

Product Line Rationalised

The Task

A multi-national software organisation and world leading provider of software for the auditing and counselling industry decides to streamline their product portfolio. The existing products offered in the market stem from very different sources and cause economic inefficiencies. The large code base of several million lines of code as well as the maintenance of the products by teams of 40 to 100 staff spread across several countries and continents are particularly challenging. Some products have even reached the limits of maintainability.

An external expert, together with a newly appointed CTO, provides technical leadership to the team of over 300 staff. He defines a strategic roadmap for the rationalisation of the existing product set and initiates the transition of the product set to several software product families.



The Highlights

The project necessitates a redistribution of responsibilities. Existing development centres need to support the current products, while establishing a software product line architecture. The investment in a product line is justified by the reduction in development costs and the better responsiveness to the market requirements. The project schedule needs to take into account that the transition to a product line organisation must be performed without disrupting delivery.

The Benefits

- The engagement results in concrete recommendations for the global executive team, and the implementation of appropriate organisational structures.
- The use of modern software engineering techniques raises the quality of all product lines.
- The qualified consulting services make the reorganization very successful.
- Improved product convergence leads to increased model re-use.