



## Springfields migrates nuclear fuel application from OpenVMS platform to Windows

Springfields reduces operating costs, and obtains greater reliability for the future, as they replace their VAX hardware and migrate a key application from OpenVMS to a more flexible Windows Server environment.



### The Customer

At Springfields Fuels (formerly British Nuclear Fuels Ltd) we operate the site of the UK's main nuclear fuel manufacturing operation. It was the first plant in the world to make nuclear fuel for commercial power stations and has the technology to manufacture fuel for nuclear power stations are met by Springfields.

### The Challenge

We have provided products and services to over 140 reactors in 12 countries. Our Control Systems application software controls the manufacture of fuel elements for nuclear stations.

All production control data is fed into a shared proprietary OpenVMS-based Rdb database. The applications ran under OpenVMS on Hewlett-Packard (HP) VAX server hardware and were written in Pascal and C using the Rdb database and DCL scripting language.

According to Martin Heaton, Control Systems Development Manager: "The plant is currently being modernised and the replacement of the VAX hardware is part of this modernisation. There are

*no possible package replacements for our unique software applications - so migration offered the quickest, cheapest and lowest-risk option for us to move from this ageing DEC VAX platform to an open, and more flexible, Windows Server environment."*

### The Solution

Advanced migrated our critical Control Systems application to an open and more flexible Windows Server environment using their toolset for OpenVMS to automate the majority of the migration processes. The toolset converted the application to run in an HP ProLiant Windows Server 2003 Enterprise Edition environment.

The Pascal code was converted to C and, together with the applications' C code, was transferred to operate on the target platform with the Oracle 10g replacing the proprietary Rdb database.

The Advanced Open Libr8 product was utilised to support the replacement of our OpenVMS systems services, and Advanced Open DCL was employed to replace the DCL scripts.

### Client >

Springfields Fuels Ltd

### Sector >

Manufacturing

### Project >

OpenVMS Application Migration

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Martin Heaton >  
Control Systems  
Development Manager >  
Springfields

# Springfields migrates application from OpenVMS

## Major Benefits

With the application now in a single programming language, we are able to maintain it within the more productive Microsoft Visual Studio development environment. We will reduce our operating costs and obtain greater reliability for the future.

**Heaton concludes** *"The migration and roll-out of the application has been highly successful. Advanced has demonstrated that it has the methodology, software tools and skills to deliver complex projects on time, to budget and to a high level of quality."*

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Martin Heaton >  
Control Systems  
Development Manager >  
Springfields

## More information

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