



We believe that Allied Worldwide's experience with such implementation projects was the key to the success of our Microsoft Project. We have been very impressed with the high degree of support we have enjoyed in all our dealings with them.

Senior Manager

Major Automotive Manufacturer

CLIENT

Major Automotive Manufacturer

CHALLENGE

To streamline their IT Strategy and provide a cost-effective centralised IT solution

SOLUTION

Active Directory Solution

RESULT

Seamless application & data integration and cost savings



Major Automotive Manufacturer Streamlines Corporate Strategy with Active Directory Solution

Allied Worldwide assists Major Automotive Manufacturer with an enterprise-wide Active Directory Solution, to simplify application integration & support data communication across the enterprise, while reducing costs.

About our Client

This UK based company is a subsidiary of a large German car manufacturer with facilities and operations across the globe. This organisation is responsible for the distribution, sales, marketing and promotion of all automobile products in the UK, and provides a host of support services to their dealer network and customers.

The Scenario

The group corporate applications were moving to an Active Directory technology, and the automotive manufacturer's strategy was to ensure that applications in future would be deployed via a Centralised Deployment Tool to be incorporated within Active Directory.

Without Active Directory, the UK business could not participate in the corporate group strategy and the European platform would increase the pressure associated with maintaining a local and costly Novell environment.

Business Challenge

The German car manufacturer's corporate objectives required a plan to centralise their IT strategy and move to a locked down XP platform. This relied totally on participation in the group's active directory and on overcoming the high cost of ownership, by administering systems and solutions from several suppliers.

Additional concerns to be addressed involved functionality, legacy applications, secure data exchange and the need for ease of use, combined with the ease of managing the system for future global solutions.



Allied Worldwide is an ISO 9001 accredited organisation, uniquely positioned to support today's results-focussed CEO who requires flexible and innovative solutions in an increasingly demanding global environment, to deliver high performance business solutions against ever decreasing time scales.

The Solution

A scalable, resilient Active Directory Solution was implemented, which enabled a safe and secure migration, and alignment of all corporate users into one corporate strategy. The Allied team worked on the Customer Data Integration (CDI) Project and assisted in the following areas:

- Creation of a number of tightly controlled XP desktop builds and the creation of log scripts to deliver authentication, via active directory and conditional application deployment.
- Decision process within the application deployment method (complete design based on windows Terminal Server, Citrix, Altiris and SMS 2003) and the deployment of applications via SMS 2003. This replaced a NAL 500 application, which was tested for the first time on XP and packaged using WISE, to deploy via SMS 2003.
- Augmentation of the customer helpdesk facilities to cover peaks in load when new desktops are introduced; and provision of a team to build & deploy desktops, to reduce support overhead.
- Physical deployment of around 1600 new desktop and laptop computers.

The Result

Allied Worldwide's experience of managing high level and strategic technical strategies made us the customer's partner of choice. A partnership approach allowed them to prove their capabilities in order to drive the Active Directory Project forward from development, design, testing, specification and implementation, with minimum disruption and seamless migration.

The Active Directory solution has aligned the UK business with German HQ developments and the business is able to share data with other global locations far more easily. This provided the ability to implement a solid and stable environment, which is fully prepared for the next generation of desktop operating systems and less reliant upon legacy and unsupported applications, such as NT4 and Novell.

Additionally, this implementation has delivered a lower total cost of ownership, compared to the high cost of ownership involved in administering the previous system and solution from multiple suppliers.

Allied Worldwide Ltd.

Allied is proud of its associations with both Microsoft and VMware. Allied is a Microsoft Gold Partner in the Devices and Deployment Competency and Microsoft Silver Partner in the Server Platforms Competency.

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