

Case Study

A large insurance company achieves regulatory compliance with privacy laws

BigID & OpenLegacy combine forces to extend sensitive data management to core legacy systems

3 weeks

instead of 3 months to create new APIs
(using 60 copybooks and VSAM files)



Maximized access to data
locked in CICS VSAM files

This company is among the largest global providers of insurance, annuities, and employee benefit programs, with 90 million customers in over 60 countries. They asked OpenLegacy to partner with their vendor, BigID, to help them comply with the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) and EU's General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), while accessing a complete view of customer data.

Insurance ■ APIs ■ VSAM ■ GDPR ■ CCPA ■ COBOL



The Challenge

Ensure that no sensitive data is left behind in the quest for complete regulatory compliance

This insurance company needed to meet identity management challenges—including the “right to be forgotten,” eliminating the customer data and preventing future communications from the insurer to the customer. This was necessary to comply with the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), and the future privacy regulations expected from other states and countries. The insurer needed to access the individual customer’s data view to know what to delete or modify. However, some of the customer data was within VSAM files on the mainframe. VSAM files are only accessible through COBOL copybook offsets, making them hard to access from outside the mainframe.

While the insurer’s data protection vendor, BigID strives to analyze complete customer data, OpenLegacy augments BigID’s ability to access data previously inaccessible in VSAM files.



The Solution

Find a platform that reads variable fields inside VSAM files

After considerable due diligence, the company tapped OpenLegacy to surface sensitive data from core systems for use by its vendor, BigID. Together, they delivered the technology required to meet the company’s identity management challenges including parsing large amounts of data and variable-sized data fields. The company chose OpenLegacy because it provided the easiest, most direct way to access VSAM data.

OpenLegacy’s automatic code-generation approach ensured a rapid integration of the insurer’s large-scale legacy environment. Its VSAM adapter accesses and searches within VSAM by parsing COBOL copybooks.

The adapter supports many forms of VSAM data—including the popular VSAM-Key Sequenced Data Set (KSDS) data—making it accessible via REST APIs. Thus, BigID’s compliance solution can continuously get the most up-to-date data from the mainframe, which uses KSDS data.



The Result

Better privacy law compliance

The insurance company now can identify, protect, or completely eliminate customer data from across its entire environment—legacy to cloud. OpenLegacy's automated API creation provides BigID with easy access to legacy environments, enabling BigID customers to achieve data privacy and compliance and maximize the value of their data trapped in mainframes and other core legacy systems.

Fast API creation

3 weeks to create new APIs leveraging 60 copybooks and VSAM files. In the past it would have taken 3 months at a minimum, which wouldn't meet their regulatory requirements.

New partnership

OpenLegacy aligns with BigID in a merger of complementary strengths. Customers choose BigID due to its cloud-native platform and approach. These smoothly mesh with OpenLegacy's easily deployable microservices, which deliver access to legacy systems.

New customer benefits

BigID now includes one-of-a-kind privacy and security features for managing sensitive data across core legacy systems, powered by OpenLegacy. This delivers the capacity to address similar challenges more easily across all regulated industries, including financial services, insurance, and others.

New customer

Delighted with OpenLegacy's success in maximizing the value of its data trapped in mainframes, the company is exploring opportunities to apply OpenLegacy to its phased migration away from the mainframe. OpenLegacy allows for the building of APIs today so the insurer can plan for the future.

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The growing need for privacy law compliance requires complete access to ALL data, including those in legacy systems. OpenLegacy and BigID made this possible.

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Compliance Officer, Large Insurance Company

About OpenLegacy

OpenLegacy's Digital-Driven Integration enables organizations with legacy systems to release new digital services faster and easier than ever before. Connecting directly to even the most complex core systems, OpenLegacy automatically generates the digital-ready components needed to integrate legacy assets into exciting new innovations. With OpenLegacy, industry-leading companies release new apps, features, and updates while spending a fraction of the time and resources, so they quickly and easily become digital to the core.