



## **CONSIST PROJECT REFERENCE**

### ***Logistics supersized – Migration per Big Bang***

#### **The story in brief**

Logistics per se is an exhausting business. Anyone playing host to the world's largest container ships is moving at a very special level in international goods traffic. Core applications that have to be administered throughout the entire European container volume have to meet some especially tough requirements.

An application of this nature, which had previously been working on the basis of Natural and Adabas, had to be converted to Oracle in a massive migration project recently – and with just a six-month turnaround. At the same time, the logistics company entrusted Consist with bringing the

underlying operating system up to a new version that was consistent throughout the enterprise.

During the whole migration project, the performance of the core application, database, and operating system together had to be ensured. In addition, the system would only be able to move into production in a „Big Bang.“ Because operations in the container terminal would only be stopped for that one single day.

One advantage for this extremely time-critical project was the fact that Consist has extensive experience in Big Bang production cut-overs from

a variety of migration and porting projects. The go-live went fine – on time and within budget, on the date planned. The project's success also had the fact to thank that the performance of the application wasn't simply maintained, but was actually improved based on the new Oracle database and the new infrastructure. It was also possible now to program new software components in Java with access to the Oracle database system, which previously weren't so simple based on the Adabas database.



### The task

- ◆ Replacement of the Adabas DBMS by migrating to Oracle, without changing the custom application written in Natural
- ◆ Additional migration of the central application with all its batch processes and shell scripts from Solaris to Linux

### The challenge

- ◆ Optimizing data performance: the data model underlying the Adabas database was not optimized for an RDBMS. It would still be essential to ensure the performance of the application.
- ◆ Tight schedule: conversion of the application to Oracle within just six months
- ◆ Downtime was outright impossible: putting the system into production could only happen by „Big Bang“. There were only two possible dates within the project period that were feasible, sin-

ce they were the only dates on which operations would be shut down in the port.

### The solution with Consist

- ◆ Intensive advance planning and prior quality assurance by the project team, consisting of specialists (project lead and application experts from the customer) and the specialists from Consist (project manager and migration specialists) by setting benchmarks
- ◆ Replacement of the interface between Natural and Adabas, so that all direct Adabas commands would automatically be converted to SQL queries against Oracle with no changes to the application
- ◆ Migration of the entire development and runtime environment from Solaris to Linux
- ◆ Project carried out at a fixed price

### Particular strengths of Consist

- ◆ Outstanding expertise in time-critical migration and porting projects
- ◆ Know-how in all the technologies used
- ◆ Completion of project on time and within budget

### Customer advantages

- ◆ Standardization thanks to a consolidated database landscape
- ◆ Cost savings by eliminating the license costs for the Adabas DBMS
- ◆ Modernization due to the possibility of programming new software components in Java with access to Oracle
- ◆ A performance increase after completion of the migration project, demonstrated by benchmarks and in practice

**CONSIST**  
Business Information Technology

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