



URL: www.tib.dk
 Industry: Trade Union
 Country: Denmark



Træ-industri-byg (TIB)

TIB migrates mission-critical application from mainframe to Windows and cuts IT costs by 70%

Challenge

Træ-industri-byg (TIB), the Danish timber industry and construction workers' union, found its mainframe-based solution was severely impairing its ability to deliver improved services to members. TIB recognized the need to migrate the critical unemployment fund system, containing IMS databases (IMS/DB), onto Windows.

Solution

- > Micro Focus Studio™ Enterprise Edition
- > Micro Focus Server™ Enterprise Edition

Træ-industri-byg (TIB)

Træ-industri-byg (TIB) is a Danish trade union for 62,000 construction professionals. Its focus is on continually improving the working conditions of its members and negotiating general collective agreements for them. TIB is a member of the Danish Confederation of trade unions (LO), which dates back 100 years. The largest trade union confederation in Denmark, LO is regarded as the most representative workers' organization in both the private and the public sectors.

Moving platforms to deliver service improvements

TIB was the last Danish union to run on the mainframe-based unemployment fund system specifically developed for trade unions also known as ARKE. This meant that the union had to cover all operational and development costs for the system. The old system was based on an IBM z/Os mainframe (100 MIPS) running CICs using IMS and DB2 databases. The ARKE application was developed in COBOL.

"ARKE has been a good and reliable system for TIB for many years, but back in 2008 we decided that it was time for a change and started searching the market for alternatives to our mainframe platform," says Jan Lehmann, CIO at TIB.

In his search for alternatives Jan came across Micro Focus, with a solid track record of application modernization and migration projects similar to TIB's needs. This made Micro Focus the natural choice for the task.

Highlights

- > IT costs reduced by 70%
- > ROI achieved in under 18 months
- > Improved member services
- > Flexible, cost-effective Windows platform

"Microsoft and Micro Focus have successfully migrated TIB's mission critical application into the agile and enterprise capable Microsoft application platform, allowing the union to save resources to be reinvested in the welfare of its members."

Director Platform Modernization,
Microsoft

“These projects were implemented successfully but they were not specifically unemployment fund systems. We insisted that it should run on a virtual platform because of the ability to manage capacity. Micro Focus assessed that it would not be an issue and then we initiated the migration project,” Jan Lehmann explains.

Besides reducing its IT costs and gaining greater operational flexibility, TIB wanted an IT platform that focused on the needs of its members. “Our most important stakeholder is our member. So naturally we have our members in mind in everything we do, and we strive to improve the service to our members and to refine our products and performance on an ongoing basis,” continues Lehmann.

Applications fully migrated to Windows

Micro Focus took full responsibility for managing the project, agreeing on a realistic timeframe with TIB for completing the migration and software delivery. The project was fully implemented within a year, with TIB’s current applications migrated from the mainframe to a Windows platform. TIB selected the Windows platform for its operational stability and extendibility that the system required. In addition, Windows is easier to manage for an organization the size of TIB.

“For the users, the approach to the system is the same as before. It is the same user interface, so we have not spent extra resources on education. This is a significant advantage for the entire project.”

Jan Lehmann,
CIO at TIB

Significant benefits returned, with minimal change and risk

The project resulted in cost savings of 70% of the overall IT operations and showed a return on investment within just 18 months. It also modernized TIB’s business-critical applications and simultaneously provided the foundation for a continuous improvement to the services TIB offers to its members.

“For the users, the approach to the system is the same as before. It is the same user Interface, so we have not spent resources on education. This is a significant advantage for the entire project. In addition, as an extra bonus, the users have gotten new features, which they have wanted for quite some time,” Jan Lehmann concludes.

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.

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“Micro Focus has a proven track record of successful modernization projects, we are delighted that the migration was completed successfully and that the work was delivered within a well-defined timeframe,” says the General Manager for Micro Focus in Northern Europe.