

BETTER DECISIONS MADE—FASTER—THANKS TO REAL-TIME ACCESS TO ADABAS DATA

Challenge

Like most energy companies, CenterPoint Energy faces increased environmental concerns as well as evolving regulatory and legal requirements. To improve decision-making, CenterPoint Energy needed to assure employees have real-time access to the latest information in the company's Adabas database. Problem is, database tables were designed 25 years ago and couldn't be queried easily using the standard SQL syntax.

Solution

CenterPoint Energy turned to Event Replicator for Adabas to replicate real-time Adabas data from UNIX to a Microsoft SQL Server data warehouse. Event Replicator for Adabas proactively and efficiently delivers data updates in real-time, anytime, so employees have instant access to the latest Adabas data they need to do their jobs.

Benefits

- Improved decision-making—business users have access to changed Adabas data, the moment a change occurs
- Data's easy to understand, thanks to conversion of Adabas tables to a flat-file design in relational data warehouse
- Easy to use—employees can use standard desktop tools, such as Crystal Reports, to query the Microsoft SQL Server database
- Highly efficient—only information employees need is stored in the data warehouse repository
- Time savings—no more cumbersome, time-consuming ETL batch jobs



Headquartered in Houston, Texas, U.S., CenterPoint Energy operates in five primary businesses: electric transmission & distribution, natural gas distribution, interstate natural gas pipelines, field services and competitive natural gas sales & services. It's the third largest publicly traded natural gas delivery company in the U.S. and has 11 offices in nine states with approximately 8,800 employees. Assets exceed \$19 billion. CenterPoint Energy and its predecessor companies have been in business for more than 130 years.

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“With Software AG, we know that we have a partner that will stand with us.”

James Gilpin | Technology Architect | CenterPoint Energy

Keeping up with changing needs

About 30 years ago, CenterPoint Energy began building core pipeline gas information and gas gathering systems in Adabas and Natural. Recently those systems were migrated off the mainframe and onto UNIX. Today, those systems continue to deliver value to the business, thanks in part to Adabas Event Replicator for Open Systems.

The company started using Adabas Event Replicator because business users couldn't access real-time information in the production Adabas database. Compounding that problem, database tables were 25 years old in design and couldn't be queried easily using the standard SQL syntax.

That problem is now solved, efficiently and economically. Adabas Event Replicator replicates specific real-time data from Adabas to a Microsoft SQL Server database. Conversion of Adabas tables to flat file design in relational data warehouse makes the data easy to understand. As an added convenience, business users can use standard desktop tools, such as Crystal Reports, to query the Microsoft SQL Server database.

Why Adabas Event Replicator?

Event Replicator for Adabas on Open Systems allows a company to deliver changes in the Adabas data to any database management system (DBMS) in real-time. So data in the relational data warehouse is not a one-time snapshot—but rather it's a “live” copy that's in sync with the source data in Adabas.

Companies can determine the data that is pushed from Adabas with the subscription and end users gain access to the most up-to-date and accurate information. The results: simplified data sharing, guaranteed business continuity, optimized resources and reduced costs.

Making decisions—faster

There's no delay in decision-making at CenterPoint Energy now that Event Replicator for Adabas is in place. Employees have up-to-the-moment information in Adabas so they can make accurate decisions as quickly as possible. That means no more waiting on batch jobs to get the latest data. Additionally, the data warehouse repository contains only the information that business users are interested in, which saves time in accessing and analyzing the data.

KEY COMPONENTS

Event Replicator for Adabas enables real-time data replication to target systems. Data is proactively pushed to the Event Replicator server and then delivered via SQL to target third-party databases or messaging systems based on a “subscription.”

CenterPoint Energy also uses:

Adabas SQL Gateway to get Adabas data to the desktop using standard SQL-based applications, such as Microsoft Office.

webMethods EntireX to turn core business logic in Adabas and Natural applications into Web services.

webMethods Integration Server to rapidly integrate systems and create services by exposing existing functionality as needed.

NaturalONE, an Eclipse-based Integrated Development Environment (IDE) that lets developers intuitively develop, improve and manage applications.

ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

Software AG is the global leader in Business Process Excellence. Our 40 years of innovation include the invention of the first high-performance transactional database, Adabas; the first business process analysis platform, ARIS; and the first B2B server and SOA-based integration platform, webMethods.

We offer our customers end-to-end Business Process Management (BPM) solutions delivering low Total-Cost-of-Ownership and high ease of use. Our industry-leading brands, ARIS, webMethods, Adabas, Natural, CentraSite and IDS Scheer Consulting, represent a unique portfolio encompassing: process strategy, design, integration and control; SOA-based integration and data management; process-driven SAP implementation; and strategic process consulting and services.

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