Press release

Groupe Mutuel entrusts Hardis Group with rewriting its financial application

• **The number 3 health insurance company in Switzerland, Groupe Mutuel, has given itself 5 years to overhaul its information system in Java RCP;**
• **It has entrusted rewriting its financial and litigation management application, currently in AS/400, to Hardis Group;**
• **A project that will take 5,100 man/days, spread over 16 months, until June 2012.**

Grenoble, Lausanne, June 7, 2011 – Hardis Group, an IT services, software publishing and facilities management company, and its partner API SA, a Swiss IT company specializing in consulting, systems integration and IT infrastructure management, announced the signing of a major new contract with Groupe Mutuel, the number 3 health insurance company in Switzerland. Objective: to completely rewrite Groupe Mutuel's financial and litigation management application, in the broader context of the NOVA project for overhauling the information system of the insurance association.

Financial and litigation management: the last module in AS/400

With 1.3 million customers, Groupe Mutuel, the number 3 health and accident insurance company in Switzerland, is an association of four insurers, representing nearly 1,800 employees and 3,000 brokers. Five years ago, the Group embarked on a major project: the complete overhaul of the Java RCP information system, to modernize it and align it to the needs of businesses.

Financial and litigation management is one of the latest applications, but also the most critical for Groupe Mutuel: with 700 users, it is used to manage the insurance group's key business processes. Today it is the last module still running on AS / 400, and it is becoming urgent to replace it since it alone means that it is necessary to keep and maintain the old platform.

Hardis Group: the "natural" contact

In its current version, the financial and litigation management module was developed with Hardis' Adelia Studio software engineering tool. For the Groupe Mutuel IS department, it was natural to turn to the publisher to determine the feasibility of an automatic transformation of RPG for AS/400 of Java origin. *"We advised Groupe Mutuel against migrating such a critical application with a tool of this kind since experience shows that it does not give good results: it is impossible to automate recovery and rewriting of all the business rules, says Joanne Barfety, Sales Engineer at Hardis. Moreover, this kind of project deserves that the ergonomics of the application be optimized, the difference between the screens in AS/400 and Java being too great".*

This technical requirement led Hardis Group and its partner API SA to offer Groupe Mutuel a new development in Java RCP facilitated by Hardis staff's knowledge of applications designed using Adelia Studio and their ability to make a retro-specification of the existing system. Hardis' ten years of experience in carrying out Java projects, together with its very pragmatic approach to securing projects by tests and acceptance have quickly convinced the Groupe Mutuel IT managers, who for the first time since launching the NOVA project, chose to outsource the development of a module.

16 months and 5,100 man/days

Although the initial idea was to iso-functionality rewrite the entire application, the first steering meetings with key users quickly led to a division of the project into 2 lots: rewriting the financial application at constant perimeter, and functional redefinition of litigation management, particularly the integration of processes that were hitherto outside the application before their Java development.

Although reading the existing code and translating it into businesses and functionality rules are simplified by the fact that Hardis Group is the publisher of Adelia Studio, the project is estimated at 5,100 man/days, including 1,600 for redefining and writing the litigation perimeter. The project was begun in March 2011 and scheduled to take place over 16 months. It is expected to be readjusted between now and June depending on the results of the analyses of the existing system and the prototype under development.

About API

API was founded over twenty years ago by Maxime Borros, CEO of the company. It is one of the key IT companies in Switzerland in the field of IT infrastructure solutions and services. With about 70 employees and branch offices in Lausanne, Geneva, Neuchâtel and Zurich, API aims to be a key partner for IT departments, especially in the areas of banking, insurance and administration. In 2010, API's turnover rose by 25 % to over 12 million Swiss francs.
www.api.ch

About Hardis Group

Hardis Group was created in 1984. It is both a software publisher and an IT services company. Ever since it was created, this company has built growth in a resolutely different way, based on pragmatism and the core values of local presence and a strong commitment to both customers and employees. The founding directors still run the company, 25% of employees are shareholders, and all the personnel is based in France.

Hardis Group does business in seven main areas: Infrastructure and Facilities Management, Development and Third Party Application Maintenance (TPAM), Project Owner Consultancy and Assistance, Business Intelligence, Logistics and Transport (Reflex solutions), Development Tools (Adelia Studio), and Payroll Outsourcing (Saphyr software).

As a software publisher, Hardis Group is capable of integrating its own solutions and can also call on the services of a network of partners. Its consultants are experts in high-quality IT project methodologies (such as ITIL and CMMI).

Hardis Group made a turnover of €47.3 million in 2010. To date, Hardis Group has more than 2,500 customers and employs 550 people. Its head office is located in Grenoble, with five other branches in Lyon, Paris, Lille, Nantes and Rennes.
www.hardis.fr

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