Enterprise Java Computing

A business case by CSX Technology

CSX Technology

- Part of a Fortune 500, \$5B company
- Support CSXT, SeaLand, ACBL, CTI, Corporate, others
- Mix of Legacy Cobol/MF, C++, PB
- Networks migrating to TCP/IP
- In 1996, delivered more than 200 products resulting greater than 10:1 benefit / cost
- Implementing the Thin Client Religion

Pre 1996 Electronic Commerce

- EDI
- Mercury proprietary dial-up solution
- No industry agreement on a solution
- Each RR had it's own unique package

• Cusomers were frustrated and dissatisfied "Not a Business Enhancement"

The Customers Demanded:

- Seamless integration within their business process:
 - Service Ordering
 - Service Management
 - Transaction Services
 - Communications
- A single interface for Rail Transportation
- Minimal technology intrusion
- Highly interactive and decision point driven ability
- The highest level of up-time, best response time, and complete security.

TWSNet at Shipper's Council

- HTML and Java technologies meet the needs
- Internet delivery allows unprecedented market share and penetration
- Prototype shows the promise
- Customers demanded this solution!

I've heard of this language called Java...

The Plan

- Employee Skills
- Software development environment
- Security
- Infrastructure
- The Product

Employee Skills

- Highly interest / motivivated
- Some mid-range/UNIX, no Internet or Intranet Development
- Highly skilled Object Oriented designers
- Skilled C++ programmers
- Cobol/CICS interface developers

The Development Environment

- Very young tools Java JDK beta, Visual Tools
- Design before coding
- Design reviews and walk-throughs
- Scenario testing
- Software source code control and defect tracking mandatory
- Rigorous remote and integrated testing
- Strategic partners
- Software Engineering Fundamentals were the key!

Security

- Ensure the integrity of CSX Corporation's technology assets by protecting them from any outside invasion.
- Strive to be unobtrusive to the end user.
- Provide a level of security and comfort to customers who needed assurance that their transactions were secure, encrypted and out of the public eye.
- Reassure shippers that their systems would not be compromised.

Infrastructure

 From 1 Sparc 5 to a robust, highvolume commerce site

Firewall Introduction to the Backbone

Proxy Servers Networking

Mail Servers Systems Management

Commerce Servers Configuration control

Security Certificates Test to production

DASD fail over / fall back

A large-scale team integration effort!

The Product

- Virtual development approach
- Tight CSX Technology design control
- Integrated distributed development and testing
- Rapid cycle implemention
- A mixture of HTML and Java, with all dynamic content

TWSNet

Does it work?

- Serving more than 100,000 hits / week
- Average active connection > 2 hours
- 97% uptime
- Less than 1% defect rate
- 28.8 response time is adequate

Customers Respond...

- More than 50 companies active, another 100 in the queue
- Average 8 users per company
- Continuous demand for more features

Customers drove the industry to Standardize on TWSNet

By the numbers...

- Dramatic cost savings realized
 - Hardware
 - Communications
 - DevelopmentMore than \$5MM!!
- Broader/deeper market penetration
- Bottom line business for CSX
- "A reason to partner with CSX"

On to Enterprise Java Computing

What we had learned...

- Java integrated well into our environment
 - Legacy systems, heterogenous deployments
 - Development environment
- We were realizing development savings
- Write once, run anywhere worked
- Network-centric computing enhanced our control of TCO

CSX Technology in 1997

- Java is the primary client and server programming language
- Defects are down more than 30%
 - faster time-to-market
 - lower cost
- Saved more than \$2MM in desktops
- ROI on projects increased by 10%

Java Enterprise computing makes business sense at CSX Technology