

IBM Client Reference



Home Product Center Public Co. Ltd.

Synopsis: *A home-improvement company in Thailand lowers its total cost of ownership and raises its return on investment while eliminating manual processes when it works with IBM Business Partner Stream I.T. Consulting Ltd. to implement IBM WebSphere and IBM Information Management software*

Location: Nonthaburi, Thailand

Industry: Retail

URL: <http://www.homepro.co.th>

Client Background:

Founded in 1995, Home Product Center Public Co. Ltd. (HomePro) is a home-improvement retailer that offers products and services to both residential and commercial customers. The company's offerings include construction, decoration and refurbishment. HomePro is located in Nonthaburi, Thailand.

Business Need:

Because Home Product Center Public Co. Ltd. (HomePro) offers numerous product lines and services, it uses many different processes. The company had an SAP application to automate some of its processes, but it performed others manually. This made the system cumbersome, inaccurate and inefficient.

HomePro initiated a project named Together to automate its manual processes. The first process it aimed to optimize was the price-change process. The company planned to customize its SAP application to support this, but the SAP developer and maintenance costs were a concern. Therefore, HomePro needed a new solution to automate its processes.

Solution:

With help from IBM Business Partner Stream I.T. Consulting, HomePro installed IBM WebSphere Lombardi Edition V7.2 software to automate its price-change process. This IBM Business Process Management (BPM) platform enabled the client's system to update price changes in real time, averting errors. The system feeds in the new price as soon as the vendor updates it on the portal, helping to ensure accurate pricing on all goods and services. WebSphere Lombardi Edition software is a scalable platform to accommodate the increasing number of business processes and application management demands of the client's entire business.

Once the business partner installed WebSphere Lombardi Edition software, it implemented the following IBM WebSphere products to support the infrastructure to link the client's existing SAP and other applications:

- IBM WebSphere Integration Developer V7.0 software
- IBM WebSphere Enterprise Service Bus V7.0 software
- IBM WebSphere MQ V7.0 software
- IBM WebSphere Business Integration Adapter for SAP Exchange Infrastructure V6.0.2 software
- IBM WebSphere Application Server V7.0 software

IBM DB2 Workgroup V9.7 was also installed in this solution. HomePro uses it as a database for its price-change solution.

Benefits of the Solution:

By tapping IBM Business Partner Stream I.T. Consulting to implement a suite of IBM WebSphere and IBM Information Management software, HomePro reduced the time to develop and deploy the BPM platform and minimized the downtime in the transition for manual processes to an automated application.

The new platform is cost effective, therefore lowering the client's total cost of ownership and leading to a higher return on investment. HomePro now has complete visibility of all processes, enabling continuous improvement and optimization, which increases productivity from its IT and business professionals.