

## MAINTAINING MARKET LEADERSHIP THROUGH PROCESS INTEGRATION

### Challenge

OMV is the leading oil and gas corporation of Central Europe and has approximately 80 application solutions along its supply chain. Since most of these solutions were integrated using point-to-point connections, the time and cost required for interface development and maintenance were extremely high, and the company was often unable to meet new business requirements in time.

### Solution

To be able to operate faster and more cost effectively in its markets, OMV relies on the webMethods Enterprise Service Bus (ESB) Platform to harmonize its IT infrastructure. The ESB is used to integrate the two central SAP retail and oil and gas industry solutions with other applications as well as to implement integration projects independent of central ERP systems.

### Benefits

- Return on investment in webMethods technology to be achieved in four years
- 50% reduction in time and cost for individual integration projects
- Faster, more cost-effective and higher-quality process integration
- Transparent data and information flow along the entire supply chain
- Complete integration of financial and logistics processes
- Flexible and transparent reporting on the management level
- Extensive compatibility with various data formats and protocols, database and development environments, hardware and operating systems
- High degree of performance and scalability
- High reliability, thanks to an integrated monitoring system



Having generated more than 25 billion euros in sales in 2008, OMV Aktiengesellschaft is one of Austria's largest listed industrial companies. The core businesses of OMV are exploration and production, gas and power, and refining and marketing gas stations. Early market entry, high-quality standards, optimal service provision and extensive technological expertise have enabled OMV to become the leading oil and gas company in Central Europe.

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**“webMethods plays a significant role in our company-wide IT harmonization strategy by ensuring that integration projects are carried out quickly and cost efficiently and, as a result, it greatly increases our agility in OMV’s markets.”**

Ulrich Endlich | Managing Director, Interface Systems Business Unit | OMV Group

### Faster support for new business requirements

From the global exploration and transportation of crude oil and natural gas to the supply of gas and power through refinery products and a gas station network of more than 2,500 stations in 13 countries, the OMV Group covers the entire energy industry supply chain with three business units and is the number one-ranked company in the Central and Eastern European growth belt. Maintaining and consolidating this market-leading position is a challenge for the IT department.

### Faster support for business processes

“Both the dynamic growth of OMV and the technical necessities of its individual business units have led to the emergence of an IT landscape that includes numerous stand-alone solutions and a vast number of interfaces between them,” explained Ulrich Endlich, managing director of the Interface Systems business unit of the OMV Group.

The company itself operates approximately 80 specialized applications, including those for business and areas such as supplier logistics and the process control and laboratory systems in refineries as well as many more along the supply chain. The large number of applications in addition to the 100 external partners who are connected to OMV have given rise to an extremely heterogeneous IT landscape.

Interface programming for point-to-point connections, therefore, prevailed as a means to support business processes electronically across all systems and provide real-time management information at the group level. However, given the heterogeneity of the system landscape, the time and cost incurred for this programming made it difficult to guarantee fast and cost-efficient IT support for new business requirements.

Consequently, OMV developed a two-tiered strategy for company-wide IT harmonization. First, the various versions of the SAP retail and oil and gas industry solutions used by some of the OMV companies needed to be implemented centrally for all subsidiaries. Second, OMV was to provide a uniform integration platform to integrate other application solutions in the two ERP solutions and to implement integration projects independently of them.

### Business integration platform

“One of the main goals of this harmonization project was to create the possibility of connecting individual applications to any number of other systems via a one-time connection to the integration platform,” Endlich said. “This should reduce the amount of time and cost for individual projects by at least 50% compared to point-to-point interface programming.”

After evaluating a number of leading providers, OMV finally opted for the webMethods ESB. “The fact that this solution embraces open standards, such as XML and Web services, was the main selling point for us,” Endlich said.

OMV has already implemented more than 100 integration projects with webMethods. In the case of an oil transaction, for example, this integration solution ensures that the contract data stored in SAP is also entered in the loading terminal system, allowing the buyer to pick up the oil. It also delivers data from various operational systems to the SAP business warehouse so that the OMV management can access the latest figures about ongoing business operations.

Beyond SAP integration, the webMethods ESB can also connect gas station point-of-sale systems with participating credit card companies (such as the Routex gas fuel card network of which OMV is a member) in order to guarantee same-day processing of transaction data.

For interaction between the various systems, the webMethods ESB daily handles about 10,000 communication processes with a high level of reliability and performance. Endlich pointed out the decision to go with webMethods has not only paid off for the OMV Group but also will enable the company to use webMethods functions in the area of business process management to optimize and redesign business processes.

### KEY COMPONENTS

The **webMethods ESB Platform**, is based on a Service-Oriented Architecture (SOA) and enables companies to quickly respond to changing market requirements. With the webMethods ESB integration platform, companies can deploy new applications faster and more efficiently without affecting the use of existing IT infrastructure components and applications.

### ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

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Our leading Business Infrastructure Software portfolio is used for data and system integration and modernization. It fosters new levels of IT agility through SOA and allows the rapid creation of new business processes with BPM.

Our 40-year history of success ensures our customers have a reliable platform for driving future business results – faster.

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