

Case Study: Legacy migration - VB to VB.NET

The Client:

A Financial major

Client Situation

Since its inception, the client has been using a large-scale application developed with VB6.0. The software was responsible for dealing with employees, payroll, insurance, and bonds. However, as the business grew, more functionalities needed to be added to existing application, adding to the continuous slowdown of system performance apart from raising maintenance cost and time.

Solution

The client decided to migrate from VB6 into a .NET framework. The main idea behind the migration was to enhance system performance and optimize workflow management. Using the advanced functionalities offered by .NET, the client would be able to provide redefined and high quality business solutions to serve its end users better.

Deliverables

Infomatics Consultants were responsible for the complete migration from VB6.0 to VB.NET. This involved business detailed requirement analysis, design, and deployment of the system on the new server.

Deliverables by Infomatics Consultants included:

- Transplantation of the existing system on another framework
- Optimization of business logic for the existing legacy system
- Inclusion of additional functionalities to the existing legacy system

The new application was built on a customized .NET framework in a three-tier model consisting of the business logic, presentation, and database. The advantage of the three-tier system was better scalability without hampering performance.

Approach

A team of developers, with a commendable experience in VB.NET was given total responsibility of the migration. The project commenced with a comprehensive training of developers to understand the current system. Although time-consuming, the training was necessary to ensure a successful completion of the project.

System migration did not allow the developers to shut down the existing legacy system, as this would affect the ongoing business operations of the client.

- The migration project was carried out by the client and Infomatics Consultants simultaneously. To enable this, Infomatics Consultants set up a development server on the client network so that coordination becomes easier and source codes remain protected.
- At the end of 90 man months of continuous efforts, the migration was successfully implemented.

Benefits

- The whole legacy system migration was made possible at a fraction of the cost, as compared to onshore system migration, with the majority of the work carried out in India.
- With experienced personnel on the job, flexible implementation process was made possible.
- Extensive documentation created as a part of the migration project, for ease of future development and maintenance efforts.