Case: Bank Co-operative Computer Center

Client: Computer Center of the Bavarian Co-operatives

(Raiffeisen-Banks), Munich; clearing house for all co-operative banks in southern Germany (approx. 1000 banks).

Problem:

Require long-term (>9 months) storage of paper-related material information such as checks and transfers for puposes of access to data in cases of customer claims resulting from a loss, incorrect transaction data or mis-routing. Actual failure rate approx. 2 - 3% per day. Total volume covered about 600'000 to 1'200'000 paper-related transactions per day. Operation runs on several large mainframes by Siemens and IBM; databases used are ADABAS and VSAM/ISAM structures.

Aim:

Provide statistical means for establishing patterns and operational anomalities within clearing house functions to management. Improve operations and reduce costs; long-term strategy: feed data back to originating bank for them to keep track of in daily situation instead of computer center. User group: small team of inhouse specialists. Easy to use system with complete freedom of search domain.

Solution:

Access mainframe data in a daily download onto a work station-based system. Compress the data and store index information in a relational database. Volume per day approx. 65 MBytes, total 1 year data volume 13 GByte. Reduction factor due to our compression about 1:8 or a total of 1.6 GByte data colume plus approx. 0.5 GByte indices. High compression factor due to structured data, making it possible to handle the entire operation on three hard disks for quick access to information. Provide indices within relational database and keep compresed data outside in our related search structures. De-compress only small increments of data when required. Search on: primary and secondary keys like originator bank code, destination bank code, amounts in domains, such as DM 50-100, 500-2000, etc., type of transaction, etc. Provide client/server architecture in a TRN LAN environment; graphical common user interface through OS/2 Presentation Manager and access mainframe for downloads, system administration. Time frame: 13 man-months for implementation.