

Indian conglomerate ignites digital transformation

OpenLegacy exposes SAP backend applications for use in new digital channels



Manufacturing

Pharma

SAP

Digital Transformation

With its roots in India's steel industry, today the company is a multibillion dollar global federation of companies operating in 22 industries, including pharma, financial services, IT, real estate, agriculture, and hospitality. Famous for its rugged and reliable cars, the company is also known for innovative IT solutions. It has offices in over 30 countries and a global brand presence in more than 100 markets.



The Challenge

Digital Transformation through modernization of SAP backend

The company prides itself on “innovating ahead of the curve,” and the company set its sights on digital transformation: engaging clients and capabilities and exposing legacy backend user interfaces for newer environments such as web, mobile, and cloud.

SAP manages the company's core business functions—supply chain, finance, and HR. SAP has numerous touch points to other applications within the enterprise, too, like CRM, accounting, and third party applications. But integrating SAP to other applications is a challenge. The company uses an on-prem version of SAP but most of the other enterprise applications are cloud-based. Moreover, the user interface is an SAP client, which does not support newer environments.

The company knew that opening up its SAP backend would be key to its digital transformation efforts. One of the first areas selected for transformation was the employee portal, based on the SAP Human Capital module with functionality like hiring, compensation benefits, and expense reimbursement. The company

wanted to build new digital, web, and mobile applications on top of the SAP system powering the portal.

One hundred employees are dedicated to the integration project, comprised of SAP ABAP developers, and SAP BASIS developers (Business Application Software Integrated solution), back-end developers, mobile developers, and designers. Every week the team worked on dozens of business processes in parallel. Exposing one SAP business process as a fully deployed API took them weeks—far too slow to meet the business demands.



With OpenLegacy, we accomplished projects and goals that previously a team of 100 couldn't complete. For us, OpenLegacy not only helps us leverage our existing technology investments, but also our valuable staff.

**IT Executive,
Indian Manufacturing Company**



The Solution

The company partnered with OpenLegacy for a pilot project of opening up the SAP Human Capital Management module.

In the pilot, OpenLegacy generated Java APIs from SAP BAPIs and exposed them as microservices. Then, OpenLegacy's platform which includes support for generating HTML5. The platform created a fully functional, responsive web and mobile application within minutes. OpenLegacy transformed the Sales Order creation and PO workflow into a single process with different approval levels. The OpenLegacy platform automatically generates code that exposes the underlying API it's connected to standard HTML5. The code can act as a standalone web page, a mobile application, or integrated in other applications. Instead of coding from scratch, all that is left to do is apply a design template and look & feel attributes.

The code is standard and open, and can be easily modified and extended within any web development environment. All the backend connectivity is done through the microservice generated by OpenLegacy.



The Result

Overall, OpenLegacy's breadth of expertise enabled the team to move swiftly, leverage best practices, and custom-build the company's fully integrated AS/400 digital solution. Initial results are promising, with notable achievements including:

Minutes instead of weeks, a month instead of a year

With OpenLegacy, SAP processes are exposed as an API and available as a web or mobile application within minutes, instead of weeks. The company estimates that one of the projects—implementing a new Purchase Order Approval workflow—will take a month in total with OpenLegacy, instead of a year with the existing solution.

Unlimited flexibility in API design and deployment enabled agile development and fast knowledge transfer

OpenLegacy's platform is built on open standards and technologies. The required skill set for developers includes standard technologies like Java and HTML5. OpenLegacy trained the in-house developers on using its tools in a few days.

Speed as a digital transformation enabler

Microservices were deployed within days instead of months, which facilitated agile development and initiated a cultural change across the organization. The company's business leaders realize they can have their "wish list" implemented quickly, paving the way to new partnerships and growth opportunities. They don't need to wait for months to enhance the experience for their customers and employees.

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.