

# [competence]

REFERENCE PROJECT

**VHV**

**\_betasystems**

[what]

## Archiving compile lists for subsequent audit

The VHV group, with headquarters in Hanover, runs complex, classes-oriented insurance processes. There is no standard software available for handling these processes, so VHV uses over 6,000 proprietary programs and another 10,000 objects (screen masks, etc.) in a DB2 and CICS environment.



## A VHV-specific solution to clearly identify archived compile lists

The conversion of these proprietary programs produces extensive compile lists which have to be archived securely for subsequent auditing, and available at short notice in order to comply with legal guidelines.

### Interaction with Alchemist Change Management Software

VHV had planned to use the Beta 92 Process History Manager software for archiving its compile lists. VHV has been successfully using this software since 1997 for archiving batch job logs and OS/390 system logs. Using this software however, presented the challenge of clearly identifying compile lists. The Alchemist Change Management software used by VHV stores all compile lists under the same Started Task name, because they are identified using an internal Alchemist label, so compile lists read into the Beta 92 archive could not be clearly identified by their object names.

Beta Systems was able to create a VHV-specific solution within eight weeks. The compile lists archived in Beta 92 could now be clearly identified using individual criteria.

### VHV – The traditional building trade insurer

The VHV Group is a specialist building trade insurer, a reliable partner in the guaranty and securities industry, and one of the largest car insurers and liability underwriters in Germany. In 2003 VHV Insurance merged with Hannoverschen Leben (Hanoverian Life Insurance) to become VHV Vereinigte Hannoversche Versicherung (United Hanoverian Insurance). Since then the VHV group has also become involved in the life insurance sector. The group's 2,700 German employees handle a total of 6 million contracts with a premium value of around 2 billion Euros.

[who]

## [how]



## Determining the selection criteria

VHV uses Alchemist Change Management software from Cybermation to manage its complex insurance processes. Its cross-platform source administration fulfilled VHV's requirements to a large extent, and its dynamic architecture and adaptability to VHV-specific conditions had proven to be very useful. Alchemist does however give all the compile lists stored in JES 2 its own Started Task name.

In the first step, a combined project team (VHV – Beta Systems) analyzed the Alchemist Change Management software and the VHV programs' compile lists. Specifications and selection criteria were then defined based on this analysis.

## Developing a special VHV solution for index creation

Based on the Beta 92 Process History Manager standard software, Beta Systems then developed the Beta 92 Extended Index Facility solution for creating indices according to predefined specifications. This solution creates an index for every list read into the Beta 92 archive and the index enables the compile list to then be clearly identified. This development was completed in less than eight weeks.

## Index created while compile lists are read in

The Beta Systems solution scans compile lists while they are being read into the Beta 92 database. The index for the list is created during scanning, using the selection criteria. These can be subsequently retrieved for subsequent searches.

## Faster access due to intelligent index creation

Once this special solution was implemented, Beta 92's efficiency in dealing with large quantities of data soon became clear. The response time for selecting a particular string in a compile list of up to 170,000 lines was less than three seconds. This means that users doing research can access archived compile lists extremely quickly.

[gain]

### Secure archiving of 16,000 proprietary developments

The solution for creating indices for compile lists enables VHV to securely archive and quickly access the compile lists from its 16,000 proprietary program objects, fulfilling legal guidelines and significantly optimizing development.

### A smooth startup without additional training

After the software had been delivered on time and installed without any problems, the index creation function was subjected to comprehensive testing in VHV's development environment and was started up just one week later. Two months after the solution had been started up, 30% of the program conversions were already archived in Beta 92. In future, all existing compile lists and all new developments will be stored in the Beta 92 archive.

### Implementation without additional training

Since the company had been using Beta 92 for many years, very little extra training was required. Exceptional performance in handling large compile lists produced a high degree of user acceptance.

### Mainframe know-how and solutions competence

*"Beta Systems has convinced us of their solutions competence and know-how in handling mass data. Based on their Beta 92 Process History Manager standard software, the Beta Systems team quickly created the Beta 92 EIF solution, which was exactly tailored to fit our needs and requirements. Excellent performance in implementation, punctual software delivery and a smooth startup are all indications of a high-quality solutions provider. It all took less than eight weeks, from the first steps, until the solution's complete delivery. Beta Systems more than fulfilled our expectations."*

(Andreas Neubüser,  
Information/systems technology and  
database department, VHV)

[experience]