

Hahakalit veterinarians are more productive with tablet app for IBM System i (AS/400)

OpenLegacy generates 200 APIs to enhance and empower field operations, and improve customer service



"It was essential for us to have IBM System i data in the hands of our doctors in the field. We looked at many options, and OpenLegacy was the only solution that works equally well with both the legacy environment and the tablet."

Ofi Reich, CEO, Hahakalit

AGRICULTURE | IBM SYSTEM I (AS/400) | MOBILE APP

Founded in 1919, the Hahakalit agricultural cooperative grew to provide comprehensive on-site veterinary services and cattle insurance to most farms in Israel. The organization emphasizes high quality veterinary service to its farm members through a network of hundreds of veterinarians. They perform regular visits and provide rapid response for emergency situations such as disease outbreak. Farmers trust Hahakalit to take care of their valuable assets—their livestock—quickly and efficiently.

The Challenge

Haklait veterinarians travel from farm to farm checking on livestock, so it is imperative that they have key information easily accessible in the field, such as diagnosis, prescriptions and invoicing. The organization needed to find a good way to connect the veterinarians' mobile devices with their IBM System i so data could flow easily from field to headquarters for processing.

The Windows CE-based devices worked but had a cumbersome user interface. However, the device's main shortcoming was the reliance on live communication between the back-end and the veterinarians. Frequently, farms do not have reliable Internet service. At times, incomplete or out-of-date data was sent to the back-end, leading to inaccurate records and accounting discrepancies.

About OpenLegacy

OpenLegacy accelerates delivery of innovative digital services from legacy systems in days or weeks versus months. Our microservices-based API integration and management software reduces manual effort by automating API creation, simplifies the process by avoiding layers of complexity, and improves staff efficiency and API performance. Our software directly accesses and extends business logic to web, mobile or cloud innovations in the form of Java objects, REST APIs or SOAP. Most importantly, this process is not only fast, easy and secure, but also does not require special staff skills or changes to existing systems or architecture. Together, business and IT teams can quickly, easily and securely meet consumer, partner or employee demands for digital services without altering or replacing core systems. Learn why leading companies choose OpenLegacy at www.openlegacy.com.

The organization's CFO decided to upgrade the current solution and eliminate the data errors. Simultaneously, the veterinarians looked forward to a stable system, with an improved user interface.

The Solution

The organization chose iPad Mini tablets. The IT team contacted several mobile app development companies, but none of them knew how to develop tablet applications that integrated through the cloud to an IBM System i back-end. This is a true hybrid integration between an on-premise application and the cloud, which makes it a more complicated than most cloud only tablet applications.

They partnered with OpenLegacy, whose platform exposed all the relevant business processes by generating APIs that connect to the back-end. The tablet application communicates through the APIs to call the business processes. The new application supports offline data storage and communicates to the back-end when a live connection is available, eliminating data inconsistency issues.

Initially the application supported only setting up appointments and ordering medicine. Excited by the initial implementation, the organization added additional features, such as inventory management, schedule management, traffic directions, and electronic signatures.

The Results

- **Financial accuracy through mobile connectivity + IBM System i reliability:** With OpenLegacy, the organization achieved financial accuracy, without compromising on user experience or convenience for its employees. Hahakalit can now leverage and unlock their IBM i data and business processes for use in the field.
- **The speed they require:** This is a good size system. The application handles the data synchronization while handling 65,000 requests per server per hour. They have 3 servers. The port includes 200 OpenLegacy generated APIs as part of the interface.
- **Better user interface, better customer service:** Veterinarians enjoy a state-of-the-art user interface on an easier to use device. Farmers enjoy better service and improved data accuracy, i.e. no more billing discrepancies and related support calls, saving time and money.