eCube: fast starters

How VisiBroker enabled innovation

AT A GLANCE: eCUBE SYSTEMS

How VisiBroker provides the best solution for eCube Systems

As eCube Systems – specialists in middleware modernization – will confirm, speed is the key to development, especially on application start-up. eCube needed a high performance, enterprise-class solution and support from an enterprise-class vendor, familiar with large legacy systems.

SOLUTION

• VisiBroker®

CHALLENGE

eCube Systems specializes in CORBA, Entera/RPC-style middleware among other legacy and middleware technology platforms. It extends the life of valuable, more established enterprise applications. eCube’s NXTminder is a commercial product that manages distributed services. It tracks an application’s operational elements, improves application awareness and removes the complexity of using and maintaining operational scripts.

But eCube needed a more robust ORB. Having used an open source, Java-based, ORB (JacORB), which only adequately met its business needs – and made its NXTminder product seem ‘sluggish’ – eCube wanted a faster, more responsive ORB which could support its C++ development needs as well as Java. eCube Systems hoped a commercial ORB would deliver more sophisticated exception handling than the open source ORB. This has in turn reduced overhead and allowed eCube Systems to spend more resources on innovation.

The solution was Micro Focus’ Common Object Request Broker Architecture (CORBA), VisiBroker. VisiBroker enables organizations to develop, connect and deploy high performance, reliable and complex distributed applications. Having used it before and recommended it to other customers, eCube Systems knew that VisiBroker was a battle-tested ORB: "VisiBroker is a proven CORBA implementation", says Peter Marquez, Senior Partner Sales and Marketing at eCube Systems.

URL: www.ecubesystems.com
Industry: Software
Country: USA

HIGHLIGHTS

• Fast start-up time
• Responsive support organization
• Robust – tried and tested technology
• High performance
• Sophisticated debugging features
• Supports the widest range of hardware, operating systems and compilers

"VisiBroker’s start-up time is a differentiator and the competitive edge that we need to succeed."

Peter Marquez,
Senior Partner, Sales and Marketing,
eCube Systems
Speed is crucial

eCube implemented VisiBroker as the application infrastructure for NXTminder with confidence, knowing that VisiBroker makes it possible to focus on solving business problems rather than technical issues: “We wanted to solve business problems, not work on the plumbing,” explains Marquez.

Embedding VisiBroker in NXTminder greatly enhanced application responsiveness while adding intelligence and resilience to the system. “VisiBroker’s start-up time is a differentiator and the competitive edge that we need to succeed. If embedded middleware makes an product clumsy or slow to initialize and start up, customers notice this,” says Marquez.

“VisiBroker is a great tool to use in a product – it just works.”

Kevin Barnes,
Managing Partner,
eCube Systems

Application start-up speed is crucial to user satisfaction—and wait time is costly because it lowers the user’s opinion of a product. VisiBroker’s rapid start-up time was a crucial factor in eCube’s selection of VisiBroker “It makes NXTminder more responsive”, says Kevin Barnes, Managing Partner (Operations Professional Services) at eCube Systems. “On initialization, VisiBroker is far and away faster than any other ORB.”

A path to the future

Because VisiBroker is commercially supported by Micro Focus, eCube Systems now has the confidence to take its NXTminder product into new markets without worrying about infrastructure or platform support issues. Adding VisiBroker has also enabled eCube Systems to expand its expertise into the C++ market. On reflection, Barnes comments: “VisiBroker is a great tool to use in a product – it just works.”

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Peter Marquez,
Senior Partner, Sales and Marketing,
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