



Major Oil & Gas Company Web-based Pricing System

Moving mission critical applications from the mainframe to an internet-based environment

Case Study

Challenge

A recent corporate decision was made to move all existing applications from the Mainframe to a Client/Server or internet environment. The existing pricing system enabled retailers to respond quickly to market price changes and was critical to the success and profitability of the retailers. It was necessary to move the application to a client/server or Internet/Intranet environment without loss of functionality and performance.

Solution

Current staff of Echelon had previously led the introduction and successful implementation of new client/server technologies for this client. After a comprehensive proof of concept, a decision was made to build the new applications with internet technologies.

The team created an extensive application framework to enable the rapid construction of application functions. This framework has been leveraged throughout the organization to enhance the speed and consistency of future applications. The project team's responsibilities on this project included Project Management, Technical Architecture, Application Architecture, Database Design, Application Design, Data Conversion, Application Development, System Testing, System Documentation, Implementation, User Training, and Knowledge Transfer.

Results

Following are quotes from the client at project wrap-up:

"...Thanks to a coordinated effort the transition from the old system to the new system was amazingly smooth. This is (the client's) first intranet based system, another first for Retail. New technology was built from the ground up in a totally new environment and the computers at our price centres across Ontario were replaced. Thanks to the diligent efforts and patience of (staff), two million rows of data was cleansed and converted. All this and on "cutover" Monday, there was no squeak.

"This was the biggest 'non-event' that (the client) has ever had. This is a credit to the development team. In the systems world if you don't hear anything, things have gone extremely well.

... I would especially like to thank the team for all of their hard work, effort and extra hours whenever required... I feel that we built a great relationship."