

Automic® Automation

Genworth Ensures System Visibility and Management

Business

Genworth, a division of Genworth Financial, is a leading provider of Lifestyle Protection and Mortgage insurance across Europe, Latin America and Asia Pacific. Annual revenue of nearly €800 million and partners with 120 clients in 25 countries.

Challenge

- Streamline month-end processing.
- Automate 1,300 manual tasks.
- Overcome limited visibility and control.

Solution

- Intuitive design tools and reusable objects.
- Centralized management and monitoring.
- Embedded documenting of business process flows.
- Audit logs and reporting.

Benefit

- Reduced monthly financial close processes by 74%.
- Projected to save 100 human-days per year.
- Improved all IT process knowledge.



Client Profile

Organization: Genworth

Industry: Insurance and Finance

Business

An Industry Leader

Genworth, a division of Genworth Financial, is a leading provider of Lifestyle Protection and Mortgage insurance across Europe, Latin America, and Asia Pacific. Genworth has an annual revenue of nearly €800 million and partners with 120 clients in 25 countries, serving over 9 million customers.

Financial services companies offer Genworth insurance products at the point where a consumer is making a financial commitment, such as taking out a car loan or mortgage, or securing a credit card. These credit-linked products protect customers when they cannot meet payments on specific financial commitments due to illness, accident, unemployment, disability or death.

Case Study

"It was central that we changed everyone's thinking about how we operated. Historically, we thought manually but we had to begin relving more on automation. Working with Automic helped make that change. **Automic Automation** Platform has become an enabling technology that we've applied across our business. Instead of being focused on infrastructure issues. we now get invited by our finance group and other users to help them use automation to address their business challenges. As a team, we've gone from being invisible to highly visible within the company."

- Paul Ryan, IT Production Operations Manager at Genworth

Challenge

Manual Intervention Presented Significant Risks

In order to deliver high-quality customer service, Genworth needed to replace its iSeries based, in-house developed insurance applications. The company decided to implement an Oracle database solution that would run on a Unix platform. While the iSeries included some automation capabilities, switching to Unix left Genworth having to use scripts and basic operating system tools to manage its IT workload.

Genworth sought a workload automation solution that would eliminate the manual intervention required in the new UNIX environment. In particular, they wanted to streamline the month-end close process that consisted of over 1,300 tasks and required a series of manual interventions. This workload had been broken down into four enormous shell scripts that a DBA would submit and monitor, introducing significant potential for errors and delays. After investigating several alternatives, Genworth chose Automic® Automation Platform to automate these processes.

Solution

Full Visibility Across IT Landscapes

Automic Automation Platform provided Genworth with intuitive design tools and reusable objects and the ability to manage complex dependencies. IT Ops no longer waits for the production run to discover systems failures. Automated alerting ensures that problems are rapidly identified and resolved. A daily pre-flight check queries the Automic Automation Platform to identify, test, and alert issues with core components. Auditing ensures the tracking and reporting of all processing activity.

Solving the month-end close problem was just the beginning of a fundamental transformation in the way Genworth approached IT challenges. Genworth has used the Automic Automation Platform to empower support teams with self-service tools that allow them to build and manage their process flows. Integrated security and reusable objects simplify the adminstrative process while ensuring separation of duties. This success helped establish IT's credibility with business users and drove thinking into how they could get more out of Automic Automation Platform.

Genworth also leveraged the Automic Automation Platform to consolidate the knowledge they needed to support its IT processes. "Instead of relying on information that key individuals carry around in their heads, we've been able to capture and document how our systems work and what to do when things go wrong," said Ryan. "We had a key employee, called Tony, who we went to whenever things went wrong. It occurred to me that should anything happen to Tony, we'd lose a great source of knowledge. Automic Automation Platform not only provided us with the ability to automate our workload. It also allowed us to document our process flows and map the dependencies. As it turned out Tony decided to leave, but now we are okay because we have Automic Tony."

Genworth has also used Automic Automation Platform to gain valuable insights across its IT landscape. Details from over 900 disparate objects are automatically extracted and transformed into XML structures before they are used to populate the enterprise CMDB. This information is continually refreshed, ensuring that Genworth benefits from access to a complete,

Case Study

"We've been able to realize significant, measurable business value by automating finance and accounting."

- Paul Ryan, IT Production Operations Manager at Genworth up-to-date, and accurate inventory of its IT assets. Mapping the relationships between servers, networks, applications, and other IT resources has proven vital when planning configuration changes or investigating issues.

Benefit

Genworth Reaps Benefits

"With Automic Automation Platform we've managed to reduce operational risk and strengthen our compliance profile by removing avoidable risk caused by manual intervention in our processes," said Ryan. "We've been able to realize significant, measurable business value by automating finance and accounting."

"As a result of the Automic Automation Platform implementation, we've achieved a 74% reduction in our monthly financial close process and a projected savings of 100 human-days per year," said Ryan. "Month-end processing starts at 5:30p.m. on Friday and must be completed by Monday morning. When we first implemented the Automic Automation Platform, it finished on early Monday morning. By using Automic Automation Platform execution data IT operations was able to optimize the process by 50%, identifying job dependencies to restructure the flow, reduce idle time, and risks to the overall process. Additionally the developers were able to make improvements to long-running steps in the process, which prior to Automic Automation Platform, we had little visibility of. Now we're done by early Saturday morning."

Automic Workload Automation provided Genworth with intuitive design tools and reusable objects as well as the ability to manage complex dependencies. "Automic made it simple for us to upgrade from Oracle 9i to Oracle 11g," said Ryan. "Thanks to Automic Automation Platform structure, it was simply a matter of shutting down old agents and starting new ones."

"True success is achieved through people," Ryan summed up. "They want to be able to drive innovation. With Automic Automation Platform we were able to document and automate the thought processes of our best minds allowing them to have a much greater impact on our future business success."

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