stonebranch

Success Story

FirstOntario Credit Union

Automates Disparate Job Scheduling Tools with Universal Agent

Enterprise job scheduling solution centralizes automation and scheduling to reduce risk, time spent, and resources expended.

Background

FirstOntario Credit Union began in 1939 when a group of employees at the Steel Company of Canada created the Stelco Employees Credit Union. Their goal was to get the most out of their hard-earned money by creating a financial institution that identified with Main Street more than Bay Street.

Today, credit unions are very popular in Canada, with nearly 6 million Canadians trusting their local credit union for day-to-day banking. More than 126,000 Ontarians choose FirstOntario for their financial needs, from checking and savings accounts to loans and mortgages, and highly qualified investment advice.

Challenges

FirstOntario Credit Union was using disparate job scheduling tools for its IBM iSeries, Windows, and Linux platforms. Using multiple job scheduling tools required the company to monitor each scheduler separately, decreasing visibility and increasing the amount of time and resources allocated to each job scheduling solution.

Unable to automate their processes in one environment, the IT team sought a solution that worked across platforms without specialization, while also standardizing processes and consolidating existing tools.

Results

- Automated entire job scheduling process

- Reduced time and resources expended by 40%

- Reduce number of errors and risk by 67%

- Increased resilience by 31%

The Solution

FirstOntario Credit Union selected Stonebranch Universal Agent, a solution that enabled the company to replace its diverse agent infrastructures with a single, enterprise-wide execution layer known as the enterprise execution environment.

This unique solution provides one common infrastructure, removing artificial barriers between platforms, departments and applications. Additionally, Universal Agent gave FirstOntario an end-to-end view of all workload activity within its infrastructure through Stonebranch's single system image approach. This unique approach provides FirstOntario with central auditing and monitoring of workload activity across the enterprise, as well as central management of the entire workload infrastructure as if it were a single system.

Michael J. Walsh, director of enterprise technology for FirstOntario, explains: "We needed a solution to control all job scheduling centrally with visibility into all the jobs running within our infrastructure."

The Results

Universal Agent consolidated FirstOntario's job scheduling solutions and simplified compliance by providing a centralized audit trail, no matter where the workload was initiated.

"Universal Agent centralizes our job scheduling solutions, reducing risk because a system of checks and balances is in place throughout our IT infrastructure. We receive an automatic alert if a job has not been completed, or there is an error message," says Mr. Walsh.

Additionally, because Universal Agent is platform-independent, FirstOntario is now able to automate its entire job scheduling process, moving files between systems with minimized risk for errors. Allowing people to work across platforms without specialization improves IT maturity, while reducing hard and soft costs significantly.

Mr. Walsh adds, "By automating our processes, there is no need for manual intervention and the amount of time and resources dedicated to our job scheduling process is greatly reduced."

> "By automating our processes, there is no need for manual intervention, and the amount of time and resources dedicated to our job scheduling process is greatly reduced."

Michael J. Walsh
Director, Enterprise Technology
FirstOntario Credit Union

ABOUT STONEBRANCH

Stonebranch builds IT orchestration and automation solutions that transform business IT environments from simple IT task automation into sophisticated, real-time business service automation. No matter the degree of automation, the Stonebranch platform is simple, modern, and secure.

Using the Stonebranch Universal Automation Platform, enterprises can seamlessly orchestrate workloads and data across technology ecosystems and silos. Stonebranch serves some of the world's largest financial, manufacturing, healthcare, travel, transportation, energy, and technology institutions.