

Real-time Internet Payroll Processing

TriCentra Corporation Takes Advantage of IBM's TPF Product

In today's Internet environment, it is critical that services provided through the world wide web will be available at all times and be able to scale to meet increasing demands. For these very reasons, the nation's first real-time Internet payroll application service provider (ASP), TriCentra Corp., chose to use IBM's Transaction Processing Facility (TPF) software because they knew that a payroll provider must deliver a reliable, available, and scalable solution to its customers.

"Checks" and Balances

The initial concept of processing a payroll sounds fairly straightforward, but in reality it is a very labor-intensive effort that requires constant maintenance to keep up with business needs and with federal and state regulatory changes and reporting requirements.

As more and more companies become multi-state employers, those complexities increase. For this reason, a survey by Coopers and Lybrand¹, determined that payroll is the most commonly outsourced function of America's fastest growing companies. Predictions are that businesses will continue to outsource the payroll function in increasing numbers.

Thanks to new information technologies, payroll can now be processed securely, and in real-time... 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year, from any location convenient to the administrator, and at less cost. TriCentra provides the complete system, known as Priority Pay^ä, needed for a company or payroll service provider to process all payroll functions.

As an ASP, TriCentra delivers the entire payroll system including; hardware and software infrastructure, payroll applications, federal and state regulatory updates, and security and reliability; all from a web interface that can be accessed from wherever the client happens to be.

There is no longer a need to maintain payroll systems in-house or to transfer files and be in a "wait" mode without control of, or immediate access to, your company's payroll data.

In looking to provide a service that would be technologically superior now and in the future, TriCentra sought to find the most highly reliable and available infrastructure products. IBM was pleased to provide the answer in TPF software and underlying hardware; TPF is an operating system that has proven ability in the most demanding environments.

Built to handle extraordinarily high volumes of transactions, in real-time, and with the utmost reliability and availability, TPF

has demonstrated time and time again that it can scale to meet very high demands, demands which are constantly rising. Today, TPF environments are processing in excess of 8,000 business critical transactions per second. TPF is engineered to continue processing even under conditions where other systems would have been brought down.

As an example of the engineering used to maintain availability, changes or updates to software applications can be implemented in real-time without impact to new or existing work... implemented while the system continues to process customer requests.

TPF processes transactions for the majority of the world's airlines and is a key operating system in some of the world's largest financial institutions.. Providing 24 hour a day, 365 days a year availability for systems such as travel reservations and credit card processing, is something that TPF does year after year. In addition, a given TPF system can serve millions of users worldwide. Maria Waldron, executive responsible for New Business and Solutions for TPF, commented that "customers who use TPF have high expectations and process extremely high volumes of work 24 hours a day, 7 days a week all year long. These customers are accustomed to seeing dramatic increases in transactions and in having their core business systems up and running non-stop every hour and every day of the year."

TPF provides an ideal infrastructure element for the new world of ASP'. TriCentra is the leader in providing a true real-time, full service secure Internet payroll system, that is available when you need it, wherever you or your employees are, and at less cost to you than traditional payroll processing. TriCentra provides the entire solution including those constant regulatory updates; as a user of the system to process your company's payroll, all you have to do is access the system through the browser with your secure code.

IBM is committed to providing the latest in e-business solutions to companies like TriCentra, Corporation... companies that use the latest technologies to offer new and innovative ways to solve old problems.

For More Information

To find out more about IBM's TPF product, contact tpfinfo@us.ibm.com or visit the IBM website at www.ibm.com/tpf. To find out more about real-time Internet Payroll processing contact Bob Acosta at inquiry@tricentra.com or visit the TriCentra Corporation's web site at www.tricentra.com.

¹ 1996 Coopers and Lybrand Survey