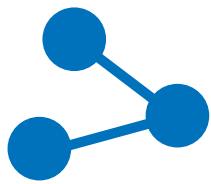




Duty stamp management information system



Re-implementing and integrating legacy applications for tax collection

The client is the Czech national authority responsible for collection and administration of customs and excise duties. It has a very complex organizational structure including individual directorates, tens of offices and branch offices with many employees dispersed throughout all the regions of the Czech Republic

The project

The project was aimed at development of an information system which stores data of the agendas of tobacco producer registrations, management of tobacco pricing requests and final price publication, and administration of tobacco label identification and ordering processes all in compliance with current legislation.

The goal of the project was to replace a legacy software with a modern enterprise-wide solution, integrated with other client systems in tax collecti-

on, e.g. for invoicing, accounting, or document exchange, while respecting client specific requirements on the software implementation process and technology used.

The challenge

Proprietary legacy desktop applications were used in one client's office, which did not allow concurrent multi-user access, did not integrate with other applications and e.g. statistical reports were sent to the directorates with delays. It was also difficult to perform any review of the proper execution of the process at the local office.

Maintenance and further development became very serious issues. With much experience in implementing a similar information system for the labeling of spirits, we succeeded with our proposed solution to these problems. During re-implementation we faced the problem of understanding

undocumented legacy applications with very limited support.

We became the leader in the integration activities with other client systems and applications and we suggested and negotiated the necessary interfaces and interface changes with other client suppliers.

Solution

The final system enabled the replacement of the legacy applications completely. Thanks to integration, it further automated selected internal work-flow processes.

The final architecture includes an ASP.NET web-based user interface integrated into a MS SharePoint portal supporting several user roles and scope roles with many input forms, backed by a complex MS SQL Server database. It is equipped with complex integration interfaces with other systems based on web service technology.

In addition, it provides complex searching functionality as well as a variety of printable reports in PDF format including official legal documents, and it allows automating the input of orders and requests by tobacco producers via importing MS Excel forms. User authentication utilizes a single sign-on support of Active Directory. New data is validated at input based on newly defined and implemented business rules. Original data was transformed, cleansed and migrated into the new system.

Results

After deployment of the system and solving additional

client requests we have succeeded in providing a reliable solution, which makes client processes more efficient and enables additional cost reductions by work optimization.

The officers no longer need to wait on each other when accessing the system, in principle, it can be used from any office with up-to-date process-based as well as statistical data available on-line at the decision-makers desks, where appropriate measures can be taken to solve any standing issues.

The solution can be managed and monitored at a single point together with other client information systems,

and the transaction data is ready to be further utilized in the client data warehouse. As a result and as an additional very important benefit, with improved support for timely decisions, the client is able to make the overall collection of tobacco excise duty more efficient ■

About CERTICON

For more than 14 years, CERTICON has been improving the competitiveness of our clients around the world. CERTICON's solutions comprise the full spectrum of services and solutions in software development and quality-assurance verification testing. Our experience in the fields of medical and mission-critical applications and high-tech industrial applications enables us to harness the best practices and solutions for the clients. CERTICON designs, develops, rapid-prototypes and deploys sophisticated software solutions. Our projects and solutions cross medical and industrial domains by leveraging state-of-the-art methodologies and technologies

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