MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Company Reduces IT Testing Team Requirements by 50%

MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Company (MOL Group) is one of the leading integrated oil and gas companies in Central & Eastern Europe. The group, which does business under six brands, operates a regional filling station network with more than 1,000 sites in 10 countries. Its shares are listed on the Budapest, Luxembourg, and Warsaw Stock Exchanges, and its depositary receipts DRs are traded on the US Pink Sheet and London’s International Order Book.

Challenges

- Extend testing processes related to version upgrades and database infrastructure to minimize manual effort needed, while ensuring stability of solutions delivered to end users and avoiding interruptions to critical business operations
- Centralize manual testing within the IT department to optimize efficiency in terms of human resources
- Cut costs by reducing reliance on external developers to gain added competitiveness in the price-sensitive oil and gas market
- Accelerate implementing changes to the database infrastructure without causing performance problems

Solution

- Gained efficiency in database testing using Oracle Real Application Testing and its database replay feature, lowering manpower requirements for certain testing processes by 50%
- Centralized the testing process in the IT team and eliminated reliance on external developers, reducing costs while ensuring the rigorous standard of testing needed to safeguard business-critical systems
- Modernized testing methods with the ability to test the system using real life workloads, increasing the assurance that the system will perform properly post-deployment under the complex demands of supporting MOL’s day-to-day operations as a multinational oil and gas producer, distributor, and retailer
- Lowered the time needed for the overall testing cycle, reducing costs and enabling faster deployment of system enhancements
- Set the stage for further improvements by upgrading the database patch and version in preparation for adding Oracle Real Application Testing SQL Performance Analyzer later in 2010, to enable filtering out SQL-level problems in early stages