



## VAL THOMAS AND PAS SANKARAN FOR LIBERTY TRAVEL

# LIBERTY TRAVEL AND ASYSKO – THE PERFECT PACKAGE!

### ABOUT LIBERTY TRAVEL

**Liberty Travel, Inc (www.libertytravel.com), headquartered in Ramsey, New Jersey, developed the one-price “package vacation” in 1951. Today, Liberty Travel is one of the largest and most successful travel companies in the world, serving more than one million satisfied travelers each year. Liberty Travel operates more than 200 retail vacation stores along the East Coast and Florida....and is still growing!**

Through Liberty Travel vacation packages, friends have sight seen, couples have honeymooned, retirees have toured, and families have created lifelong memories in more than 200 destinations on four continents. By always providing the best service and value, Liberty Travel has earned the impressive reputation as the most stable and reliable travel company in the industry. And although technology and the Internet have transformed the way agents book vacations, one tradition remains: Liberty Travel is where the travel dreams of millions of Americans begin!

### LIBERTY TRAVEL’S SITUATION AND NEED

Liberty Travel’s IS department had been running primarily LINC applications (approximately 3.75 million lines of code!) on a Unisys NX5820 (approximately 15,000 RPMs!) for years. They also had COBOL and ALGOL code to support along with approximately 1,400 workflows. More than twenty applications made up Liberty Travel’s mission critical travel reservations system. Liberty Travel also had

a large travel agent base to support – over 3,000 end users with 500 concurrent at anytime. Clearly this was a complex and very valuable system – this was their entire business!

Although this environment had served Liberty Travel well over the years, as business increased they needed a system that would allow them the ability to grow the company and save money. The IS department had been looking for a way to migrate their current systems to another platform. They had even reviewed the Unisys LINC on NT product but found it wasn’t robust enough to handle Liberty Travels’ needs.

### THE SOLUTION FOR LIBERTY TRAVEL

Asysco’s Migration Technology (AMT) LION specializes in Unisys mainframe migrations to a Windows environment powered by a SQL database. Liberty Travel had prior experience with Asysco and AMT-LION. In 2001, AMT-LION was chosen to migrate two of Liberty Travel’s less-critical applications. So in 2005 Liberty Travel began speaking with Asysco U.S. President, Brian Lloyd, about the possibility of migrating the remaining Liberty Travel Unisys applications to AMT-LION. This technology was chosen because:

- 1) Asysco proved they could migrate LINC, COBOL, and Work Flow into the AMT-LION system;
- 2) Asysco supported Liberty Travel’s database of choice: Oracle;



**Asysco Inc.**

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- 3) Liberty Travel needed a solution that would not require any re-training of their extensive end user base;
- 4) Liberty Travel needed to save money on mainframe and maintenance costs;
- 5) Liberty Travel needed to be able modernize their legacy applications; and,
- 6) The knowledgeable Asysco people.

**THE PROCESS**

In January 2006, Asysco completed a detailed discovery outlining the project. It was determined that the migration project needed to be complete before Liberty Travel's "busy" season which starts in January. The project started in March 2006, and went live in November 2006. Nine months later, all of the LINC and COBOL code was migrated to AMT-LION and Liberty Travel entered their peak season with AMT-LION at the helm.

**THE FINAL RESULT**

Val Thomas, Liberty Travel Chief Technology Officer, states, "The conversion of our legacy systems from UNISYS to the Asysco platform in November of 2006 was seamless. There was also little to no business interruption once we were up and running on the new platform. The business is happy with the transition. It will save us money in mainframe and maintenance costs."

With AMT-LION, Liberty Travel has been given the opportunity to reduce their operating costs and take advantage of the Windows technology and SQL data-bases. All of this was accomplished and the Liberty Travel management and user base didn't have to change how they ran their business. "This has ranked as one of the most efficient and timely large sale system conversions I have participated in. The Asysco team has a "can do" attitude and working with them was a very positive experience. This solution positions us to be better able to adapt our technology solutions to meet future business needs."

Liberty Travel and Asysco worked well together to overcome any challenges during the project. According to Pas Sankaran, Liberty Travel Development Manager, "Asysco delivered and AMT-LION meets my expectations. Liberty Travel management and our customers are happy with the new system."

Even after years of working with EAD on the Unisys system, Liberty Travel's developers have found AMT-LION more advanced and extremely easy to learn and use. The developers can already see the advantages of the AMT-LION development environment, especially the built-in

code debugging tool AMT-LION provides. "The Asysco software performs as advertised. Asysco provided us a robust cost-effective solution that allowed us to retire legacy hardware in a way that was transparent to our users. The upgrade path was relatively smooth and the end result is supporting thousands of users and millions of transactions per day using scalable, redundant industry standard hardware components. We are more than satisfied with the performance of the Asysco solution and with the consulting services employed to bring it live."

What now for Liberty Travel, Asysco, and AMT-LION? Liberty Travel has contracted with Asysco to help modernize the look of their existing AMT-LION applications. Modernizing these applications will allow Liberty Travel to move away from the "green screen" look and feel of the mainframe and take advantage of the Windows features and functions not available to them before AMT-LION.

**CUSTOMER**  
Liberty Travel is one of the largest and most successful travel companies in the world, serving more than one million satisfied travelers each year.

**SECTOR**  
Travel and leisure

**PROBLEM**  
The IS department of Liberty Travel had been looking for a way to migrate their current mainframe systems to another platform. As business increased Liberty Travel needed a system that would allow them the ability to grow the company and save money.

**SOLUTION**  
AMT-LION provided Liberty Travel with a robust cost-effective solution that allowed them to retire legacy hardware in a way that was transparent to their users. The upgrade path was smooth and the end result is supporting thousands of users and millions of transactions per day using scalable, redundant industry standard hardware components.

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