

## CVG ALCASA CUTS OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS OF ITS TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM BY 80%

### Challenge

In order to modernize its technology platform, lower total operating and maintenance costs and integrate existing applications running on Adabas and Natural with SAP R/3 applications, CVG Alcasa decided to replace its mainframe architecture with a distributed environment. This required migrating central applications to a client/server platform without affecting the operation or organization of the company.

### Solution

With the support of Software AG technology, CVG Alcasa achieved total integration of applications developed in Adabas/Natural with the Windows operating system. In addition, the organization implemented webMethods EntireX to integrate its production and maintenance systems with its SAP R/3 accounting and materials management system via a Software AG-developed adapter.

### Benefits

- Cut infrastructure maintenance costs by more than 80%
- Transparent architecture migration with no impact to end users
- Total integration of existing systems with an SAP R/3 accounting and materials management system



CVG Aluminio del Caroní, S.A., also referred to as CVG Alcasa, is a state-run Venezuelan company that has been producing and marketing primary aluminium products, cylinders and sheets since 1967. The company currently churns out 210,000 tons of primary aluminium and 60,000 tons of aluminium to process into sheets when producing at capacity. Sixty percent of CVG Alcasa's production is exported to foreign markets such as Costa Rica, United States, Colombia, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Peru, Argentina, England and Belgium.

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**“We have a highly valuable asset in our organization. It is the technical know-how of our Adabas/Natural team the system developers, technical support staff and database administrators. Our human capital has an average of 15 to 18 years experience in this technology. Implementing a new technology platform and wasting this professional asset was never an option.”**

Carlos Castillejos | Technical Support Division | CVG Alcasa

From a technological standpoint, CVG Alcasa's IT had been operating in a central mainframe architecture until the organization decided to migrate to a distributed environment based on IBM servers. The first challenge the team of CVG Alcasa technicians and engineers faced was to integrate all applications— old and new—developed in Adabas and Natural with the Windows operating system in the new client/server environment. They also needed to assimilate the functionality of the SAP R/3 accounting and materials management modules into this world as well. Thanks to Software AG technology, CVG Alcasa achieved total integration of its Adabas/Natural applications and the Windows operating system. This successful project lowered total platform operating and maintenance costs by 80 percent. In addition, the organization implemented webMethods EntireX to integrate its production and maintenance systems with its SAP R/3 accounting and materials management system via a Software AG-developed adapter.

When it came to defining a migration plan, CVG Alcasa technicians considered two options. Either they could migrate all existing data to new environments and database engines from scratch. Or they could evolve their platform to create a new architecture by modernizing their applications. “We opted to keep Adabas/Natural as our application development and deployment environment. This decision brought the same conceptual advantages of the mainframe platform. It also enabled us to develop a more modern platform, to which we could gradually incorporate enhancements and improved functionality,” says Carlos Castillejos, of the Technical Support Division at CVG Alcasa.

The fundamental goal of the migration project was to cut operating costs of the technology platform and optimize response times for users. To date, CVG Alcasa has reduced maintenance costs from \$264,000 to just \$30,000 annually. This amount includes technical support of hardware as well as software license fees. Now after one year with the new hardware environment, CVG Alcasa is already starting to generate an excellent return on its initial investment. Nevertheless, the road to modernizing their technology platform has just begun for CVG Alcasa technicians. Future challenges include implementation of Web services, which will offer greater benefits and better practices in fundamental aspects of operation.

CVG Alcasa now relies on the ability to reuse applications and incorporate enhancements into the new operating environment. This environment enables the company to execute processes and generate and manage reports faster and more flexibly. It also offers transparent integration of Adabas/Natural applications with the various SAP R/3 modules.

## KEY COMPONENTS

### Adabas and Natural

To migrate mission critical production and maintenance systems to Windows for lower platform operating and maintenance costs.

### webMethods EntireX

To integrate production and maintenance systems with an SAP R/3 accounting and materials management system.

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

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