Case Study



Fraser Health Authority

Achieving seamless interoperability with Calian® Corolar™ Platform



Organization

Fraser Health Authority

Website

www.fraserhealth.ca

Location

Fraser Valley, BC

Organization Size

Almost 40,000 medical practitioners, staff and volunteers

Profile

Fraser Health provides healthcare to 1.9 million people in 20 diverse communities from Burnaby to Fraser Canyon on the traditional territories of the Coast Salish and Nlaka' pamux Nations. The regional health authority serves approximately 62,000 Indigenous Peoples, associated with 32 First Nation communities and five Métis chartered communities. Services include primary healthcare, community home care, mental health and addictions, acute medical and surgical services.

The Situation

With 12 acute care hospitals and 7,760 residential care beds, Fraser Health Authority (FHA) is the largest health authority in British Columbia, serving 35 per cent of the province's population, or more than 1.9 million people, in 20 communities.

FHA needed a scalable enterprise-class HL7 integration solution to provide interoperability, simplify interface development, accelerate solution implementation, and manage the integration for their complex healthcare integration environment. To meet their needs, FHA migrated to the Microsoft® BizTalk® Server platform and the Calian® Corolar™ integration platform.

The Challenge

The exchange of healthcare information is dependent upon an integration platform that facilitates data flow between different systems in the healthcare ecosystem. FHA wanted a scalable enterprise-class HL7 integration solution to provide interoperability for partners including 12 hospitals, physician offices, community-based providers, perinatal services, mental health services, and provincial initiatives such as the Provincial Laboratory Information System (PLIS). FHA needed an integration solution that would provide the capability to quickly develop interfaces without the need for specialized third party software development resources. Since reliability and stability are key for all healthcare partners in the continuum of care, FHA needed a reliable solution with a proactive monitoring infrastructure to optimize uptimes in their integration environment.

The Solution

Fraser Health Authority selected Microsoft BizTalk Server as their integration engine platform. FHA also turned to the Corolar platform to deliver easy-to-use, end-to-end functionality to simplify HL7 interface development, accelerate solution implementation, and manage the integration environment for their complex healthcare integration projects.

BizTalk Server is an industry leader in enterprise integration used by 90 per cent of the Fortune Global 100 companies around the world.

The BizTalk/Corolar solution leverages Microsoft Server stack and .NET technologies to provide a development and user experience familiar to most healthcare organizations. This means software solutions can be developed using the same development language, making integration easier and reducing the need for specialized development resources. In addition, Corolar provides the power to easily create system interfaces with a significant reduction in development time by leveraging and extending the underlying BizTalk Server engine with a comprehensive suite of tools specifically designed to simplify and accelerate HL7 integration solutions.

Leveraging the power of Microsoft SQL Server, the Corolar Interface Monitor, a web-based application designed with the needs of the healthcare environment in mind, includes advanced functionality to monitor and maintain the environment, providing enhanced manageability. The Corolar Interface Monitor dashboard provides a consolidated view of interface status so you always know the health status of your integration environment. In addition, email alerts can be set up based on a configurable set of criteria to enable rapid detection and correction of issues.

The Results

Improved Productivity - Lower Development Costs

The BizTalk service-oriented architecture provides Fraser Health Authority with the flexibility to easily adapt to major changes in the Health Information Technology (HIT) environment.

"The service oriented architecture of BizTalk puts the control in our hands and allows us to develop interfaces easier, faster and at a lower cost." says Doug Barton.



Using the BizTalk/Corolar solution, FHA was able to utilize a single technology standard (Microsoft .NET) to simplify integration and also reduce the need for specialized software development resources. Corolar significantly reduces development time on the Microsoft BizTalk platform by providing a suite of tools specifically designed to simplify and accelerate HL7 integration.

"The Interface Monitor functionality lets us know about issues in the integration environment so that we can resolve them before they can become a customer problem report. If we encounter a problem with an interface, the Corolar Interface Monitor can autostart the interface without manual intervention, which significantly reduces any potential downtime".

Looking ahead, Fraser Health Authority can depend on their enterprise-class HL7 healthcare integration solution and unrivaled customer support to meet the current and growing demands on their healthcare infrastructure.

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