



EDF Energy

EDF Energy Puts its Job Scheduling Under the BMC Software Umbrella

VALUE REALIZATION

- » Enables more effective and efficient control of scheduling tasks through a flexible, intuitive graphical user interface
- » Enables team to drag and drop schedules at will and easily restart job streams
- » Provides the option to view the last five days' scheduling batches, so anomalies can be easily identified
- » Enables cross-platform, cross-application dependencies, statistics, and post-execution analysis
- » Strengthens security through defined user access by specific roles or individuals
- » Delivers stringent auditing capability (they know who has changed what and when)
- » Integrates seamlessly with other BMC solutions in EDF Energy's IT estate, such as BMC Performance Manager



GEOGRAPHY

United Kingdom

INDUSTRY

Energy

SOLUTIONS

BMC CONTROL-M for
Distributed Systems

How do you effectively manage up to 8,000 daily job schedules quickly and cost effectively? That was the challenge facing one of the UK's leading energy companies, EDF Energy. By introducing the BMC CONTROL-M production scheduling solution across its distributed infrastructure, one of the UK's largest energy companies is benefiting from a tailored scheduling infrastructure that addresses EDF Energy's security, reliability, availability, and scalability requirements — and it's all managed from a single point of control. The solution has been so successful that the firm is now using BMC CONTROL-M as the scheduling and automation platform for its new SAP CRM roll-out.

DELIVERING ELECTRICITY TO 7.9 MILLION CUSTOMER HOMES AND BUSINESSES

EDF Energy is one of the UK's largest energy companies and a wholly owned subsidiary of the EDF Group, one of Europe's largest energy groups. The company generates around 6 percent of the UK's electricity, employs nearly 12,000 people, and delivers electricity to 7.9 million customer homes and businesses through its public networks.

EDF Energy's distributed systems sit alongside the firm's mainframe environment, providing critical, core services which are essential to business success. These include regulatory gas flows — the information utilities companies pass among one another to help manage gas demand — management reporting, and data backup processes. To make certain this heterogeneous distributed environment provides the highest service levels, critical batch business processes must be efficiently monitored, managed, and automated.

Until recently, EDF Energy relied on CA AutoSys Workload Automation to deliver event-driven IT automation, management, monitoring, and reporting. However, not everything had gone according to plan, according to Laura Brown, Software Services manager, EDF Energy. "We had a particular problem around calendar scheduling with AutoSys," she says. "When the clocks went forward each year, it appeared to confuse the AutoSys scheduling, with the result that we didn't know which jobs had run and which hadn't."

BMC CONTROL-M: A COMPELLING SCHEDULING SOLUTION AT A COMPETITIVE PRICE

With the existing CA license agreement about to end, EDF Energy began searching for a new solution. BMC Software was already a preferred supplier to the firm, so it was easy for the energy giant to choose BMC CONTROL-M for Distributed Systems. Ricky May, team leader at EDF Energy, explains why the team at EDF Energy was so impressed by BMC CONTROL-M. "We chose BMC Software because it offered EDF Energy a compelling scheduling solution at a highly competitive price. BMC also has a proven track record for delivery at EDF Energy, so we knew we were dealing with a vendor we could trust."

EDF Energy has deployed BMC CONTROL-M to provide advanced production scheduling for up to 8,000 daily batch and maintenance jobs across the distributed infrastructure — all from a single point of control. The

solution integrates EDF Energy's batch processes (running on up to 100 IBM AIX and Intel servers running Microsoft Windows) into one unified, manageable business process. It also offered a comprehensive migration methodology from the existing AutoSys scheduler. "Our management reporting, disaster recovery, and server management processes are now all running on BMC CONTROL-M; so it is no understatement to say that the BMC solution is the No. 1 critical component of our IT estate. That is why it was so important we selected the right vendor and the right product," says Brown.

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**LAURA BROWN
SOFTWARE SERVICES MANAGER**

Brown also said she is confident that BMC CONTROL-M was the right choice to support the critical regulatory gas flows application. “This application has certain crucial service level agreements and regulatory stipulations associated with it. We are obligated to pass customer information to other suppliers when requested within a certain timeframe and BMC CONTROL-M allows us to do this in a controlled, carefully scheduled manner.”

JOB SCHEDULING IS SIGNIFICANTLY EASIER AND MORE STREAMLINED THAN BEFORE

So what difference has BMC CONTROL-M really made, compared with the incumbent CA solution? Most importantly, job scheduling is now significantly easier and more streamlined than before. Comprehensive automation, immediate problem detection and a scalable open architecture simplify job scheduling and save administrator time. “The screen view of the job schedules is first class, and is a quantum leap forward to what we had with CA AutoSys. It’s easy to restart streams; we can use a drag-and-drop GUI when updating schedules; and there’s the option to view the last five days’ scheduling batches so any anomalies can be easily identified,” says Glen Vinnicombe, senior system administrator at EDF Energy.

BMC CONTROL-M also tightly integrates EDF Energy’s batch business processes through the integration of various applications and platforms via a scheduling engine that forms one business flow. Moreover, integration with Web applications enables the triggering of business processes directly from the Web. Ultimately, BMC CONTROL-M enhances each application’s scheduling facilities — enabling cross-platform, cross-application dependencies, statistics, and post-execution analysis.

Brown concludes, “BMC delivered the implementation on time and well above our expectations, despite being up against very tight deadlines. We’ve had virtually no issues with performance or outages since implementation and the fact we are using BMC CONTROL-M as the scheduling and automation platform for our new SAP CRM rollout illustrates the confidence we have in BMC and its solutions.”

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BUSINESS RUNS ON I.T. I.T. RUNS ON BMC SOFTWARE.

Business thrives when IT runs smarter, faster and stronger. That's why the most demanding IT organizations in the world rely on BMC Software across both mainframe and distributed environments. Recognized as the leader in Business Service Management, BMC offers a comprehensive approach and unified platform that helps IT organizations cut cost, reduce risk and drive business profit. For the four fiscal quarters ended September 30, 2008, BMC revenue was approximately \$1.83 billion. Visit www.bmc.com for more information.

