Case Study | EVN

Fast integration with central SAP system following carve-in

In the framework of a carve-in, the energy and infrastructure services provider EVN is using Scheer PAS as a replacement for the SAP Business Connector to simplify and accelerate integration with third-party applications. Following acquisitions, new international business units can thus be seamlessly integrated into all EVN's central processes. Today the company's IT landscape is highly performant and transparent. The company is in a position to react to new requirements with speed, flexibility, and agility.

Challenge

- Integration of processes and IT following the acquisition of new business units
- Introduction of SAP in new countries in the framework of the carve-in is too expensive
- Replacement of SAP BC with SAP PI is too costly for these cases
- International collaboration is difficult due to language barriers

Solution

- Continued use of existing applications in the countries
- Problem-free communication in multicultural development teams through model-based approach
- Search for lightweight SAP BC replacement
- Scheer PAS as supplement to SAP PI
- Introduction of executable UML models

Results

- Executable specification offers transparency
- Increase in overall corporate efficiency
- End-to-end lifecycle from design through production
- UML improves collaboration between all countries
- Low server requirement, high performance

EVN

EVN is a leading energy and infrastructure services provider with a market capitalization of more than €3.4 billion.

EVN Group offers its customers electricity, gas, heat, water, and recycling of thermal waste from a single source, based on state-of-the-art infrastructure. EVN is active in 14 countries, employs approximately 9,500 people, and achieved revenues of more than €2.2 billion, with more than 58% growth in profits over the last four years. EVN supplies electricity to more than 3 million households.

"The high ROI was the deciding factor in the decision to opt for Scheer PAS. The unique model-based approach will lead to a significant increase in productivity throughout the whole company – for years to come."

Robert Redl | CIO EVN AG

Immediate productivity

EVN uses SAP as the central core application for business processing. Following the acquisition of electricity distribution companies in Bulgaria and North Macedonia, the new business units were to be integrated quickly into all central processes. At this time, however, none of the acquired firms were using SAP, and the immediate replacement of the ERP infrastructure in the new countries was deemed to be too expensive and too time-consuming.

In parallel to the carve-in, EVN had to replace a total of 103 services with 390 subflows, which were previously handled with the SAP Business Connector (BC). A pilot based on SAP PI, which was carried out for this purpose, did work technically but required a significantly more complex server infrastructure and a high level of development experience in order to integrate third-party applications with SAP.

For this reason, EVN began to look for a solution that, in combination with SAP PI, would offer a more lightweight alternative for replacement of the SAP BC interfaces. The new solution would also facilitate easier connection of the heterogeneous applications in the new countries.

Scheer PAS offers high development speeds, low overall costs, a flexible architecture, and a quality-oriented approach. Scheer PAS is the perfect complement to SAP PI.

Dr. Ralf Banning | contexo | Senior Consultant

Two birds with one stone

EVN decided to go for the purely model-based approach of Scheer PAS to accelerate integration of the Eastern European countries in the framework of the carve-in. At the same time, the SAP BC migration efforts in the company headquarters in Vienna went ahead.

A comparison of the different integration methods provided the following results:

- For a small adaptation to an existing interface – by far the most common scenario – the Scheer PAS team needed less than 4 hours. Inclusive of documentation, testing and installation in the production environment.
- With SAP BC – one of the more lightweight development tools – the same task took 1-2 days.
- With SAP PI, the same task would take significantly longer due to the much greater complexity, since the full development cycle must be run through even for smaller adjustments.

The new interfaces created with Scheer PAS include connectivity to local backend systems, of which some have been developed in-house, to a commercial application in the energy sector (SIV), all B2B integrations, including bank connections via SWIFT, and also the connection to EVN headquarters in Vienna.

About Scheer PAS

Scheer PAS is an innovative software company helping companies to implement necessary changes in processes and applications as easily and quickly as possible as part of their digitalization efforts.

Let's talk change!