

Meritz Financial Group Cuts Development Time from Six Months to Three Months



Meritz Financial Group
Seoul, Republic of Korea
www.meritz.co.kr

Industry:

Financial Services

Employees:

17,000

Oracle Products & Services:

Oracle WebCenter Suite
Oracle WebLogic Server
Enterprise Edition
Oracle JDeveloper
Oracle Application Development
Framework

Oracle Partner:

Meritz Financial Information
Service
www.meritzfis.com

“The use of Oracle Application Development Framework has laid the foundation for the development of next-generation mobile services at our company.” – Cho SungWoo, CEO, Meritz Financial Information Service

Founded in 1922, Meritz Financial Group provides fire and marine insurance, securities, investment banking, and asset management. The company also has an IT services arm that provides technology services to its four business divisions.

With an increasing number of staff using smartphones, Meritz Financial Group realized it needed to make corporate e-mail, calendars, message boards, and other business applications accessible to staff via their mobile devices. To achieve this, the company had to create a portal and a development framework for mobile devices that was highly secure and could support a range of smartphones.

After evaluating a range of solutions, Meritz Financial Group selected Oracle Fusion Middleware products to build the portal and development framework. As a result, the company has gained a development framework that supports multiple mobile devices, enabling staff to use the smartphone of their choice to access business applications through the groupware portal.

The Oracle Fusion Middleware products enabled Meritz Financial Group to complete the portal and development framework in three months, rather than the six it originally planned for.

Accommodating a Mobile Workforce

Since early 2009, Meritz Financial Group has been developing a groupware portal to support global expansion plans. During that time, the use of mobile devices has increased rapidly and the company realized it had to cater for staff who wanted to use their smartphones to access groupware services such as calendars, documents, e-mail, and shared databases.

However, deploying groupware on a fixed mobile platform limits the type of devices that employees can use and incurs extra development costs each time a new device is introduced. Meritz

Key Benefits:

- Cut development time from six months to three months by implementing a groupware portal and development framework for mobile services in one stroke
- Gained a development framework that supports a wide range of mobile devices, eliminating the need to develop new interfaces to its groupware portal each time a new device is introduced
- Improved collaboration and productivity by enabling staff to use their smartphones and tablet PCs to access groupware
- Simplified development work by using Oracle ADF's design layer to develop and maintain individual application components
- Positioned to save a significant amount of money over three years in reduced application development and maintenance costs

Financial Group needed a solution that supported multiple mobile devices and that enabled rapid application development. The answer was Oracle Fusion Middleware products.

Support for Multiple Devices

Meritz Financial Group developed its groupware portal using Oracle WebCenter Suite (including Oracle Application Development Framework (ADF), which is part of the Oracle WebCenter Suite) and Oracle WebLogic Server. The company used Oracle JDeveloper as its primary development tool.

The Oracle products enabled the company to design a groupware portal that supports different types of mobile devices, including Apple iPhones, BlackBerry phones, and Samsung Galaxy Tab tablets, as well as smartphones running the Android or Windows 7 operating platforms.

This gives staff the freedom to use the device of their choice to access the groupware portal. They can use e-mail, manage and view calendars, search for their colleagues' contact details, and communicate via message boards. Single sign-on and stringent authorization policies ensure the security of information exchanged via the portal.

The ability to work anywhere, anytime using any device has improved collaboration and increased productivity at Meritz Financial Group.

Development Time Cut by 50%

By using Oracle Fusion Middleware products, Meritz Financial Group was able to establish a groupware portal and development framework for mobile devices in one stroke, cutting development time from six months to three months.

In addition, the ability to support a range of devices means the company will not incur development costs when a new device is added. The page rendering function provided by Oracle ADF eliminates the need to develop new screens for each device.

Meritz Financial Group also expects to save a significant amount of money in development and maintenance costs over the next three years. This excludes productivity gains within the IT team.

Why Oracle?

After evaluating solutions from various vendors, Meritz Financial Group chose Oracle ADF because the Java EE framework supports a range of mobile devices and integrates well with legacy systems and groupware.

Implementation Process

Meritz Financial Group engaged its IT services arm and Oracle Partner Meritz Financial Information Service to develop the portal and mobile service framework.

The development of both solutions was made easier through the use of Oracle ADF's Model-View-Controller design pattern. The Model links different data sources and executes business logic; the View processes the application user interface; and the Controller acts as an interface between the Model and View functions.

Developers can use these connected but independently functioning layers to develop and maintain individual application components. This increases the efficiency of development work and provided Meritz Financial Group with a single, standards-based architecture for a range of services.

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