BONN-RHEIN-SIEG UNIVERSITY: PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE DIGITAL BUSINESS WORLD

University Partner
The Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences was founded in 1995 and is in three locations near Bonn: Sankt Augustin, Rheinbach and Hennef. Though young, the university already has 7,500 enrolled students, 145 professors and more than 200 research associates. Additionally, 260 highly qualified lecturers from business and industry sectors add to the versatile education at the university. As a prospective graduate, one learns to build bridges between the fields of computer science and business administration.

Industry
Public Sector/Research & Education

Solution set
Integration Education Package (IEP), including webMethods Integration Server, webMethods BPM Suite and webMethods Composite Application Framework

Key benefits to faculty members:
• Predefined teaching material, including tutorials and corresponding solutions
• Decreased lecture preparation time
• Packages are free of charge
• Keeping students excited through leading-edge and easy-to-use software

Key benefits to students:
• Expanded knowledge in integration of systems and applications and in orchestrating Service-Oriented Architectures (SOA)
• An overview of integration server platforms
• In-depth experience with business process platforms and especially Business Process Modeling Notation (BPMN™)
• Teamwork and management skills as a preparation for future careers
• Free certification

The digital revolution does not stop short of a university’s doors. No matter the field, every business must become digital. Universities are affected both in their internal transformation processes and in the content of their curriculums. As a result, the University Bonn-Rhein-Sieg faces, as any other university today, several major challenges: Attract students with new standards in research and education, apply and develop state-of-the-art technologies, respond fast to changing industry demands, and teach theory through practice. Today’s growing demand for specialists in the fields of the digital business makes recognizing opportunities for collaboration with the private sector all the more necessary. Universities and private companies share the responsibility of equipping the market with sought-after talent.

The Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences considers close and sustained cooperation with companies to be a valuable opportunity and offers market-oriented projects to their students. Not only do students gather technical skills, but more importantly they establish professional social skills and contact with a company as well.

"We are pleased to be able to work with Software AG. We can say that Software AG’s University Relations Integration Education Package is outstanding in the educational sector.”

— Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Buck-Emden | Professor at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences, Germany
The University of Bonn-Rhein-Sieg has been using an earlier version of the IEP since 2011 and was excited to use the new one. The university and Software AG’s University Relations department are very pleased about the successful partnership.

The package

The IEP is designed to be a full-term independent study project, which requires students to develop a cutting-edge process-driven campus management system for a virtual customer—the “University of Almamater.” To do this, multiple systems and applications must be integrated.

The package includes interviews with the university’s staff and students, which allow the IEP participants to analyze requirements while, at the same time, identify their tasks. This IEP addresses students majoring in business management, business information and computer systems.

Working with real business scenarios

The students at Bonn-Rhein-Sieg University of Applied Sciences used Software AG technology to integrate applications and free developed Web services in an SOA. The resulting browser-based interface allowed multiple teams of students to access the underlying system. Students who participated in this IEP were working on a degree in computer science with most of them with focused on business information systems.

Working with real-life integration scenario provides a welcome addition to the university curriculum: “It was great to learn something new with a clear understanding as how and where the course contents can be used in real business cases,” a student of Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Buck-Emden said.