

Client: Leading Financial Services Product Company
Location: USA

Client Description

The client is a group company of a leading financial services solutions provider operating globally. Their solutions support more than \$55 billion of assets.

Business Need

This product automates virtually every aspect of a credit union from image processing to on-line loan application, mortgage lending to integrated general ledger, fixed assets to shares, lending, collections, certificates, EFT transactions, audio response, voice response, ATM processing, ACH processing, shared branching, disaster recovery, asset/liability management connectivity and more.

As the client was based in a place where IT skills were rare and difficult to procure, they were having difficulties in creating a development team for developing their next generation product line. The existing development team was using Extreme Programming methods to develop the new product. Adapting XP to work remotely was a key issue. The client required the assistance of a vendor who would be able to address all the above issues effectively and ensure product deadlines were met.

Solution Offered

Blue Star Infotech (BSI), with its extensive expertise on Java platforms and prior experience in developing products using Virtual XP methodology, was able to provide a cost-effective solution by utilizing its offshore development centers. BSI set up an ODC staffed with a team of Java experts along with domain experts to develop the new product.

The key elements to undertake development using Virtual XP were:

- Appropriate infrastructure to enable real-time visual communication
- Appropriate tools that would address the various needs at each stage of the XP lifecycle
- Development and test engineers with excellent communication skills

The offshore team members were also rotated periodically onsite to ensure team integration and absorption of working styles and product knowledge. Each team member was carefully selected as XP required a different approach and thinking to software development.

The team was subdivided into small groups that mapped itself into corresponding groups on the client side. Each group was managed by a client-appointed project manager.

Communication channels were set up to facilitate smooth interactions and team communications which was a key element in the XP model. Each iterative cycle was a 4-week burst during which a complete feature was designed, developed and tested. BSI adapted its CMMi processes around XP. The success of this was amply demonstrated by the fact that the client was able to meet its customer commitments by delivering a quality product.

Rational's Clearcase and Test tools were integrated into this environment. This resulted in daily exchange of code and builds enabling relevant stakeholders to view progress daily.

Benefits to the Client

- The development team was ramped up in a short very short period. As a result, the client was able to meet its market commitments
- Cost of development was reduced significantly.
- The BSI team made key recommendations related to the technology used which further resulted in reducing deployment costs
- The client had access to a large pool of resources well-versed on their product and technologies. These resources were later leveraged for maintenance, support and product enhancements

TECHNOLOGY

- Windows 2000, Linux, HP9000
- Java (JSP, Java Beans), XML, DHTML, Javascript, Tomcat, Oracle, Junit, ANT
- Rational Clearcase, Rational Test

For more information about Blue Star Infotech:

USA	+1-(408) 235-1640	bsia_ca@bsil.com
UK	+44-020-8538 2710	bsil_uk@bsil.com
India	+91-22-2490 1870	globalhq@bsil.com

www.bsil.com