

Belgian Railways Migrates to New Financial Management System

Capgemini maintains critical mainframe financial applications during SAP ERP upgrade

The Situation

The SNCB Group (Belgian Railways) had determined the need to migrate to SAP in order to support their future financial management. But it was absolutely necessary that their current system continue to function properly and robustly until the new one was operational. ICTRA (ICT for Rail), the ICT division of SNCB-Holding, asked Capgemini to handle the maintenance of the existing system so that they could concentrate on getting the new SAP system up and running.

The Solution

ICTRA and Capgemini decided on a two-phased approach. During the initial transitional phase Capgemini would take care of the maintenance of financial applications for fixed credits, invoicing and accounting, in total representing 34 million lines of code

(ADABAS/NATURAL on mainframe). Then during the standalone phase Capgemini would be responsible for change management for the financial applications. In parallel, ICTRA would devote itself entirely to creating, developing and finally, maintaining the SAP system.

The Result

The legacy system functioned smoothly and reliably during the development and launch of the new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. With the new system up and running, since January 2010, Capgemini has continual responsibility for the legacy components still in use.

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Rikie Eloot,
COO of ICTRA



How ICTRA and Capgemini Worked Together

ICTRA acts as a shared service provider for the three companies of the SNCB Group: (railway operator), Infrabel (railway infrastructure manager) and SNCB-Holding (with supporting functions such as HR and ICT). ICTRA is responsible for developing, implementing and maintaining all IT solutions in a safe and responsible way. The division was charged with getting the new ERP system up and running as quickly as possible while providing seamless, continuous service on the existing system. To do this they needed to free themselves from

the day-to-day task of running the existing system. Capgemini was asked to take on that job, allowing ICTRA to devote their time fully to creating and developing, and then maintaining the new system across all three subsidiaries of the SNCB Group.

A team made up of both Capgemini and ICTRA employees worked together to ensure that the legacy system performed reliably and with no disruption in service to customers and that the transition to the new system went smoothly. Capgemini was able to supply the right resources at the right time without over or under capacity.

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Rightshore®, which aims to get the right balance of the best talent from multiple locations, working as one team to create and deliver the optimum solution for clients. Present in more than 30 countries, Capgemini reported 2009 global revenues of EUR 8.4 billion and employs 95,000 people worldwide.

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Distribution & Transportation
Application Development and Maintenance (ADM)

Approved by
Rikie Eloot, COO, ICTRA
Luc Eykens, Vice President, Capgemini Belgium



About ICTRA (ICT for Rail)

ICTRA (ICT for Rail), the ICT division of SNCB-Holding, is acting as 'shared service center' for the three companies of the SNCB Group: SNCB (railway undertaker), Infrabel (railway infrastructure manager) and SNCB-Holding (with supporting functions like HR and ICT). ICTRA is developing, implementing, maintaining and running ICT solutions in function of mobility and railway traffic safety. ICTRA

is responsible for operating CCTV and GSM-R (GSM for Railways). Traffic Control Solutions (real-time follow-up of trains) and ticketing applications (in stations but also home ticketing) for Railway Undertakers are very important IT projects for ICTRA. ICTRA employs over 2,000 people.

For more information, please visit: www.b-rail.be/main/index.html