

## Böhler Edelstahl Cuts IT Costs in Half with Rehosting



*"We wanted to introduce IT technologies to future-proof our business. Rehosting provided us with a wonderful mainframe retirement plan to get into a more flexible and open environment. The new UniKix platform allows us to quickly adapt changing production processes in order to benefit from new market opportunities."*  
*Johann Weigand, CFO, Böhler Edelstahl*

### Highlights:

- Reduced annual licensing and operational costs by 50%
- Improved performance over previous mainframe environment
- Rehosted IT environment more responsive to new market requirements
- No impact or retraining of end users required

### UniKix environment delivers solid performance for years

Headquartered in Vienna, Böhler Edelstahl GmbH & Co KG (Böhler Edelstahl) is one of the world's leading manufacturers of high speed steels, tool steels and special materials. Faced with growing maintenance costs on an outsourced z900 mainframe and an inflexible IT system, Böhler Edelstahl decided to rehost its custom application. Since moving into production on a rehosted UniKix™ mainframe rehosting environment, Böhler Edelstahl's annual licensing, maintenance and operating costs have been reduced by 50%. The rehosted environment has now run solidly for years and delivers better performance levels than achieved on the previous mainframe platform.

### Preserving business-critical application logic

Böhler Edelstahl's custom application handles business-critical production scheduling for all company orders. The system coordinates the provisioning of materials and semi-finished products, thus it is one of their most important applications and contains detailed business logic that could not be changed.

Before committing to a full scale migration, Böhler Edelstahl performed a pilot project, testing 50 selected online and batch applications. The company successfully demonstrated that it could continue to use its highly specialized networked production and finishing planning application with minimal disruption and no change to end users in functionality or performance on the new target environment.

### Implementing a complete solution

After determining that costly and disruptive reprogramming could be avoided through rehosting its mainframe workload, Böhler Edelstahl began a complete rehosting project of more than 500 programs with over 1,450 PL/1 sources.

Major elements of the mainframe rehosting solution included the following:

- UniKix™ Transaction Processing Environment (TPE) and UniKix™ Batch Processing Environment (BPE) software were used to run rehosted IBM® CICS® transactions and batch workloads on the open environment



- OPC job control was addressed by UC4 job scheduling
- IBM® DB2® / VSAM and DL1 / VSAM data sets were migrated to Oracle® database
- 300 IBM® Query Management Facility (QMF™) business intelligence reports were migrated to open systems

With careful planning and organization, Böhler Edelstahl completed its migration project in 7 months.

#### No impact to end users

The detailed production scheduling system was seamlessly moved from a proprietary outsourced IBM mainframe to open system servers. The change only impacted administrators and – to a lesser extent – programmers. End users did not even notice it, first because the existing business logic was adhered to and second because of the smooth system migration.

"End users did not notice the hardware being changed during rehosting. They worked just as they did before," states IT Manager Josef Scheiber. "Therefore there was no need to invest in user training. In addition, operations were not affected by the project. Thanks to the perfect execution and the excellent implementation from a technical viewpoint, the migration was accomplished trouble free, just as we had planned."

#### Solid, consistent performance

Overall Böhler Edelstahl's rehosting endeavor was a complete success. Since completing the project, the new target environment has run without disruption. Today, Böhler Edelstahl continues to make frequent updates to this key rehosted application as well as regular platform enhancements as well.

#### About Clerity

Clerity is a leading full-service provider of legacy migration, modernization, and optimization solutions. Drawing from over 16 years of experience, Clerity recognizes that companies have significant investments in core applications and procedures and provides a wealth of low risk, high value tools, technology, and services to reduce IT costs without sacrificing current functionality and service level agreements. Headquartered in Chicago, Illinois with offices worldwide, Clerity has customers in all in major countries, including some of the largest financial services ISVs and Fortune-class end users.

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