

CASE STUDY:

VERTALI EXPERTISE ENABLES MULTIPLE MAINFRAME PRODUCT MIGRATIONS FOR A MAJOR US INSURER

SUMMARY

Vertali worked with partners to successfully deliver a multi-faceted strategic mainframe migration project for a US-based international insurance company.

CLIENT AND PROJECT

In 2023, this insurer acquired financial products from another company in a strategic transaction. It also inherited six Broadcom (CA) mainframe products that had to be migrated to their IBM equivalents:

- CA 1 Tape Management to IBM DFSMS/RMM.
- CA7 Workload Automation to IBM Workload Scheduler (IWS).
- CA11 Workload Automation Restart to IBM Workload Scheduler (IWS).
- CA Endevor Software Change Manager to IBM Software Configuration and Library Manager (SCLM).
- CA Easytrieve Report Generator to IBM Migration Utility to COBOL.
- CA TPX Session Management to IBM CL/SuperSession.

- US-based insurer
- Multiple complex software migrations
- Install, configure, verify, convert to agreed time scales
- De-risking via Design Phase and detailed Project Plan

CHALLENGE

This was a complex project, and previous migrations had not run as smoothly as the insurer would have liked. In this case, the Easytrieve conversion was especially challenging due to the complexity of the legacy code and unavailability of application teams to provide insight and support. Testing was inhibited due to the unavailability of data. "We were prevented from logging on to current live systems for discovery work, which meant requesting data and then waiting for it to be sent," says Richard Goldsby, Senior Project Manager, Vertali. "The data was often delayed and incomplete. This meant that, in some cases, the testing issues that later emerged were complex and should have been identified many months earlier."

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VERTALI SOLUTION

Engaged by the insurer's partner and working with another international IT provider, Vertali estimated the migrations could be completed in 6-9 months. This included a Design Phase to create a detailed migration plan that considered the change windows available, end client and partner resources, and other factors necessary to de-risk the project and deliver on time.

Delivery comprised various tasks for each product in line with Vertali's Detailed Project Plan: installation, configuration and verification; conversion to the IBM product, with different requirements and data migration issues for each; executing the training plan as detailed in the Detailed Design Document; testing for each area; and implementation, including 30 days' post-implementation support for each product. The Vertali team was responsible for governance throughout, including progress reporting, regular

meetings, and maintaining and managing the RAID Log. Work was completed as planned apart for CA 1, which was descoped. This aspect of the project was re-purposed to enable an extended testing period. "The end client was delighted with the outcome," says Richard Goldsby. "Our strong relationships with the other project partners was a great help when issues needed to be addressed with the insurer."

The insurer's CIO described the project's success as an ***“Extraordinary outcome. We are more than a month now into production, and I am truly grateful and pleased to say that this migration has been much smoother and friction-less compared to our last one. This impressive outcome is directly correlated to the teamwork, creativity, relentless problem-solving, and ‘can do’ attitude demonstrated by you and your teams every single day since we started this journey.”***



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