Using Visual COBOL within our modernization project, has given us unrivaled application platform stability, improved customer satisfaction and significant cost savings. Visual COBOL was the right choice for our business.”

Alejandro Wyss,
CIO, Caja de Valores S.A.
CAJA DE VALORES: FUTURE PROOFING BUSINESS APPLICATIONS WITH VISUAL COBOL

Visual COBOL improves application availability and performance

A new platform for business
This investment management application portfolio consisted primarily of a complex stock and bond trading system but also contained several other business modules including custody, registration, transfer, settlement, matching engine, and investment accounts. This large trading portfolio consumed nearly 400 MIPS (Millions of Instructions per Minute) of processing capacity on the Bull mainframe. Ongoing maintenance, resources, and costs to support this mainframe platform had proven to be increasingly difficult. Caja de Valores wanted a more flexible architecture which would allow for reduced operational costs, but also establish a strong position against which to modernize for the future. Visual COBOL gave Caja de Valores the ability and choice it needed to address today’s challenges while looking to the future.

Optimizing business operations
After the application re-platform effort was complete, one of the very first benefits noted was the improved availability and stability of the new environment, as Wyss comments: "In the last fourteen (14) months, we experienced less than two minutes of downtime in total, which is just amazing compared to our previous application environment. Through our testing, this new environment, under Visual COBOL, also saw faster transaction processing speeds, with improvements as high as two to three times their original levels. These performance advancements in our application portfolio have revolutionized the way in which we work and service our customers. These efficiency improvements have allowed us to reduce our overnight batch processing window and its associated costs.”

Savings and re-investment
In addition to its application performance and stability improvements, Caja de Valores also realized IT cost savings of 70%. These savings were reinvested into the business to begin modernizing its trading application portfolio. Caja de Valores used a portion of these funds to purchase a package solution offered by the London Stock Exchange which will replace the current trading subsystem. The remainder of its savings will be applied to modernizing the remaining investment modules.

A modern development environment for the future
An additional benefit derived from this application re-platform project was the opportunity to utilize a more modern development environment. As the development staff gain more experience and confidence using the new environment Caja de Valores sees an increase in developer efficiency. Our team is very excited about the new development tools and its functionality. It is utilized every day to maintain and support the trading application portfolio.

The new environment sets Caja de Valores up for the future, according to Wyss: “Thanks to Visual COBOL, we are now able to plan a progressive and integrated modernization strategy. This solution will serve as the foundation and connection point, integrating existing COBOL business modules with future developments using modern programming languages. The latest and most important example of this new architecture is the recently released Java based FIX protocol gateway; which allowed us to open a modern and up-to-date service point to access our stock market”.

Wyss concludes: “Using Visual COBOL within our modernization project has given us unrivaled application platform stability, improved customer satisfaction and significant cost savings. Visual COBOL was the right choice for our business.”

About Micro Focus
Micro Focus, a member of the FTSE 250, provides innovative software that allows companies to dramatically improve the business value of their enterprise applications. Micro Focus Enterprise Application Modernization, Testing and Management software enables customers’ business applications to respond rapidly to market changes and embrace modern architectures with reduced cost and risk.

Contact us at: www.microfocus.com
© 2013 Micro Focus Limited. All rights reserved. MICRO FOCUS, the Micro Focus logo, among others, are trademarks or registered trademarks of Micro Focus Limited or its subsidiaries or affiliated companies in the United Kingdom, United States and other countries. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.
sCSCVSA1013

"After moving to Visual COBOL, we saw faster transaction processing speeds, with improvements as high as two to three times their original levels. These performance advancements in our application portfolio have revolutionized the way in which we work and service our customers, reducing our overnight batch processing window and its associated costs.”

Alejandro Wyss,
CIO, Caja de Valores S.A.