



SAP in Utilities Accelerated Sybase Unwired Platform delivery with CGI

SERIES OVERVIEW

As the leading implementer of Sybase mobile technology, we have produced a series of short papers to guide you through the lifecycle of mobile technology solutions. Here we focus on implementation. We illustrate how you can accelerate the delivery of rich features to users.

INTRODUCTION

While A mobile strategy based around Mobile Enterprise Application Platform (MEAP) and Multi-Access Gateway (MAG) support will give you:

- a common platform for your mobile applications
- flexibility of operating system
- lowest total cost of ownership (TCO).

In the previous paper in this series, we recommended SAP's Sybase Unwired Platform as the leading technology to achieve these benefits.

Once you have chosen the architecture your next challenge is to implement a solution, rich in functionality, in the fastest, cheapest manner. Whether you are moving from a previous version of SAP Mobile Asset Management (MAM), replacing another mobile technology, or implementing mobile for the first time, CGI's Accelerated Sybase Unwired Platform approach will:

- mitigate many of the risks associated with mobile technology implementation
- accelerate the deployment of a functionally rich and integrated solution

- provide a framework in which the solution can be implemented and supported more quickly and more cost effectively than an 'out of the box' approach.

Implementing a mobile architecture and platform is different from typical client-server solutions or even traditional SAP products such as ERP or CRM. In the following section, we outline how we help you realise the benefits from mobility projects quickly.

Delivering a speedy, quality solution

THE A SAFER ROUTE TO SUCCESS THROUGH A PROVEN TRACK RECORD IN DELIVERY

CGI is the leading implementer of SAP's Sybase Unwired Platform (SUP) mobile solutions in Europe. We have built on our strong Utilities heritage and invested in a team and approach that sets us apart from others for speed of delivery and the integration and deployment of rich functionality. We have delivered award-winning, productivity-improving solutions in the UK for Berneslai Homes, E.ON and Anglian Water, and across Europe for Swedavia, SNCF, Eltel Networks and Itella.

QUICKER DELIVERY AND ROBUST GOVERNANCE USING OUR ASAP/PRINCE2 DELIVERY METHODOLOGY WITH AGILE COMPONENTS FOR SUP MOBILE

CGI uses ASAP/Prince2 methodology with agile components for implementing SUP. This involves a number of short 'sprints' of configuration and development which allows our team to quickly advance the implementation. It also enables regular reviews with your business experts to ensure expectations and requirements are aligned. We have found this cuts implementation times and increases user uptake and buy in.

FASTER IMPLEMENTATIONS BY USING OUR PRE-BUILT DATA MAPPING LAYER IN THE MIDDLEWARE

To tightly integrate your mobile solution with SAP or other applications, no matter the connectivity available on the mobile device, an SUP solution must implement a middleware layer on the SUP server. CGI speeds up the development of this layer by bringing pre-configured components for work, asset and GIS data that have been proven on previous implementations.

A MORE SUPPORTABLE AND CONSISTENTLY IMPLEMENTED SOLUTION THROUGH THE USE OF OUR IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

Our implementation framework includes a number of accelerators and because of this we are able to start each project with the wheels already in motion. The framework includes:

- Design (blueprint) documentation templates
- Prototyping studio in design phase
- Screen specifications and screen planning tools
- Test script templates
- Configuration notes
- Training documentation
- Data models. These include standard and bespoke data transfer mechanisms between the back end, middleware and application layers.

A SOLUTION THAT IS SUPPORTABLE WITH A SMALLER VARIETY OF SKILLS AND WITH GREATER CONTROL USING OUR NEW PRE-BUILT SUP CONFIGURATION COMPONENTS

During your implementation CGI's configuration component accelerates development and deployment time whilst reducing programming effort by up to four times¹. We do this by installing a new configuration component for front and back end developments. These tools allow more of the implementation to be controlled by parameters in tables and less by hard coded syntax, increasing 'transportability' and reducing coding. Additionally, for SAP applications, the bulk of the logic is shifted from the application layer into the back end, speeding up data transfer time by increasing relevance of data to be transferred. This maximises the use of ABAP coding and reduces the onus on front end development. The result is an easier to support solution which is more easily changed as the business evolves.

A MORE SUPPORTABLE SOLUTION WITH GREATER CONTROL USING OUR PRE-DEFINED PROGRAMMING FRAMEWORK

We have reduced the amount of front end development required through the creation of configuration components. We control and manage what code is still required using our framework to enable quick changes to the front end application without extensive coding.

Benefits of the framework include:

- Development of device-level 'multi-threading' which prevents application locking during synchronisation
- Quick creation of shared screen definitions using pre-built stylesheet specifications
- Consistency of development and simpler support through coding standards
- Quick creation of front end application functions using a pre-built launch bar template.

Conclusion

All Implementing a mobility solution using SAP's Sybase Unwired Platform (SUP) technology can be achieved more quickly and with greater quality by engaging CGI. We bring a credible track record and a framework that speeds up the deployment of functionally rich solutions that give field workers the tools they need to do their jobs efficiently. The benefit to you is the fastest and cheapest deployment of rich functionality and relevant information to the right people at the right time.

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With over 68,000 professionals in 40 countries, CGI fosters local accountability for client success while bringing global delivery capabilities to clients' front doors. Founded in 1976, CGI applies a disciplined delivery approach that has achieved an industry-leading track record of on-time, on-budget projects. Our high-quality business consulting, systems integration and outsourcing services help clients leverage current investments while adopting new technology and business strategies that achieve top and bottom line results. As a demonstration of our commitment, our average client satisfaction score for the past 10 years has measured consistently higher than 9 out of 10.

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