Billing modernization handled with care

A modern, billed data repository platform delivers $5 million in annual savings to a global logistics company

Atos

At a glance

A leading shipping company consolidated redundant billing systems to reduce complexity and improve data visibility.

Outcomes
- 1.3M invoices processed daily
- $29M lower TCO over 5 years
- 1,500 MIPS mainframe workload reduction

A leading U.S. logistics firm was hampered by an old, decentralized billing system that desperately needed modernization. Atos Syntel helped retire the legacy system and build a modern, billed data repository platform projected to manage 1.3 million invoices daily and save $5 million in costs per year.

Mainframe apps just don't deliver any more

A Fortune 50 U.S. logistics company used separate billing data repositories for each of its operating divisions across the globe. Overall, it was operating:

nearly **400 Cobol programs**

and more than **60 billing databases**

containing **billions of transaction records**

and **13 terabytes of data**

This large, complex set of mainframe applications was expensive to maintain and hard to scale. Legacy systems are also notoriously inflexible, so adding new functionality was difficult and risky. Moreover, batch processing meant the shipper had no real-time access to this critical data.

In order to reduce the cost of ownership and implement new capabilities, the shipper needed to consolidate these invoice repositories into a modern, single source of billing data.

The logistics of modernizing an old app

Atos Syntel was called on to thoroughly modernize the system, increase capacity, reduce complexity and implement real-time reporting features for improved data visibility.

To execute the project, teams were assembled at the shipper's location, at an Atos Syntel nearshore facility in Memphis, Tennessee, and at Atos Syntel's development campus in Pune, India.

The Atos Syntel onsite staff worked closely with the client's IT teams, while the staff in India executed the majority of the migration and development work. At peak, 30 Atos Syntel consultants were involved in the project — 8 in the U.S. and 22 in Pune.

2 billion records on the move

After a thorough analysis of the shipper's existing systems, Atos Syntel identified four key modernization workstreams:

- Consolidating data stores
- Migrating and cleansing records
- Eliminating redundant interfaces
- Decommissioning legacy systems

Atos Syntel built a custom data-validation utility to compare more than 1,000 fields in the source and target databases. The utility analyzed and cleansed 250 million customer records and 1.5 billion invoices to ensure data quality prior to migration. Then, the data was migrated in phases from a distributed group of outdated IMS databases into a modern, centralized billing data repository built on Oracle.

In addition, all applications that connect with the billing database were upgraded to employ service-oriented architecture interfaces for real-time processing capabilities.

Finally, Atos Syntel re-architected and decommissioned the legacy (COBOL) billing systems in favor of a modern new billing application built on Java. In the process, a new archival/de-archival system was also built using native structured query language.

Track this number: $29 million saved

The new billing database acts as a centralized hub for managing invoices from 185 countries, ensuring future scalability, and enabling better analytics and reporting.
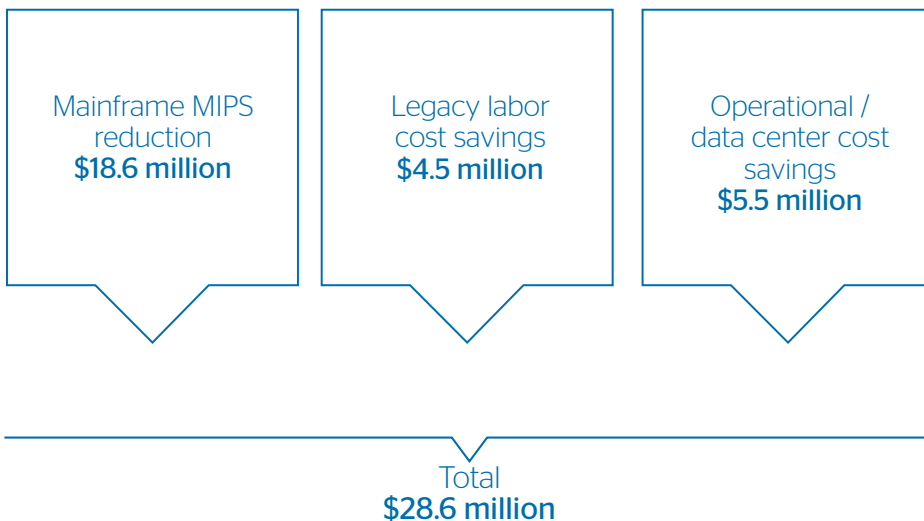
In addition, the new system is much more flexible and easier to update, with an estimated 30% cost savings on future enhancements.

By moving from legacy to Java, the shipper's mainframe workload was reduced by more than 1,500 MIPS (million instructions per second). This reduction in mainframe processing is projected to generate more than $18 million in savings over the next five years.

The modernization is expected to net the client an additional savings of $4.5 million on labor and $5.5 million on data center costs over the same period — for a total of nearly $29 million over 5 years.

Atos Syntel provides ongoing maintenance and enhancements to the new billing system from its facility in Pune.

Why Atos Syntel for legacy modernization

Organizations with large, complex legacy environments can find it difficult to keep up with the accelerating pace of business change.

Atos Syntel's legacy modernization services transform businesses into digital enterprises, driving higher revenues, improved productivity and reduced costs.

Learn more about our legacy modernization services.

Adding up the savings (projected 5-year totals)

Mainframe MIPS reduction	Legacy labor cost savings	Operational / data center cost savings
$18.6 million	**$4.5 million**	**$5.5 million**

Total
$28.6 million

About Atos

Atos is a global leader in digital transformation with over 110,000 employees in 73 countries and annual revenue of over € 11 billion.

European number one in Cloud, Cybersecurity and High-Performance Computing, the Group provides end-to-end Orchestrated Hybrid Cloud, Big Data, Business Applications and Digital Workplace solutions. The group is the Worldwide Information Technology Partner for the Olympic & Paralympic Games and operates under the brands Atos, Atos Syntel, and Unify. Atos is a SE (Societas Europaea), listed on the CAC40 Paris stock index.

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