

OAG migrates Mainframe NATURAL/ADABAS to open standards-based COBOL/DB2 UDB on UNIX

OAG (Official Airline Guide), headquartered in the UK, needed a *most accurate solution* for converting NATURAL/ADABAS operating on the mainframe – to COBOL/DB2 UDB that would operate on AIX. So they contacted **MOST Technologies, Ltd.** (MOST), headquartered in Tel Aviv, Israel who has solved like database migration and reengineering challenges for customers around the globe.



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NATURAL source code, ADABAS data structures and test files were delivered to MOST. Before the agreed upon delivery date - MOST delivered to OAG the DB2 tables, data migration programs, and converted and tested COBOL code, produced through its fully automated and field-proven OnTarget technology,

"We wanted a turn key solution for our NATURAL/ADABAS to COBOL/DB2 UDB migration so we appointed MOST to conduct the conversion and testing" notes Francis Prior, OAG IT Director. Francis continues to add – "This was a well made decision as in our first test run of the jobs – all COBOL/DB2 UDB processes produced identical results to the original NATURAL/ADABAS processes".

This statement comes as no surprise as one of the key features of MOST's OnTarget technology for NATURAL/ADABAS transformation is the complete preservation of the core business logic and system functionality represented by the legacy systems.

MOST's automated conversion project provided OAG with a layered COBOL/DB2 UDB system architecture, to include layer separation between the business logic and data access, serving to leverage the use of new technologies through the componentization of business logic.

One of the most distinguishing aspects of the entire migration project, from initial contact with MOST through to a most successful delivery, is the fact that no face-to-face meetings were conducted between OAG and MOST! Through MOST's proven methodology and extensive migration experience all project steps were carried out through well-documented procedures and Delivery Instructions, remote computer connections and understanding the customer's migration expectations.

"It was important for us to carry out the migration project with minimal impact on OAG resources," says Francis. "We wanted a fast and accurate migration, the complete preservation of our NATURAL code in the COBOL/DB2 UDB application at minimal risk, and that's exactly what MOST delivered remotely – and most effectively."