stonebranch

KMD

Simplifies Automation
Landscape by Replacing
IBM Agent Technology

KMD

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Stonebranch Universal Agent simplifies complexity, improves usability and reduces costs of distributed batch processing at KMD A/S, one of the largest IT service and software providers in Denmark.

BIRGIT JENSEN
Head of Application Operations,
KMD Denmark

"The deciding factor for choosing Stonebranch Universal Agent was the experience we discovered together over the last 8 years.

In addition to excellent quality of service, the license policy and the pricing model is very unique and offers future-proof scalability."

Background

With 3,200 employees in Denmark and 500 in India, KMD is one of Denmark's leading IT service and software companies. For more than 40 Years, KMD has played a significant role in helping Denmark's public sector to become one of the best-run, most efficient and digitized in the world.

KMD has developed and currently operates more than 400 IT systems that support the Danish welfare state by processing billions of Danish kroner each year, equivalent to more than 20 percent of Denmark's GDP.

Challenges

Since 2008, KMD has relied on workload automation technology from Stonebranch. Until now, however, the distributed batch processing had remained untouched. Driven by increasing license costs, challenges in handling, finding, and managing job output, and the heterogeneous IBM agents portfolio, the company made the switch to Stonebranch.

KMD had been using Fault Tolerant Agents (FTA), SAP extended agents (x-agents) and z-centric agents. The company now needed to update the existing environment to improve visibility, simplify usage, and enhance operational efficiency.

RESULTS

- 43% decrease of relevant jobs

- 12% faster processing time

- No additional training costs

- 36% reduction of installed agents

- Simplified complexity, improved usability and overall cost reduction

Solution

"The deciding factor for choosing Universal Agent from Stonebranch was the experience we discovered together over the last 8 years. In addition an excellent quality of service, the license policy and the pricing model is very unique and offers future-proof scalability," says Birgit Hansen, Head of Application Operations at KMD.

KMD's complex scheduling environment based on mainframe and IBM TWS scheduler included 98% SAP processes such as ABAP processes, process chains and restarts, and modify variants, as well as various additional individual settings.

The project timeline for conversion was very aggressive, just 3 months, to meet expiring license agreement dates.

"Stonebranch's implementation was fast and to the point," says Torben Leonard Olsen, Senior Specialist at KMD. "It took the experienced Stonebranch team only 2.5 months to convert all 26,000 existing jobs."

Stonebranch has once again demonstrated its professionalism with this outstanding performance. Issues relating the individual setup and the variations in the agent technology were solved in close collaboration, with quick and thorough responses.

Results: Return on Automation*

Using the Stonebranch solution, KMD was able to consolidate their agent landscape, reducing the number of agents by 45, and streamlining job scheduling with a massive decrease in the number of overall jobs.

KMD began the conversion process with 125 IBM agents, running 26,000 jobs. Today, KMD runs only 80 Universal Agents and has decreased the number of jobs to 15,000 as a result of the conversion project with Stonebranch.

"With Universal Agent, we can process 12% faster than before. Using Stonebranch we were able to eliminate job failures, reduce complexity, and improve the usability of our distributed batch processing immediately," says Torben Leonard Olsen. "And no additional staff training was needed."

Stonebranch Universal Agent is the only independent and vendor-agnostic scheduling agent technology in the industry that works with any third-party scheduling solution. This is a big advantage for KMD, who are able to entirely preserve their existing scheduling landscape.

* Return on Automation (RoA): the investment in automation and the right automation tool pays off in a short time and returns many benefits. These include higher efficiency, faster processes, greater process reliability, higher data throughput, seamless integration, and higher production. Theoverall result is an increase in profits.

TORBEN LEONARD OLSEN
Senior Specialist Infrastructure Outsourcing Central, KMD Denmark

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ABOUT STONEBRANCH

Stonebranch builds dynamic IT automation solutions that transform business IT environments from simple IT task automation into sophisticated, real-time business service automation, helping organizations achieve the highest possible Return on Automation.

Using Stonebranch's simple, modern and secure IT automation platform, enterprises can seamlessly orchestrate workloads and data across technology stacks and ecosystems.