



# Who Needs Interfaces?

## Management Summary

The problems inherent with heterogeneous applications are becoming increasingly worrying for many companies and public bodies. Systems for storing and processing data are linked to each other by many different interfaces that incur high development and maintenance costs, and hamper data exchange. Each new system increases the risk of redundant and incorrect data.

The IPSWAYS XML hub is a solution developed by IPSWAYS that integrates the individual applications, providing central access to corporate data via XML and web service standards. Users can minimize the number of interfaces and significantly improve the quality of data. A prototype for mobile query applications has already convinced the Police Department of the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate of the solution's capabilities – an opinion shared by the credit insurance company Coface Deutschland.

## Seamless data exchange

To be able to operate successfully, companies nowadays rely more than ever on IT solutions that ensure seamless data exchange. Controlling can only steer processes effectively if secure data is available. Many companies have seen a rise in the number of mobile employees who require access to up-to-date information around the clock, around the world. The increase in cross-company collaboration means that more and more partners, customers, and vendors need to participate in realtime, electronic data exchange. In addition, new applications, for example, for web technologies, are continuously being developed and must be integrated in the existing system landscape.

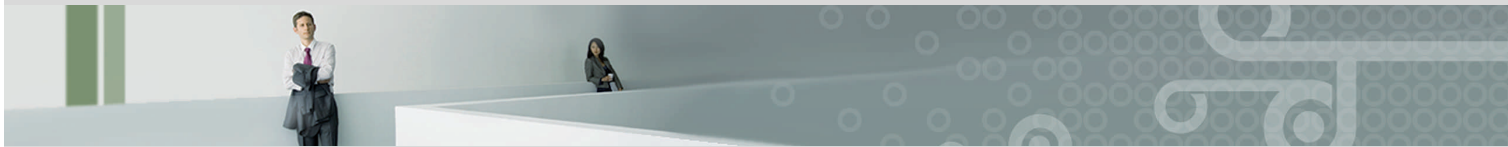
Due to the large number of interfaces involved, many companies can only meet these requirements by investing a considerable amount of time and money. Deploying central data storage systems is not always a solution to this problem because the outlay necessary to migrate and consolidate data or to redevelop existing applications is equally high.

### Corporate profile

IPSWAYS is an independent software and consulting firm that develops systems to support mission-critical business processes. We aim to provide our customers with packaged solutions tailored to their specific requirements.

Consulting is often the first step towards creating a customized solution design. Important factors to be considered here include costs versus benefits and deploying technologies intelligently.

We boast many years of project-based experience in analysis and design, development, integration, and migration, backed up by our expertise with Java Enterprise Edition (JEE), Microsoft .NET and Business Intelligence (Cognos).



**Benefits at a glance**

- Minimizes the number of interfaces
- Cuts development and maintenance costs
- Enhances data quality
- Simplifies the integration of new systems and upgrades
- Minimum amount of training required

**Number of interfaces minimized**

With the IPSWAYS XML hub, users can solve their interface problems with a minimum of time and money. The solution provides a central access service to any corporate data via an XML interface and integrates all the connected systems that use XML standards, for example, client, server and Office applications, portable systems such as PDA or Smartphone, XML databases and documents, directory services and portal servers. New systems for storing and processing data can be integrated in the service-centric architecture and the systems upgraded whenever necessary and with a minimum of fuss. The IPSWAYS XML hub is flexible enough to adapt to future requirements and is platform neutral due to the fact that only XML standards are used. Data storage systems are accessed via adapters, a large number of which are preconfigured.

**Mobile query system**

The IPSWAYS XML hub was developed as part of a Microsoft .NET migration project for the Police Department of the federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate on which IPSWAYS worked as a development partner together with Microsoft and Accenture. The aim here was to centralize the client/server applications used throughout the state. IPSWAYS developed the prototype for a data and service hub designed to link up to the central traffic information system (ZEDIS) enabling the data of vehicles and vehicle owners held by the Federal Motor Transport Authority (KBA) in Flensburg, Germany to be queried remotely. Communication takes place via an interface to the KBA implemented in the network of the Rhineland-Palatinate Police Department.

“ZEVIS is a lean data and information hub, which can be extended as required. Very little effort is needed to customize and configure the hub, and to train our staff to use it” explains Ralf Stoll, project manager at the Rhineland-Palatinate Police Department. Those in charge are impressed with what the XML-based data hub in the prototype mobile solution can achieve. To recapitulate: “IPSWAYS XML hub could save a lot of the time and money needed in the past to develop and maintain the interfaces”.

