



Major grocery wholesaler uses Application Analyser to successfully implement their modernisation strategy

A major grocery wholesaler realised the need for a tool that could significantly accelerate their modernisation timeframe, future-proof their core business applications, and return value to their members.

The Challenge

Like many organisations that have a long IT history, the backbone of this major grocery wholesaler's operations were dependent on internally developed COBOL applications running on an IBM mainframe. In this case, most of these applications were written over the last 40 years.

Under the guidance of their CIO, the organisation had been progressively moving to cloud-delivered systems, improving its IT agility and lowering costs. Most peripheral applications had been modernised, leaving only the legacy mainframe COBOL applications that are core to the organisation's business.

The organisation's leadership team realised that they needed to ensure their core business applications would be both cost-effective and sustainable in the future, and identified three main business goals:

- > Save on IT costs by migrating from a traditional IBM mainframe to a UNIX platform
- > Reinvest those savings to replace legacy applications with SaaS alternatives

- > Reduce cost to members while improving operational efficiency
- > Move to an application set that can be more easily supported by new IT staff

The organisation's initiative to reduce their dependency on aging COBOL applications meant that they needed to evaluate their code across hundreds of applications in order to determine what code sets could be decommissioned in a phased approach. This was an effort they had tried on their own, but it was a tedious and haphazard activity that kept falling to the bottom of the task list.

The Solution

We knew that the Application Analyser application understanding tool, could significantly accelerate the organisation's modernisation timeframe. We were able to show how Application Analyser could be used to determine the relationships between applications, and at a code-level what could easily be moved or replaced, including all interdependencies and dead code.

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Within three months, the organisation was able to remove hundreds of unneeded components from their environment - a task that would have taken them several person-years of work to do manually.

Major Benefits

With our help, this major grocery wholesaler has been able to speed up their initiative to modernise through replacement. This organisation is actively re-investing in packaged applications, enabling them to move to more sustainable, efficient and supportable solutions at an overall reduced cost to members.

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