in order for the sales force to give demonstrations to prospects, which lengthened the sales process. Following the completion of the project, Micro Focus enabled Corebank to be loaded directly onto a laptop so demonstrations can be made off-site at conferences, exhibitions and sales meetings.

Flexibility and Future Proofing

Using new COBOL features that provide larger data storage areas and support for data sharing using XML, Fidelity can provide more powerful solutions to its customers. Micro Focus is committed to provide leading edge legacy solutions to customers by aligning with new and emerging standards. This has ensured that Fidelity can develop and test code using new Enterprise COBOL syntax that will be compatible with its customers' mainframe environments.

About Fidelity Information Services

Fidelity Information Services (Fidelity), a division of Fidelity National Financial, is a leading provider of technology solutions, processing services and information services to the financial services and real estate industries. Fidelity software processes nearly 50 percent of all U.S. residential mortgages, it has processing and technology relationships with 35 of the top 50 global banks, including 9 of the top 10, and over 2,000 clients in more than 60 countries who rely on its processing and outsourcing products and services. More information about Fidelity Information Services can be found at www.fidelityinfoservices.com.

Micro Focus – Unlocking the Value of Legacy™

Micro Focus is a leading provider of legacy development and deployment software for enterprise platforms. Micro Focus enables organizations to reduce costs and increase agility with minimal risk by reusing their legacy applications with contemporary architectures and Web services. Founded in 1976, Micro Focus is a global company with principal offices in the United Kingdom, United States and Japan. For more information, visit www.microfocus.com.

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