



MidVision troubleshoots and builds an IBM WebSphere MQ solution for a leading, UK based, international derivatives broker for integration with a key partner

"We knew we'd picked the right technology, but unfortunately we didn't have the right skills in house to implement it properly. MidVision were able to provide resources onsite, fast, that fixed the burning issues we were struggling with, and then made sure our implementation was as comprehensive as possible."

IT Director





Customer: International Derivatives Broker

Industry: Financial Markets

Deployment Country: United Kingdom

Solution: IBM WebSphere MQ

Overview

This organization is a leading international derivatives broker operating in a broad range of markets, including exchange and OTC traded financial and commodity futures and options, equities, foreign exchange and bullion.

Business need

This organization trades a number of derivatives including metals, energy, sugar, cocoa, coffee, equities and foreign exchange, across a number of global markets with offices in London, Moscow and Hong Kong.

As a Ring Dealing/ Category 1 member of the London Metal Exchange (LME) their business model demands access to every major exchange worldwide, offering clients fast, direct access to global electronic markets - and this in turn demands the integration technologies to make this possible.





Solution

The organization had already identified IBM's market leading integration technology, WebSphere MQ, met their needs for performant, assured connectivity to the customers. markets, exchanges and partners they traded with, but were lacking in the skills and resources required to architect and build the solution they needed. Initially, MidVision were engaged to troubleshoot some connectivity issues they were facing, and once these were fixed, MidVision were engaged to build their integration platform and provide ongoing support.

Benefits

MidVision's team of technology-enabled resources are on hand to assist when organizations find skills and resource gaps.

For this organization, MidVision delivered:

- People that made a significant difference to their business from day one
- Removal of critical program issues through our deep understanding of the issues
- Increased return on investment by providing the right combination of people and technology for the business issue
- Improved confidence in delivery through our experience and expertise, and track record of success



Additional Case Study Background

The specific requirement for this work was the implementation of connectivity to a specific Exchange to provide electronic trade confirmations and clearing in realtime.

There four key aspects to this work:

1. WebSphere MQ Troubleshooting

The client had a single WMQ Queue manager installed to enable them to communicate with the InterContinental Exchange - ICE. Internally they had an application, written in the C# programming language, which consumed messages sent by ICE and processed them - this application read the client's Queue Manager's local queue.

The WMQ environment was hosted on a single 6-core Linux server which also co-hosted the Development, User Acceptance Testing and - the soon to be delivered - Production environments. Each environment had its own queue manager and each queue manager should have been identical - except for the communication end-points. The client's intention was to keep each queue manager in synch with respect to its setup - the only values that were to vary were the environments that the queue manager would connect.

However, the client was unable to create the connections successfully that would correctly synchronise the queues - but MidVision had the skills to deliver and document this so that the client could manage themselves from that point on.



2. Best Practices and WebSphere MQ Naming Standards

In addition to fixing the connectivity issues the client was having, MidVision were able to help the customer architect and create a production environment as per the UAT environment configuration. MidVision also created a message cloning facility to route a copy of production messages to a UAT environment for testing purposes.

As part of this project, MidVision were able to advise the client on the best practices for designing and deploying a WMQ architecture and work with them to define and document the naming standards to be used.

3. Technology Enabled Services

Once this initial implementation had been fixed, built and was up and running, MidVision's technology enabled services team continued to work with the client in a number of areas including managing parameters to support capacity planning, isolating the production environment in order to reduce risk along with designing and implementing a Disaster Recovery architecture.

MidVision also undertook a security audit of the WMQ environment and implemented a security model to restrict the access to the queue managers, helping the customer with their compliance with industry regulations.



4. Licence Acquisition

In addition to providing the services described, MidVision also acted as the license reseller for this customer, advising on the correct volumes and types of licenses and how to license IBM software correctly for sub-capacity and Disaster Recovery configurations.

Products and services used

MidVision products and services that were used in this case study:

Software: IBM WebSphere MQ

Services: Technology Enabled Services for WebSphere MQ IBM Software Licensing Support

Take the next step:

