SOFRECOM successfully modernises its Gaïa application from Forms version 6i to version 10g with PITSS.CON

Customer: SOFRECOM

Industry: Telecommunications

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"We looked at PITSS.CON straight away as a solution for the rapid, inexpensive and reliable migration of our Gaïa application in Oracle Forms to a web version. We then realised that we can profit from a significant number of additional functions, such as the Maintenance module for all our future improvements and the Multilingual module for the dynamic translation of our Gaïa application into target languages."

Patrice Cand, Architecture and Software Integration Manager, Information Technology Solutions Department at SOFRECOM's software engineering facility

Customer profile

SOFRECOM, a fully-owned subsidiary of France Télécom, operates in several countries worldwide, marketing software products right across the globe. SOFRECOM has unique expertise in the domain of information and communication technologies. With a thousand staff and customers in over 100 countries, it reinvests 20 % of its turnover in innovation, research, development and training. SOFRECOM markets the range of Gaïa products, a suite of logical and sophisticated software and billing and customer service tools geared towards telecomms operators. The tools cover the entire process for all types of operator in terms of information systems. SOFRECOM is among the very first French companies in the domain of IT to be CMMI-certified. SOFRECOM also provides advice on communications networks, IT strategy and marketing.

Project:

Migration of 915 forms and 385 reports from 6i to Forms web 10g

"We chose PITSS.CON to modernise our Gaïa tool because it is a particularly well-structured and organised instrument. Consequently, it has a significant capacity for documentation and storage capability for the entire history of the application, right down to the most detailed code. What's more, thanks to PITSS.CON's impact analysis function, we are able to make whatever changes we like to our application on a wholesale basis, with complete ease and speed."

Abderrahmane Arfa, Quality, Process and CMMI Manager in the Information Technology Solutions Department at SOFRECOM's software engineering facility

Initial position

? At SOFRECOM, the main priorities for customer satisfaction are quality, performance and the stability of its Gaïa software packages. This is why the Gaïa software suites were developed with Oracle Forms right from the start. In order to secure its investment and ensure the quality of its products, while at the same time being able to add new, up-to-date functions, SOFRECOM was looking to migrate Gaïa to the very latest version, WEB 10g.

Challenge

! SOFRECOM's goals were ambitious in terms of deadlines. The main challenge was to be able to migrate the application in a very short space of time but at the same time at the best possible price and without any dips in performance or quality. SOFRECOM asked PITSS to carry out the migration of its Gaïa application, including more than 900 Forms 6i (character and graphics modes) and 385 reports, to 10g - as well as integrating the preparation of translation tables in numerous languages.
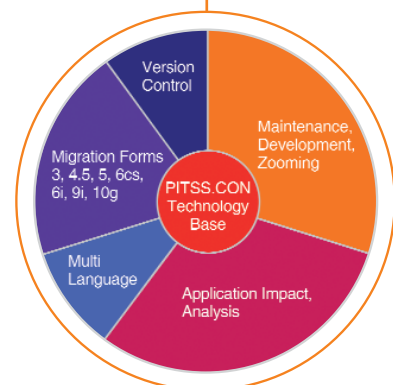
Solution

= The migration project, which included re-engineering tasks such as changing the coordinates system, the addition of alerts, the modification of DB references, ergonomic adjustments, the link-up of libraries and the preparation of translation tables for externalisation and assisted testing, took 15 days with PITSS.CON. Some 11 extra days were commissioned for additional application maintenance tasks, such as suppressing dead code, "embedded" translations and the attachment of PLL. Finally, SOFRECOM was able to gauge the full power of the PITSS.CON tool's Maintenance module for its future improvements. The firm also adopted the dynamic translation module as a standard tool for Gaïa. SOFRECOM anticipates using the extremely powerful impact analysis module, one that performs particularly well for Forms and Reports applications, in order to make changes to the application on a wholesale, reliable and rapid basis.

Project Planning

- ✔ 15 days for the migration, re-engineering, preparation of translation tables and assisted testings
- ✔ 5 days for additional re-engineering tasks
- ✔ 3 days for the modification of reports, with the attachment of PLLs
- ✔ 3 days to remove previous translations

Project data
Version of FORMS: 6i
Number of FORMS: 915
Number of Reports: 385
Project term: 15 days
OS: Unix AIX 5.3, Solaris 10,
HP UX 11i
DB: 9i, Version IAS 1.0.2.2

Objective
To modernise to Forms web 10g in a very short space of time and at the lowest cost possible

Results
Ultra-fast migration, plus the ability to trace improvements and updates to the application with PITSS.CON

Version Control
Maintenance, Development, Zooming
Migration Forms 3, 4.5, 5, 6cs, 6i, 9i, 10g
PITSS.CON Technology Base
Multi Language
Application Impact, Analysis

PITSS GmbH

PITSS GmbH is the leading supplier of complete IT solutions for effectively managing Oracle FORMS applications. PITSS is an Oracle Certified Advantage Partner and works on projects in Europe, USA and Asia.

ORACLE CERTIFIED ADVANTAGE PARTNER

PITSS.CON

The innovative PITSS.CON software supports companies to quickly and cost-effectively analyse, migrate, develop and maintain Oracle FORMS applications.