

Central States Health & Life Co.



Highlights

- Reduced IT costs
- Required no training
- Protected investment in mainframe applications
- Enabled integration of new applications and affordable scalability for future growth

Leveraging Mainframe Applications to Reduce Costs

“We believe we’re saving approximately 25 percent when compared to the Credit Division’s charge for our shared mainframe. Additionally, we’ve projected that our costs are between 20 percent and 35 percent of the expense the Credit Division would incur if running their own mainframe.”

- Eric Kennedy, CIO, Central States of Omaha

Central States Health & Life Co. of Omaha (CSO) is a supplemental health and life insurance company specializing in credit protection markets. When the Agency Division of the Central States Health & Life Co. of Omaha (CSO) decided to move off of its mainframe, its sister division, the Credit Division, was left wondering what options it had.

With the arrival of open systems that offer better performance and lower cost of operations, CSO’s Credit Division knew it was important to integrate new applications with its existing mainframe applications, while leveraging its original investment in applications that had been developed on the mainframe over many years. So it began the process of migrating its CICS/Cobol applications from the mainframe to open systems.

“The transition went very well,” says Eric Kennedy, CIO at Central States of Omaha. “This was especially true for our users as they did not need new training. The transition was seamless to them.”

CSO used UniKix™ Transaction Processing Environment and UniKix™ Batch Processing Environment software from Clarity to migrate 220 online programs and 350 batch programs. The migration project also involved 90

VSAM files, 150 screens, 45 batch jobs, and 220 transactions.

Clarity’s software provides a CICS-compatible environment that runs existing CICS applications largely unchanged, with mainframe-equivalent (or better) performance and reliability. Kennedy notes that excellent support from Clarity was a key factor in making the transition to the open environment very smooth. Another important factor was the three-week custom training and consulting session hosted by Clarity Services.

In addition to reducing costs, the new system speeds up batch processing and online response. The Clarity solution enabled CSO to keep the value of proven CICS based applications while dramatically reducing the costs associated with mainframes.

Learn More

For more information on mainframe rehosting solutions from Clarity and associated products please visit:

www.clarity.com