

Project Note

Service-oriented management of personnel data

IWB wished to optimise its personnel administration with a service-oriented integration solution. Zühlke managed the project, implemented the integration solution and trained the IWB project team.

Task

IWB, Industrielle Werke Basel, wished to set up a service-oriented architecture (SOA) as a basis on which to develop a central process-supporting IT architecture. Phase 1 entailed an analysis of the process for personnel data management. Prior to this project, IWB had maintained its personnel data manually in various systems. Recording and editing often gave rise to deviations between the various databases that were very time consuming to correct.

A new SOA was to be installed to integrate the systems and automatically reconcile the personnel data. The solution supported automatic and manual processing tasks. These services in the Personnel area were the initial steps toward implementing an enterprise-wide SOA as part of the IT strategy of IWB.

Implementation

Zühlke consultants staged several workshops with the customer's team to analyse and optimise the relevant personnel processes and determine the requirements.

The team then defined the services and implemented them on the integration platform utilising Microsoft BizTalk Server. The adapters that were supplied with the BizTalk Server shortened the time it took to integrate systems such as Axapta, SAP, Active Directory and phone directory. Windows Share Point Services now use task lists to manage additional manual activities, such as issuing an employee ID. The employee handling these activities is automatically receiving an e-mail informing him or her of new tasks.

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Technical Data

- BizTalk Server
- .NET
- C#
- Windows Share Point Services
- SAP
- Axapta
- Active Directory
- Web Services
- Phone directory

Customer benefits

- Drawing on Zühlke's SOA experience, IWB was able to put its first personnel management services into successful operation as a pilot project after a short development period.
- With the training they received during the project, the customer's team can take the next steps toward realising a SOA on their own and can operate the new system.
- Thanks to Zühlke's external management of the project, the solution was put in place quickly and entailed only minimal efforts at the customer's premises.

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