



Tunisian Post Office

Faced with increasing subscriber volumes and the desire to rapidly role out new, expanded services, the Tunisian Post Office found its current IT system unable to efficiently keep up with market growth and changing requirements. Looking for a solution that would support all current functionality and enable an evolutionary path forward, the Tunisian Post Office decided to rehost its key mainframe applications to open systems.

Highlights:

- Existing mission-critical workflows and business logic were preserved on open systems
- Seamless migration performed with no production downtime
- Over \$80,000 per year savings in annual maintenance fees
- Nightly backup window reduced from 14 hours to just 2 hours
- Cost-effective, flexible target environment established for future application development

TMI and Clerity move key postal and financial mainframe applications to open systems

Operating since 1999, the Tunisian Post Office (known as Office National des Postes or 'ONP') performs mail distribution, financial services, and supports additional areas such as direct marketing and money transfers across Tunisia.

ONP employees over 9,000 people and processes over 111 million regular letters a year and is now branching out into areas such as express mail and parcel delivery service as well.

ONP seeks evolutionary path forward

ONP initially deployed its central operations on highly-available Siemens RM 400 technology, however rapid growth and the addition of new services quickly tapped out all available processing, memory and storage capacity on this platform. Faced with increasing subscriber volumes and the need to rapidly role out expanded service offerings, a scalable, open architecture was desired.

In order to maintain current operations and service levels, it was important that all current functionality be supported by the new target platform. Overtime, key applications and data would be evolved to a 3-tier architecture with Java technology and relational databases in the new environment.

Also, given the importance of on time main distribution and financial services such as ATM transactions and related operations, no down time was acceptable during the migration.

UniKix technology from Clerity offers best of both worlds

After reviewing several options, the Tunisian Post Office decided rehosting was the most technically viable solution. Key to this decision was UniKix™ mainframe rehosting software from Clerity.

UniKix™ Transaction Processing Environment (TPE) software and UniKix™ Batch Processing Environment (BPE) software enabled ONP's current applications to run on open systems without modification.

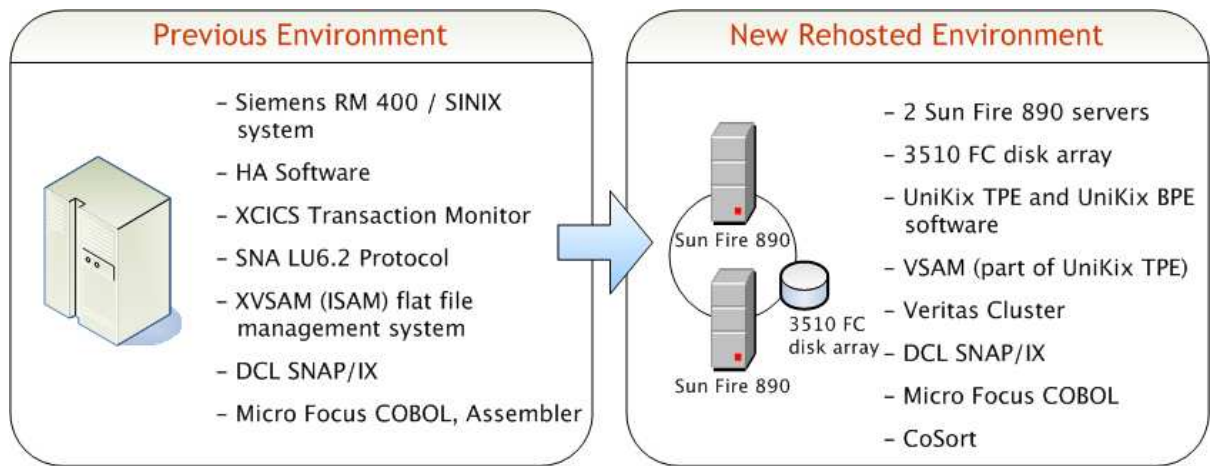


Figure 1. Overview of ONP Rehost Implementation

“Clarity’s rehosting software provided a clear way for our existing applications to be transitioned to open systems without risk. Through rehosting, our key workflows, data, and investments were protected while we gained the benefit of a highly-scalable, cost effective alternative platform, said Mr. Abdelrazek, Slama, Director of Information Systems at the Office National des Postes.

TMI delivers seamless implementation

As a certified solution partner for UniKix technology from Clarity, Tunisie Micro Informatique (TMI) was selected by ONP to perform the application and infrastructure migration.

Working with a designed team from ONP, TMI rehosted central and regional site applications, addressing money-order, central checking and savings transactions, online financial services, and post office operations.

The project was done in a phased approach over a period of 15 months. As illustrated in Figure 1, *Overview of ONP Rehost Implementation*, TMI implemented a RISC architecture with end-to-end fiber optic technology for optimal performance for ONP.

Over 100 online programs and 1800 batch programs were rehosted during the project, along with 200 screens and 1400 files.

Rehosting is a complete success

According to Mr. Habib Bssila, Project Lead and Director of Production at Office National des Postes the project has been a complete success.

ONP’s month-end processing time was reduced from 8 hours to 15 minutes; backups were reduced from 14 hours to 2 hours. ONP also estimates that it now saves over \$80,000 USD/year in maintenance costs with this move.

“Moving to the open systems environment not only met our goals for cost-effective future scalability, but we also experienced significant improvements in response times. We were pleased by the professionalism and expertise TMI maintained at all times during the migration,” according to Mr. Bssila.

Going forward, ONP has a highly-available, open systems platform equipped to meet the needs of its current and future customers.

About Clarity

Clarity is a leading full-service provider of legacy migration, modernization, and optimization solutions. Drawing from over 16 years of experience, Clarity 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, Clarity has customers in all in major countries, including some of the largest financial services ISVs and Fortune-class end users.

Learn how Clarity can provide an evolutionary path forward for your application and data environments at www.clarity.com.

