

IBM Software Group

2004 WDI / WBIC Customer Conference Global Business Transformation

Migrating to WDI 3.2 on Win2k

WebSphere. software

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Objectives

- Who are we?
- Why WDI 3.2? Why Windows? Why DT maps?
- How did we plan to do it?
- What did we actually do?
- Where we are now?
- When will it all end?



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HAGEMEYER*

Hagemeijer & Co. was established in the former Dutch East Indies (now Indonesia) in 1900. Today, Hagemeyer N.V. is headquartered in Naarden, Netherlands (near Amsterdam). The company has 22,000+ employees serving more than a million customers in 37 countries worldwide. Hagemeyer North America, Inc. (HNA), A wholly owned subsidiary of Hagemeyer N.V., is a wholesale distributor focusing on business-to-business markets in electrical, safety, and industrial products and services throughout North America. HNA's 4900+ associates serve more than 100,000 customers from approximately 500 locations.



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Our environment when we started

- Hagemeyer acquisitions in the U.S.
 - > 1999–2000 Hagemeyer N.V. acquired 4 U.S. companies
- Cameron & Barkley Co. (CamBar) ~55% of HNA sales
 - > OS/390 in-house ERP DI 2.1 translator
 - > 20%-40% of business transactions EDI
- Vallen Safety Supply ~35 % of HNA sales
 - > AS/400 in-house ERP Harbinger TLE translator
 - > 20%-30% of business transactions EDI
- Tri-state Electrical Supply ~8% of HNA sales
 - > AIX package ERP minimal EDI
- Allied Electrical ~2% of HNA sales
 - > AIX modified package ERP No EDI





Hagemeyer Global Solution (HGS)

- One ERP Movex ERP on AS/400 platform
- Multiple instances (3 OR 4) in Europe, Australia, and the U.S.
- "Bolt-on" solutions for:
 - > Warehousing/logistics
 - E-Commerce (web)
 - > EDI
 - Business intelligence
- Phased migration by Operating Company





Major events in the timeline

- 2001
 - Hagemeyer acquisitions in the US, Canada, and Mexico formally combine into Hagemeyer North America, Inc. (HNA)
 - Still operating on separate ERP systems as semiindependent operating companies (OpCos)
 - HNA OpCos sent associates to the Netherlands to participate on Hagemeyer Solution Teams (HST) developing and implementing the Hagemeyer Global Solution (HGS)





Major events in the timeline (continued...)

- 2002 (1st half)
 - EDI HST reported that the HGS for EDI will not satisfy HNA requirements without a lot more work
 - HNA decided to build HNA specific EDI solution

HNA does more than twice as much EDI as the rest of Hagemeyer combined. We hoped we could "sell" our solution to the rest of Hagemeyer when we were done.

- Movex is still the target ERP
- 2002 (2nd half)
 - Hagemeyer put the entire HGS project "on hold"
 - HNA decided to migrate all US OpCos to one of our existing legacy systems (project Unite) – ERP target unknown
 - > HNA budget for HGS is re-allocated to project Unite





Major events in the timeline (continued...)

- 2003 (1st half)
 - Unite target ERP selected CamBar system with mods
 - Phased migration by customer segment and geography
- 2003 (2nd half)
 - Project Unite postponed until 2005
 - Migration to common EDI solution continued
 - > Multiple target ERP systems
 - > First transactions using the new infrastructure go live
 - New XML based transactions
 - Budget allocated to HGS/Unite project ran out 12/31/03





Major events in the timeline (continued...)

2004

- HNA reorganizes EDI support resources into ecommerce Systems team
- First migrated transactions go live July 1, 2004
- > Goal
 - Complete Vallen migration in 2004
 - Complete CamBar migration in 2005
 - Unite project may have eliminated the other systems by then





Why we chose WDI 3.2

- Familiarity we've been using DI since 1992
- Ease of migration from DI 2.1?
- Ease of future migration?
- IBM Patterns for e-Business
- IBM decision to include DI in WebSphere family
- Performance
- Support for older EDI standards
 - > TRADACOMS, ODETTE, UCS, X.12 V2R0
- Support for new XML standards
 - > OAGIS BODs, Commerce 1 xCBL, Rosettanet
- MQSeries support





Why we chose Windows

- Uncertainty about future ERP platform
 - S/390, AS/400, Unix? Some combination?s
 - Everything now has a Windows client
- Need to extend the life of our S/390
 - Delayed implementation of replacement system
 - Projected business growth through 2007
- Lack of AIX expertise and experience
- Performance seemed adequate
- Breadth of tools available
- Earlier release of new code
- Low entry cost





Why we chose Data Transformation maps

- IBM told us to...
 - Easier future migrations
 - Better WebSphere integration
 - > Don't have to learn both mappers
- Better XML support
- Any to any (almost)
- Redesigning data formats
 - > XML Hagemeyer Business Message (HBM)
 - > We were going to re-map everything anyway
- We liked the mapper better.





What we thought we were going to do...

- Create message based integration hub architecture based on IBM Patterns for e-Business
- Normalize all documents to HBM format
- Use MQSeries for message transport
- Use MQSeries Integrator for:
 - message routing
 - "simple" data transformation
 - > message archival
- Use WDI for "complex" data transformation
- Use MQSeries Workflow for:
 - End-to-end auditing
 - Long running transaction support





Major design points

- Functionality
 - Must support existing business requirements
 - > Must be able to support new business requirements
- Flexibility
 - Must be able to easily accommodate changes in the operating environment
- Performance
 - Must be able to handle the load
 - Response time requirements are getting shorter
- Platform independence
 - See Flexibility and Performance



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June 2002 we started to build it...

- Assembled the team
- Loaded software
- Began documenting as-is processes
- Developed HBM formats
- Started building the HNA EDI "bolt-on" for the HGS
 - Target Movex ERP

Movex e-Collaborator - XML over MQSeries

- > Support all legacy EDI transactions
- > Consolidate transactions with common trading partners
- Phased implementation by business subsystem purchasing and A/P first





The rules change, but the project survives

- The project scope changed
 - HGS put on hold late 2002
 - Project UNITE target ERP changed
- Phased migration
 - Had to support Vallen ERP system temporarily
 - > Target ERP is CamBar system
- Decided to map Vallen EDI to ADF directly
 - Short term need
 - Vallen ADFs are very "EDI-like"
 - Fewer Vallen interface changes required
- Continue to develop HBM for CamBar
- Tri-state and Allied put on hold





The rules change again...

- Project UNITE cancelled late 2003
- CamBar put on hold
- Vallen now longer term need
 - > Wish we had mapped to the HBM
- Abandoned WWF
- Started using new architecture to meet new requirements (XML, CSV)
- Introduced WebSphere Application Server (WAS)
 - HTTPs support
 - > WSAD
 - Some solution components now built in Java





So what did we actually build?

- Message based integration hub using MQSeries
- MQ enabled legacy application interfaces
- WMQI used for routing and simple transformation
- Java programs used for utility functions
 - Message archival
 - > EDI parser, search tool, comparison tool, router
- WAS used for https transport
- MQSS used for VAN traffic
- WDI used for complex data transformation





Challenges we encountered

ASCII-EBCDIC conversion

- Packed and zoned decimal fields
- EDI Segment delimiters
- Record blocking
 - > One message per transaction
 - <CR><LF> separators
 - > ADF record lengths have to match



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Challenges we encountered (continued)

WDI-MQSeries interface

- Profile setup
- > 8 character queue name limit
- Logical to physical filename mapping
- DT mapping issues
 - Lack of loop function (XML large text fields)
 - One-to-many transactions (outbound 820)
 - Many-to-one transactions (outbound 850)





Challenges we encountered (continued)

- WDI 3.2 in general and the DT mapper in particular are actually new 1st version products
 - Many PMRs
 - XML support evolving
 - Transaction store support evolving
 - Differences in how trading partners are handled TP resolution, map rule selection, transaction store issues
 - Differences from one document type to another
 - Differences from the way it works with S/R maps





Where are we today?

- We have migrated all Vallen VAN traffic to MQSS
- We have MQ enabled all Vallen EDI application interfaces
- We have developed DT maps for all Vallen transactions and trading partners
- We are currently migrating Vallen trading partners and maps to WDI





When will it end?

- Vallen migration to WDI 3.2 complete in 2004
- Migrate CamBar to WDI 3.2 in 2005
- New Web site under construction to be integrated with all the legacy ERPs
- New requirements appear all the time
 - EDI over the web
 - AS1/AS2, HTTPs, SMTP, MQSeries, FTPs,
 - Real-time integration
 - New XML "standards"
 - New ERP in 2007?
- This is a process there is no end in sight





Summary

- Work in progress...
- The rules keep changing
- The future is still uncertain
- The architecture is flexible enough to handle change
- Performance is better than expected



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