

Updating a Mainframe to Handle Modern, High-Volume Ordering Demands



Background

The client is an American wholesaler of food and grocery store items. It is one of the largest privately held company in the United States and the largest wholesale grocery distributor in the United States, based on revenue.

The Challenge

The system was initially designed to handle order quantities and costs amounting to a maximum of \$999.99. However, they now had to handle increasing order volumes and correspondingly higher costs, so they needed to expand the weight and cost fields in their system. To address this limitation, they had a logical layer that converted a single order into multiple orders before the billing amount was calculated. The vice versa conversion then had to happen again upon invoicing and billing in order to abstract the information from the customer.

This logical layer and conversion added an overhead time which made the process complex and processing slower.

Furthermore, the company lost few potential customers as their requirement was to have the costing up to 5 decimals against the existing 2 decimals which resulted in loss of revenue.





Nsight Solutions

Nsight's highly experienced team had the expertise in Mainframe Programming and Database Handling to successfully resize all the required fields across programs, files and databases spanning the client's applications.

Using a phased approach to the project execution, Nsight's team performed a thorough Impact Analysis of the existing system before starting the Design and Development phases. To fast track the Impact Analysis, the team proactively automated the process by creating a menu-driven tool. The analysis identified over 2500 COBOL and Ezytrieve modules that impacted over 40 databases and files. The Analysis also discovered an impact on over 250 RPG modules, so the team created a custom tool to understand these RPG codes, which significantly facilitated the analysis and understanding of these modules.

The project was running on a 15-month deadline, so it was important to monitor the progress of the project. The team created different trackers to monitor the work by resource, progress, and milestone completion. They also created a robust review process and assembled a Quality Assurance team to deliver the project on time with less than 5% errors.

Business Benefits

-  The client is now capable of handling high volume of orders and costs for at least next hundred years
-  Increased process efficiency
-  Increased customer satisfaction
-  Project successfully completed on time and within budget

