

CASE STUDY

CORERO BUSINESS SYSTEMS



COMPANY PROFILE

Corero Business Systems, a Civica Group company, is one of the UK's leading suppliers of software products to colleges, academies and schools. Its education management solution, Corero Resource Education Management System (REMS), is in daily use at over 40 college establishments, covering key operations such as enrolment, registers, course planning, timetabling and exam processing.

ACHIEVED BENEFITS:

- Modern programming standard
- Faster, single-platform product development
- Higher developer availability
- Higher quality products
- More competitive offering

CORERO MAGIC TO .NET MIGRATION IN NUMBERS:

- Over 40 customers using REMS
- 5 long term Magic programmers
- Magic version migrated – uniPaaS 1.9
- Magic code (export) size: 150MB
- Over 2,000 application screens
- 2 weeks of specialized .NET training
- All customers upgraded to .NET based version within 8 months



FireflyMigration
Magic to .NET



**OUR MIGRATED,
.NET-BASED APPLICATION
NOT ONLY WORKS FASTER
BUT HAS ENABLED US
TO PROVIDE IMPROVED
FUNCTIONALITY MORE
QUICKLY. MICROSOFT'S
DEVELOPMENT TOOLS
ALLOW US TO DEVELOP
BETTER AND PROVIDE
HIGHER QUALITY PRODUCTS
FOR OUR CUSTOMERS.**

– Mike Stansfield
Product Development Director



” CORERO’S TEAM OF FIVE LONG TERM MAGIC PROGRAMMERS HAS BECOME AN EXTREMELY PRODUCTIVE GROUP OF C# DEVELOPERS WHO ARE VERY HAPPY WITH THE NEW PLATFORM! ”

– Mike Stansfield, Product Development Director

THE NEED TO ALIGN WITH THE MODERN DEVELOPMENT STANDARD

After many years of development using the Magic platform, Corero looked for a modern platform to enhance system functionality, expand development capabilities and bring all of its products under a single development platform.

PLATFORM UPGRADE OPTIONS

Corero considered three options for a platform upgrade:

- Moving to .NET by a complete rewrite of the application.
- Upgrading to Magic’s RIA platform.
- Migrating to .NET using Firefly Migration’s fully automated solution.

FIREFLY MIGRATION PROVIDED THE BEST PROOF OF CONCEPT FOR A PLATFORM UPGRADE

- As a proof-of-concept, Firefly Migration presented a fully functional .NET-based version of REMS, including prototypes of improved end-user experience enhancements.
- The automated migration to .NET would substantially reduce the risks of manual coding and supports functionality that is unavailable in current versions of Magic.
- The migration did not require any development freeze.

To further validate its decision, Corero had an external .NET expert evaluate the migrated C# code. The expert confirmed that the resulting code is of high quality and an excellent foundation for Corero’s future developments.

PAINLESS MIGRATION IN 6 MONTHS

With highly professional and responsive support from Firefly Migration’s team, Corero completed testing the migrated application in only six months. During that time, Corero continued supporting its customers with maintenance and upgrades. Corero’s Magic programmers underwent Firefly Migration’s specialized .NET training and became productive C# developers.

“The migrated code reflects what we’ve done in Magic, but in C# code, and has given us the confidence to use native C# for new development”, said Technical Manager Sue Kinch.

.NET IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS

Moving to an open, standard platform has helped Corero reach more potential customers and, released from the cost of run-time license fees, boost its competitive edge.