

STATE-WIDE IT INFRASTRUCTURE FOR FUTURE-ORIENTED E-GOVERNMENT

Challenge

The German state of Brandenburg needed to harmonize its heterogeneous IT infrastructure in order to develop a consistent state-wide E-government platform. The goal was for state agencies and municipalities to access the same existing function-specific and administrative services. At the same time, they wanted to be able to add new services quickly, flexibly and cost-effectively.

Solution

As part of the “service.brandenburg.de” project, Brandenburg was the first German state to seek a partner who could develop a service-oriented infrastructure platform to be employed throughout the state. European IT Consultancy (eitco GmbH) was chosen to implement the project with products by Software AG, a partner of eitco GmbH for e-government projects. Software AG’s webMethods BPMS (Business Process Management Suite) will control the state’s business processes. Existing and new services will be integrated using webMethods Enterprise Service Bus (ESB), while CentraSite will provide SOA governance.

Benefits

- Creation of a SAGA-compliant (standards and architectures for E-government applications), SOA/BPM-supported service platform in less than six months
- Excellent integration of existing services such as a payment platform, a form server and a virtual post office
- Reliable platform for fast, economical realization of innovative E-government concepts at state and municipal levels, such as the EU services directive and the Virtual Building Authority.



Brandenburgischer IT-Dienstleister

ZIT-BB was established on January 1, 2009 and is the Brandenburg state IT service provider. It is the successor to the former State Office of Data Processing and IT Services (LDS) and manages the decentralized IT departments of the state’s agencies. ZIT-BB provides the state’s agencies with innovative one-stop government solutions. Brandenburg’s municipalities can also take advantage of ZIT-BB’s offering, thereby playing an active role in the development of solutions. Implementation is based on a single-source approach.

Get there faster.™

“The BPM platform, developed in cooperation with eitco and Software AG, enables us to realize cross-agency and cross-functional processes at state and municipal levels in a **reliable and practical manner.”**

Dr. Andrea Grochtmann | Project Manager for the Payment Platform | Virtual Building Authority, Portal and BPM for the service.brandenburg.de project

Efficient administrative processes

Brandenburg is the fifth largest state in Germany as far as area is concerned. But with only 2.5 million inhabitants, it is one of the most sparsely populated regions in the country. Of its 112 towns, only Potsdam, which is the state capital, and Cottbus have city status with just over 150,000 and 100,000 inhabitants respectively.

Shared services

With this situation in mind, it was necessary to define an innovative, yet cost-effective e-government strategy that included a balanced distribution of roles and responsibilities among all participating states and municipalities. And this is exactly what happened. In 2004 the “service.brandenburg.de” e-government project was launched by the Brandenburg Ministry of the Interior in close cooperation with the state’s Federation of Cities and Towns.

The project had two focal points: Firstly, citizens and companies should have centralized access to

the state’s scattered, heterogeneous information. Secondly, basic services should be made available to state and municipal offices to utilize for their own services and to eliminate the need for local investments in IT systems.

At the beginning of 2007, a form service, electronic signatures and a virtual post office for communication between citizens, companies and public offices were introduced one after another. The next milestone was achieved about six months after the project partners had been selected in the summer of 2008. eitco GmbH and Software AG implemented a state-wide service-oriented BPM platform. It provided the necessary IT infrastructure to “improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Brandenburg’s e-government activities,” according to Dr. Andrea Grochtmann, project leader for “service.brandenburg.de.”

BPM for end-to-end processes

The BPM platform provides a structured, SAGA-compliant (standards and architectures for e-government applications), extensible e-government environment. It enables central access to basic services from different function-specific applications. These can be new applications, which are developed in-house on the BPM platform. Alternately, existing applications can integrate with the new infrastructure via service interfaces.

According to Grochtmann, the new platform will ensure that “all function-related processes work seamlessly together and all processes across offices are supported in an efficient manner.” Ambitious projects like the implementation of the EU services directive and the “Virtual Building Authority” project, which have already made great progress in Brandenburg, will benefit. The two

initiatives are being driven in conjunction with a service portal server for knowledge management, e-collaboration and e-shop solutions, which was also completed early in 2009. The projects require end-to-end, media-break-free processes between a number of different key participants.

KEY COMPONENTS

webMethods BPMS supports all BPM functions and application groups, from analysis and modelling to implementation and monitoring of new or improved business processes. **webMethods ESB** is the technological platform which runs on top of the **webMethods Integration Server (IS)**. **CentraSite** is Software AG’s central component for SOA governance and management of the entire lifecycle of IT services.

ABOUT SOFTWARE AG

Software AG’s 4,000 global customers use our software to improve business processes and drive an agile IT infrastructure. Our customers’ goals are to reduce costs and increase flexibility and efficiency. We help them do this by optimizing and governing their operations and aligning IT with the business goals.

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

Software AG – Get There Faster

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eitco
European IT Consultancy

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