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STREAMLINING A SOLUTION TO HARD CODED BUSINESS RULES

CM evolveIT can scale up to enterprise environments,
so you can trust it to handle your most complex challenges.

When companies began to use computers to solve tough problems, no one expected that the programs they wrote would last as long as they have. Short cuts that were made consciously or unconsciously appear in all enterprise software, and are difficult to deal with due to the sheer volume of code that compose most enterprise software systems. The volume of code problem is exacerbated by the fact that these critical systems must run in a 24x7x365 environment, with little tolerance from the business for transactional errors or downtime.

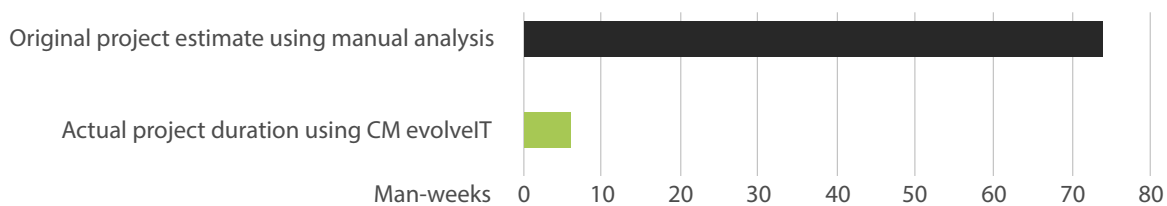
For one large, Fortune 500 brokerage firm, that choice involved hard-coded business rules for location ID numbers. As the company ran out of ID numbers and needed to reuse one, they had to pore through millions of lines of code to see if that ID number was used in any business rules. This effort had to be repeated on each new project, and led them to realize they needed to catalog every hard-coded rule, so they could permanently eliminate the problem.

Evaluating the challenge, they calculated that it would take multiple teams 74 man-weeks to manually analyze the code and produce specifications. Most importantly, with the possibility of human error there was no guarantee that they would find every instance of hard-coding. It was time to get some help, they decided. After several proofs-of-concept (POCs) using different vendor tools, they determined that there was either too much manual effort, or there were too many false positives and false negatives to produce a quick payback from acquiring a new tool. Then they tried out CM evolveIT.

The sophisticated static analysis and code slicing capabilities of CM evolveIT proved out in the POC. The team used CM evolveIT's Regular Expression Search capabilities to identify hard-coded rules across the entire application portfolio. The team then used CM evolveIT's automation capability to export the hard-coded rule instances into XML. The entire project was completed in two weeks with a small team of three, representing a time saving of well over 90%. They also cross checked the results, and determined that the accuracy was superior to other approaches. The developers were thrilled, as they were able to refocus the time savings towards new development projects.

"The speed and accuracy amazed all of us," noted one developer. "And our managers were delighted at the cost savings we realized as a result of using CM evolveIT. Going forward, I can see a ton of ways we can use this solution to help us be more productive with our mainframe work."

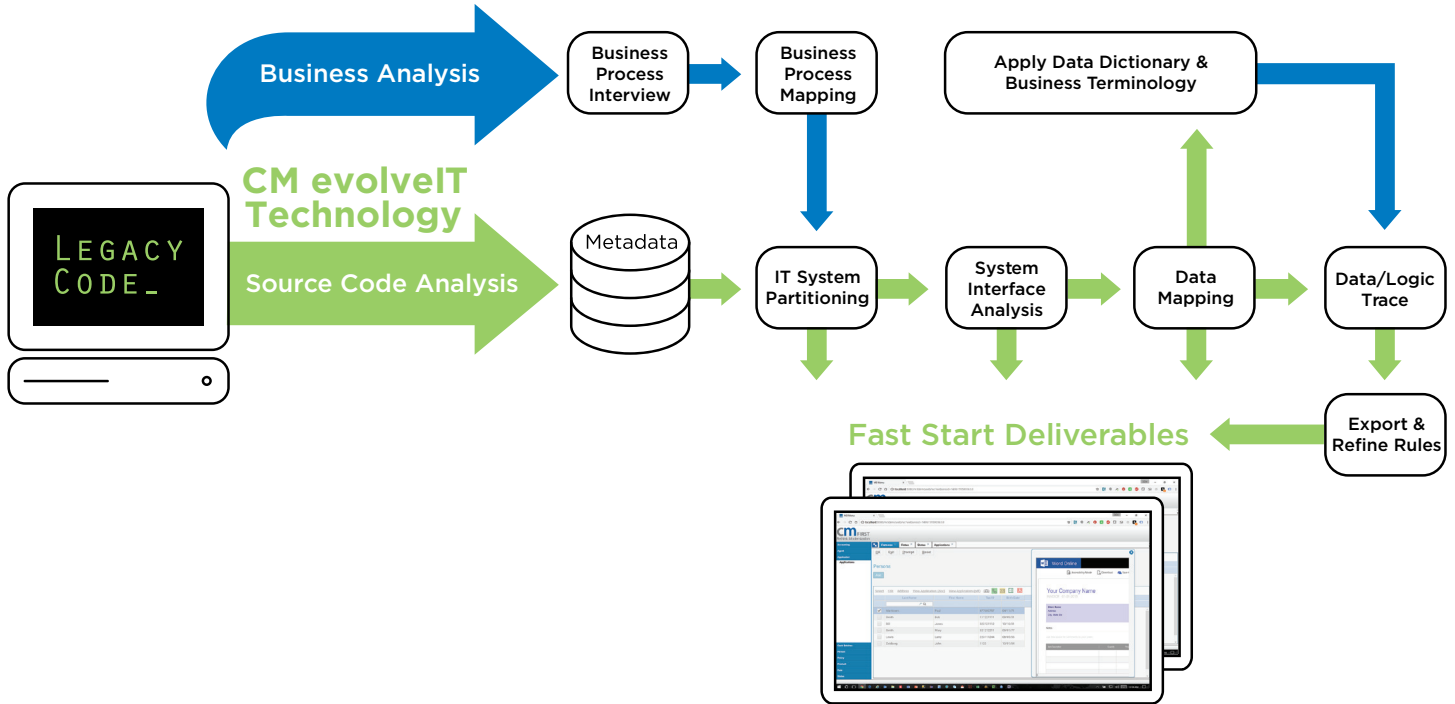
Accelerating Mainframe App . Maintenance



Continuing to maintain enterprise COBOL programs? As many companies realize the value of continuing to run their enterprise applications, CM evolveIT is a go-to solution for understanding, maintaining and improving the code base.

Our Approach

Rules harvesting projects can be made practical with the use of the CM evolveIT automation and a proven methodology. Our proprietary methodology on slicing a system is unique in the industry. We have learned how to work with customers to understand how to extract rules in a variety of contexts and situations.



ADDING MEANING TO CODE

To complete a business rule extraction project one needs strong support for the business analyst. The analyst can then see the programmed influences on the result, and decide which ones are fundamental to the business and which are simply supporting technology coding. The key notion is to trace system output data backwards through the control and data flow paths that produce or affect it, using automation to handle scale and complexity. This lets the analyst focus on the essence of the computation and its conditions, while the tool handles the problem of navigating through complex mountains of code.

CM evolveIT Benefits:

- + Enables building a business vocabulary.
- + Finds unknown rules implemented within the application code.
- + Reduces risk with phased approach.
- + Filters out non-relevant processing through the rules extraction process.
- + Improves communications between IT and Business Analysts for as is process.
- + Enhances new system object oriented design by isolating data objects and potential methods for new design.

About CM First Products

CM First Group's powerful automation tools, augmented by services partners and professional services staff with many decades of software engineering and DevOps experience, ensure successful outcomes for even the most demanding modernization projects. Our products and expertise have helped over 400 customers in the public and private sectors reach their desired future state faster and more cost effectively than by using conventional approaches.

CM First software quickly analyzes, documents and re-platforms legacy code bases with minimal errors and rework, including those that are too large and complex for humans to tackle in any reasonable timeframe. The output is immediately usable by all team members, regardless of experience and knowledge of legacy software languages, accelerating application maintenance and modernization projects.

For more information, visit cmfirstgroup.com/products/CMevolveIT

Request a Demo Today

Contact us for more information or to schedule a demo. Call 888-866-6179 or email us:

info@cmfirstgroup.com