ANITE PUBLIC SECTOR IMPLEMENTS SOA SOLUTION WITH FIORANO ESB, MAKING "JOINED-UP" GOVERNMENT A REALITY

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Peter Houselander
Solutions Director
Anite Health & Social Care

CUSTOMER PROFILE

Anite Public Sector, the Anite Group, an international IT company which provides software, systems integration, consultancy and managed services across the Travel, Telecoms, Finance and Public Sector markets. Headquartered in the UK, the Group employs around 1800 staff in 12 countries across Europe, the Americas and Asia. Anite solutions are recognized as market leaders in their fields. With over 650 installations in 302 local authorities, they are UK's leading supplier of IT applications to local government, and a specialist provider of software and consultancy to central government departments and agencies. Anite has recently been acquired by Northgate Public Services.

BUSINESS PROBLEM

As a part of the UK government's e-Government strategy, the term "joined-up government" was introduced in 2004 in order to join up electronic services. Technically, the term refers to integration of government processes, applications, systems and services for a seamless, citizen-centered government.

Anite, being a prime supplier of IT systems and solutions to UK local government, had a challenge to deploy a system so as to comply with this new e-Government initiative, in order to enhance the responsiveness of the social services providers for welfare of citizens and communities. In the constantly evolving, dynamic environment of social services, the need to keep up to speed with both management and IT was a perpetual challenge.

In order to support increasing load and complexity of integrating their social care applications with other disparate Local Authority and partner agency systems, Anite needed a middleware platform which could facilitate seamless connectivity with extremely high performance and no downtime. Other major buying criteria included speed of deployment and ease of use as the product needed to be installed at 70+ locations in the UK where their existing applications were already in place.

All these efforts were aimed at providing faster, simpler and a more reliable delivery of social services.

SOLUTION

Anite needed a robust middleware platform that could map their existing products with the third party systems installed for local government agencies and could adapt to changes in government regulations.

Anite had deployed its leading products for local government to efficiently operate its social care services. For example, one of their key products, SWIFT, is the most modern, flexible and easy-to-use social care system available today. It provides social care departments with all the tools they need to deliver joined-up services and meet Best Value and e-Government targets in an increasingly complex environment of public and private sector collaboration, budgetary constraint and accountability. It has the ability to integrate with a variety of external systems, ranging from corporate financial systems to education and health systems.

However, deployment of SWIFT application with heterogeneous local applications required custom programming, testing and non-standard featured added to cost and effort for the implementation process, thereby hindering the reach of social services to the citizens, who are most in need of it. Moreover, the requirement of compliance with the ever changing government regulations further added to complexity.

In a nutshell, they need an ESB platform to facilitate rapid "change management".

Anite short listed 6 vendors in the ESB and EAI space and assessed them on strict technical and business evaluation processes. Fiorano, on account of its advanced architecture, out-of-box features and low maintenance cost emerged as a clear winner in the evaluation process.

BENEFITS

"The Fiorano platform provided us an environment which drastically reduced programming efforts and allowed business managers in Anite to make decisions faster for improved change management. Technical assistance from the Fiorano customer support team was prompt and minimal training was required due to the high degree of out-of-box features", said Peter Houselander, Solutions Director at Anite Health & Social Care.

Fiorano provided a quick path to SOA with a new generation Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) platform with a Service Component Architecture (SCA) that reduced the cost and time to delivery of integration projects by over 80%.

By building the integration backbone on Fiorano's framework, Anite not only experienced significant savings in subsequent project delivery cost and time, but it was also able to draw on existing business logic and processes residing anywhere within the enterprise to rapidly assemble solutions for particular problems, leading to unmatched flexibility, increased productivity and improved responsiveness to changing business conditions.

ABOUT FIORANO SOFTWARE

Founded in 1995, Silicon Valley based Fiorano is a California Corporation with proven leadership in enterprise middleware and peer-to-peer distributed systems. Fiorano's innovative event-driven, dataflow SOA platform integrates applications and complex technologies into an enterprise nervous system, increases business process performance, yields higher message throughput and enhances availability through agent-based visual composition that bridges the capability gap between business models and their implementation – the model is the application, ready to run.

Global leaders including ABN AMRO, Boeing, British Telecom, Capgemini Telecom, Chicago Mercantile Exchange Group, McKesson, NASA, POSCO Steel, Qwest Communications, Rabobank, Schlumberger, Lockheed Martin, United States Coast Guard and Vodafone have deployed Fiorano to drive innovation through open, standards-based, dataflow SOA applications built in just days, yielding unprecedented productivity.

Fiorano Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) and Fiorano Message Queue (MQ) deliver the industry fastest, lowest latency, highest throughput real-time messaging (asynchronous and synchronous) to power high performance, highly available, and collaborative workflow applications whose application services are distributed throughout the IT landscape. Fiorano's distributed, peer-to-peer agents abstract complexity of developing and deploying services to unlock value in a customer's enterprise architecture framework.

To find out more about how Fiorano can help you meet your enterprise integration objectives, visit www.fiorano.com or e-mail sales@fiorano.com