



Transportation

A Fortune 500 provider of transportation services, solutions and logistics management engaged Idexcel to assist them in reducing operating expenses by combining the support of two legacy companies into a single set of operating systems. Their portfolio of brands represent a comprehensive array of services for the shipment of industrial, commercial and retail goods domestically and internationally.

Challenge

Combining operational systems of the legacy companies was quite a complex task. Part of the strategic direction included centralizing the operating platform to a 37-year old environment with a high-performing database, proprietary user language and interface running in MVS. Daily transactional volumes ranging in the millions had to be supported by the combined systems within the same operating window. The challenge for Idexcel was to design and prove-out that these transactional throughput volumes could be supported by the combined systems with similar operating windows, all within a 6 month timeframe in which to prove and correct any errors prior to production deployment.



Solution

Idexcel quickly implemented a load and performance test process, evaluated and acquired the right testing tools, assisted in the risk analysis of the systems, and created and implemented test scripts. This included taking a baseline of current system performance, building tools to simulate load on each of the systems individually, and then orchestrating a blended load test across the integration points between the systems. This allowed the technical staff to remediate and implement a system into production that was virtually free of performance issues.

Idexcel performed the following services:

- * Test Tool Evaluation Services: Evaluated both Compuware and IBM software to determine which would work most effectively within the environment. Compuware Hiperstation was chosen to leverage load and performance testing as well as convert data from one environment to the other.
- * Application Troubleshooting Services: Suggested practical techniques to tune the dialogue services of the Hibernate applications and identified a number of application issues in which techniques around JVM size, Teradata buffering sizes, garbage collection settings, and thread limits were implemented by the application teams.
- * Load and Performance Testing Services: Implemented process, plan, reports and staff to perform load and performance testing.

Results

Idexcel successfully conducted this program resulting in:

- * Combining systems successfully without any major performance issues experienced by the business teams.
- * Identification of major MQSeries performance issues prior to implementation of the combined system avoiding potentially significant outages.
- * Load and performance testing of 17 major systems and integration points in a 6 month timeframe.
- * Leveraged use of Hiperstation and IBM Rational Functional Tester and Performance Tester for testing and conversion efforts.