



ALBERT SUTTER, HEAD OF IT SERVICES, EMS–CHEMIE AG:

‘WHO DARES WINS!’

EMS–CHEMIE AG, out of Domat / Ems, Switzerland, has successfully moved into production with their new open platform after a migration from a Unisys 2200 mainframe, enabled by Asysco Migration Technology. They had chosen Asysco as their business partner for a complete migration of their complex mainframe systems that cover vital areas of their business like production planning, supply chain management, procurement, customer management, invoicing, and numerous calculations and reports for their daily and month results.

The EMS Group, headquartered in Domat / Ems, is a leading chemical manufacturer, with business units in Performance Polymers and Fine Chemicals/Engineering. Their worldwide activity is supported by more than 2200 employees in more than 30 subsidiaries.

DECISION – NOT WITHOUT SOME RISK!

“Since 1980 we were dependent on one single supplier,” says Albert Sutter. “In addition it must be mentioned that every five years the latest hardware needed to be installed and licenses for operating and database systems (software) needed to be renewed.

In February 2009 these licenses expired and a new upgrade was due. However, the dependency on the one supplier and the weak negotiating position this involved, had been a thorn in our side for quite some time. Up until these point alternatives were expensive, the risk and the conversion outlay involved proved to be very high. The large saving potential of the unique Asysco Migration Technology and being a solution resolving the sup-

plier dependency, June 2008, senior management approved the Asysco project ‘conversion from the Unisys mainframe’ .”

STANDARD PRODUCTS AS AN ALTERNATIVE

“The scope of the project was enormous and presented a complex and exciting venture for all involved. The target – expressed in very simple terms – was to replace an elaborate and expensive system with a less-expensive solution based on standard solutions.

This involved the programming language COBOL, the databases DMS, RDMS and UDS, the operating system OS 2200 and the hardware, ClearPath Dorado 140.

The almost entirely automatic migration to AMT LION has allowed us to eliminate recurring license costs to the value of millions of Swiss Francs.

Due to the standardised software and hardware, the productivity of IT employees can be increased in the medium-term and in addition, better tools for maintenance, further development and monitoring of the systems are available.”

PLANNING AND INTRODUCTION

“Around 90 programs, in use for more than 30 years, needed to be converted from the scratch. At the same time, the databases were redesigned and reconfigured for the new programs.

Right from the start it was clear that the hardest work of the conversion would involve the testing of the system. The testing of more than 5000 programs, were carried out of several months, with the help of an external partner along with the automatic testing tools of Asysco. The results were required to always be identical in both, the old and converted, systems.

The meticulous planning paid off and enabled us to complete a



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perfect conversion during a long weekend from August 22nd to 24th, 2009.”

THE RISK WAS WORTH IT!

“Now, after the successful and smooth go live, EMS-CHEMIE AG is looking forward to harvesting the benefits of the open and flexible AMT-LION environment, delivering more value to their business users in a more efficient way.

And last but not least, the new IT landscape has become far less expensive from a TCO point of view.”

CLIENT
EMS-CHEMIE AG

SECTOR
Manufacturing

PROBLEM
The dependency on Unisys and the associated cost, leading to major investments in hardware and software every couple of years.

SOLUTION
Migration off the Unisys mainframe using Asysco Migration Technology (AMT) LION, converting around 5000 COBOL Programs, covering vital processes of EMS-CHEMIE AG. Windows works perfectly as the new platform, running without any unplanned interruptions and at a lower cost. In addition, AMT-LION comes together with powerful components enabling development, maintenance, and monitoring.



The team that made it!