



twentysix
NEW YORK

Matrix improves the trading experience for its customers with a manageable and scalable platform

Summary

- ▶ **Client**
Matrix Settlement & Clearance Services, LLC.
- ▶ **Industry**
Financial Services
- ▶ **Client profile**
Matrix provides mutual fund clearing and settlement services to institutional customers with its Bridge application.

“Matrix’s automated trading interface has simplified our late-day trading process. The broker-friendly nature of their process is important to us because we grow our business through outside advisors.”

– John Blossom, President, Alliance Benefit Group
- ▶ **Business situation**
Matrix needed to upgrade the technology behind the Bridge application to provide better performance, and a more manageable and scalable platform. They also wanted to offer services using an Application Service Provider (ASP) model to provide greater accessibility and a rich user interface.
- ▶ **Solution**
Matrix teamed with twentysix New York to rebuild the Bridge application with a service oriented architecture using Microsoft’s .NET framework. SQL Server 2000 provided robust built-in analytical and reporting capabilities.
- ▶ **Benefits**
 - Fewer errors and greater efficiency in a time-critical function
 - Lower installation and maintenance costs for Matrix and their customers
 - Flexibility in how customers access their data
 - Allows Matrix to support more customers better

Business story

twentysix New York client Matrix Settlement & Clearance Services (Matrix) has been an industry leader in mutual fund clearance and settlement for institutional customers since 1999. They provide services for 130 institutions with assets of more than \$35 billion.

Matrix delivers real-time, fully automated clearance and settlement, accounting, and operations workflow solutions through their Bridge application.

The Matrix Operations Unit processes in excess of seven million trades per year. With an automated trade confirmation rate of more than 99 percent, the Operations Unit is the nation’s largest processor of mutual fund trades, well above the industry average.

Identifying the need to improve

The Bridge application was originally designed and developed by Matrix to be installed locally at each client and communicate with a central data repository overnight to process transactions.

This design provided a high degree of functionality to Matrix customers, but was challenging to install and maintain.

Increasing customer volume placed additional pressure on the system. Matrix recognized the need to proactively upgrade their platform to accommodate their growing customer base and to achieve their target response time.



Working with the experts

Matrix teamed with twenty-six New York to bring their expertise in .NET solutions into the redesign and development process.

The primary design considerations for the new Bridge application were to focus on improved maintainability and lower the cost of ownership, while adding the ability for the application to run in multiple configurations.

This overarching focus led to a number of requirements for the application:

- Give customers the same user experience when working with a remote or local database
- Maintain a single code base for business logic and data access in one location
- Provide a self-updating application that allowed customers to receive and deploy updates automatically
- Allow customers to opt-out of the automated update process when operating in local mode

Using the .NET framework, the team planned a new system architecture that would support Matrix's expanding customer base by providing:

- A service oriented architecture that allows Matrix customers to select a local installation of the application (traditional model) or work directly with the Matrix central datastore from their offices
- Automated application updates over the Internet, reducing the cost of supporting and deploying the application to the Matrix customer base nationwide
- Better performance for Matrix and its customers through enhanced ease of use and speed of operation

Seeing results from Day One

When twenty-six New York started rolling out the new system, the quality of the solution was particularly evident in the ease of deployment and a response time of three seconds.

The ability to scale the platform to meet the demands of a growing customer base has revolutionized the way mutual funds are traded and reconciled with true Straight-Through Processing (STP) of trades.

The STP capabilities result in faster payments, lower cost per transaction and enhanced risk management information and monitoring.

The new design of the application, along with Bridge's tight integration with the National Securities Clearing Corporation's Fund/SERV, Networking and Defined Contribution Clearing & Settlement (DCC&S) products, has resulted in:

- Less failed trades
- Fewer errors
- Greater efficiency in a time-critical function

“twenty-six New York was instrumental in the migration to the .Net Framework. It provides a more robust online product for our clients, and allows us to provide better customer service.

Having the client's data at the MSCS site also allows all of our employees to see what the client sees in real time. The platform has saved us development and travel time; it has also been a financial benefit to our clients because they no longer need to maintain a dedicated PC for a database and server agent. This allows MSCS to offer our product to more clients.

twenty-six New York's support during the development and after the migration has been wonderful.”

- Bruce Matta, Vice President of Product Development
Matrix Settlement & Clearance Services (MSCS)

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For more information about this case study or other twenty-six New York solutions, contact:

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