



Case Study

Migration of satellite application from VB6.0 to C#.NET for a provider of software solutions for the textile industry

Sonata Software Limited

www.sonata-software.com

Sonata migrates satellite application from VB6.0 to C#.NET for a leading provider of integrated end-to-end software solutions for the textile and apparel industry

The customer, a leading provider of integrated end-to-end software solutions to the Textile & Apparel industry, had a set of satellite applications developed in Visual Basic 6.0, and needed to migrate Screen Builder – one such application -- to C#.NET.

Customer Profile

The customer provides integrated end-to-end software solutions to the Textile & Apparel industry, enabling creativity, speed-to-market and operational excellence for thousands of clients worldwide. The customer supports its clients in almost every segment of the trade, including vertical producers (fiber to finished garment) or importers of apparel, footwear, textile, home furnishings, outdoor and fashion accessories.

Business Scenario

The customer had a set of satellite applications developed in Visual Basic 6.0, which were linked to its G-Tex application (Textile ERP). One such application was ScreenBuilder, which the customer wanted to migrate from VB6.0 to C#.NET using VBTOCS – a conversion tool – without affecting its functionality.

The customer had certain other requirements as well, such as:

- Retention of the speed-to-market
- Capability of the .NET version of ScreenBuilder to support the same functionalities and UI as that of its VB 6.0 version so that the users did not feel much difference in using the application
- Capability of the .NET version of ScreenBuilder to offer the same levels of performance, product reliability and support as those of its VB 6.0 version

Solution Delivered

Sonata followed the approach explained below to meet the customer's requirements:

- Used Microsoft™ Visual Basic Code Advisor suggestions to fix the Visual Basic 6.0 code and prepared it for migration



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SOLUTION OVERVIEW

Profile

Sonata Software, headquartered in Bangalore, India, is a leading IT consulting and services company. Sonata's customers are located across the US, Europe, Middle East and the Asia-Pacific region. Its portfolio of services includes IT Consulting, Product Engineering Services, Travel Solutions, Application Development, Application Management, Managed Testing, Business Intelligence, Infrastructure Management and Packaged Applications. As per the industry rankings released by NASSCOM for FY07-08, Sonata Software figured among the Top 20 IT Software and Service Exporters in India. Sonata Software has also been ranked global #2 in the 2008 Top Ten ESO: Outsourced Software Development in The Black Book of Outsourcing.

Website

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Scenario

Migration of ScreenBuilder, a satellite application, from Visual Basic to C#.NET for a provider of integrated end-to-end software solutions to the textile & apparel industry.

Platforms /Technologies

- Microsoft™ Windows™ 2003
- Microsoft™ Visual Basic 6.0
- Microsoft™ Visual Basic 6.0 Code Advisor
- Microsoft™ Visual Studio™ .Net 2005, with .Net Framework 2.0
- Microsoft™ SQL Server 2005
- Microsoft™ Visual SourceSafe

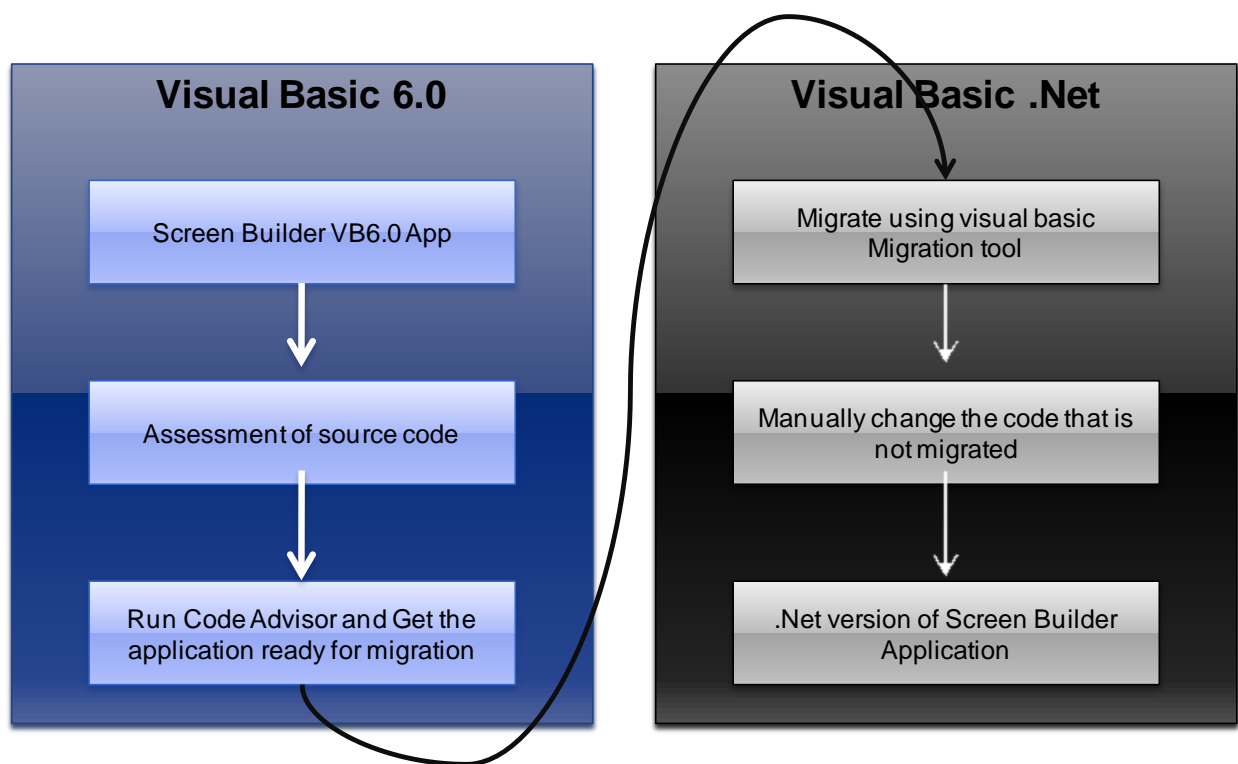
Benefits

- Lower total cost of ownership
- Lesser testing effort
- Better Performance
- Scalability

- Used Microsoft Visual Studio .NET Migration Wizard to convert ScreenBuilder from Visual Basic 6.0 to Visual Basic .NET
- Fixed the code blocks, which had not been migrated to Visual Basic .NET
- Developed / used equivalent code / libraries for Visual Basic .NET code, which was not migrated
- Conducted detailed functional testing of the application as per the user scenarios provided by the customer

Delivery Model

Overview of Technical Approach



Deliverables at different phases:

- Intermediate migration of VB 6.0 source code
- Migration of Visual Basic .NET source code
- Test Results
- Setup & deployment package for installation

Tools & Technology

Microsoft™ Windows™ 2003

Microsoft™ Visual Basic 6.0

Microsoft™ Visual Basic 6.0 Code Advisor

Microsoft™ Visual Studio™ .NET 2005 with .NET Framework 2.0

Microsoft™ SQL Server 2005

Microsoft™ Visual SourceSafe

Microsoft Project

Business Benefits

Owing to Sonata's engagement, the customer realized the following business benefits:

Lower total cost of ownership: As a result of the use of standard tools, migration of ScreenBuilder was fast, leading to lower tco.

Less testing effort: Lesser effort was involved in testing the application as compared to a re-engineering scenario because the migrated code would use the tested controls / components without converting them.

Better Performance: Speed is always a key factor in the performance of enterprise-wide applications. The .NET version of ScreenBuilder offered better performance as compared to its VB version.

Scalability: The .NET version of the application could be easily integrated with the other satellite applications used by the customer.

For more information, contact info@sonata-software.com

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