



The Next Generation: Natural Leaves, Java Enters

innowake converts Vontobel’s mission critical Natural applications into Java using full automation

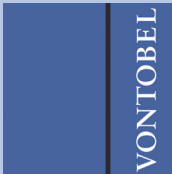
Natural applications are known for their robustness and stability. Having had decades of ongoing improvements they contain abundant knowledge about on organization’s business processes. This has come at a price: technology has long moved past mainframe applications and leave much to be desired. Fully aware of this situation, the Swiss private financial institution Bank Vontobel chose to move to the next generation with their IT: Leaving Natural and Adabas behind and going with state-of-the-art technologies Java and Oracle. Employing innoWake’s innovative parser technology the entire application and the business logic it contains was transformed safely and fully automated.

Welcome To This Great New World

A large portion of the mission critical processes are in a state of constant change to adopt to ever changing market conditions. In finance this speed becomes obvious when considering the increasing complexity of new or changed regulation - be that Basel III, Risk Management, or similar initiatives. Established and monolithic mainframe applications continue to become more and more complex.

»Until now corporations with mainframe based applications had two choices to tackle this challenge: either hire a staff of software engineers to do nothing but implement changes or purchase off-the-shelf software. Thanks to innoWake we now have the happy medium«, says Toni Gasser, Head of Integration Services.

To retain important functionality contained in the current application the Swiss company decided to migrate from Natural to Java with innoWake’s help. »Our goal was porting the application one-to-one including the entire screen flow. After migration everything needed to work precisely as it did before in Natural.« For those aspects of the application representing processes that are practically identical for all

Customer Facts	
	
Company	Vontobel Group
Founded	1936
Headquarters	Zürich
Employees	1,400 world wide

banks and don't deliver a competitive advantage off-the-shelf software now does the job. Next to modernizing the application the bank was finally able to pull the plug on the mainframe.

innoWake Speaks Both Languages Fluently

The technology specialist implemented the following process and design: migrating the Adabas data to Oracle as well as fully automated transformation of the Natural source code to Java employing innovative Natural parser technology. The project was structured into

multiple phases. First a team around Toni Gasser identified all the code and Adabas files that were worth retaining and extracted it from the full application.

Toni Gasser, Head of Integration Services

Secondly, innoWake migrated the resulting stand-alone applications. During the migration process innoWake's professional services team verified and tested the results of every step.

After a 6-month journey through the process all applications arrived in the world of Java and have been functional since November - with the same stability and error-free. Tony Gasser concludes, »Thanks to the migration to Java our applications are not only fit for the future but also ready for quick and flexible adoption to whatever dynamic the market will require of us.«

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