ProData Computer Services Helps AAA Cooper Transportation Access Real-Time Driver Information

AAA Cooper Transportation streamlined its data access with RDB Connect.

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PRODUCT DETAILS

RDB Connect

Supported databases: MySQL, Microsoft SQL, Oracle, DB2 and more.

Real-time remote driver information is captured with RDB Connect.

CHALLENGE: In the trucking industry, fast, accurate information is just as critical as the goods delivered. Managers rely on real-time data to not only ensure on-time delivery, but also to stay ahead of the competition.

AAA Cooper Transportation (ACT) is a family-owned, regional, less-than-truckload trucking firm that serves 12 southeastern states and several international locations. With annual revenues exceeding $500 million, ACT is a leader in the trucking industry and is positioned for continued growth.

The company's IT department was tasked with providing real-time information on drivers' work hours and loads. This data was readily available but housed across multiple systems, making it difficult for people to access the information.

Driver information captured within the Kronos time-management system and stored on a Windows* SQL server needed to be synchronized and available on the IBM* System i* platform. Without this critical information readily available at its fingertips, ACT was experiencing delays in its transportation decision-making process.

SOLUTION: ACT's IT architect, Bruce Collins, patched together a temporary three-step process to migrate the data to the System i model 570. First, he created an SQL selection script on the Windows SQL server. Next, he built a comma-separated values file from that selection. Finally, he created a batch program to transfer the file to the System i platform. While the process worked, it wasn't very effective. Unless a user complained, any data execution or delivery problem went unnoticed. Collins recognized that there had to be a better solution to meet his needs. Yet many alternative solutions required an additional Windows server as an intermediary.

Rather than introduce another possible point of failure, Collins looked for a System i solution and chose ProData's Remote Database (RDB) Connect. With RDB Connect, Collins was able to easily access the remote data from the Kronos system directly from his CL programs on the System i platform. The APIs within the RDB Connect product provided full SQL access to the data residing on the Windows SQL server. One CL program eliminated three steps in the initial solution and, better yet, provided integration into the error-handling and notification processes. "RDB Connect easily integrates remote data with System i applications," Collins says.

RDB Connect is what to use to integrate remote data with your System i applications.

—Bruce Collins, IT architect, AAA Cooper Transportation

Download a free trial of RDB Connect at www.prodatacomputer.com.

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