Progress Software Embeds SL's Enterprise RTView to Deliver a Customizable, Real-Time Dashboard Interface for Customers Using Event Processing Functionality

PROGRESS SOFTWARE

With a deep penetration in the algorithmic trading and capital markets, Progress® Software needed to be able to provide traders with a way to create custom views of market data and their trading position.
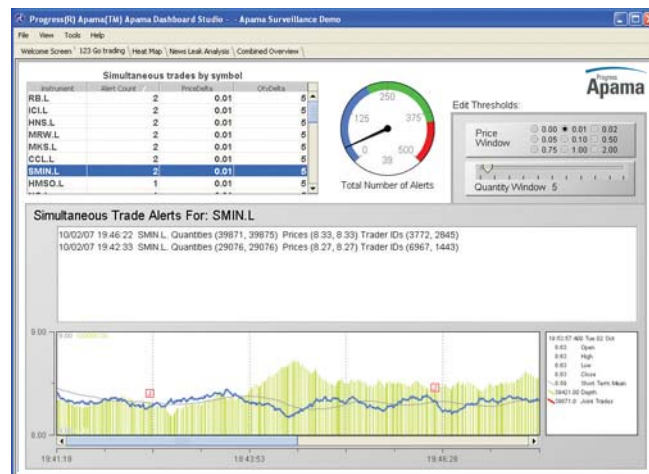
The company's Complex Event Processing (CEP) product is the Progress Apama® platform that can monitor rapidly moving event streams, detect sophisticated patterns, and take action — all within milliseconds. The Apama product provides the foundation for event-driven applications, including business activity monitoring, algorithmic trading, transaction monitoring, market abuse detection and RFID applications.

Achieving the performance levels necessary to apply business logic to the enormous volume of data transactions is central to CEP. But transforming CEP data into meaningful business information that can be acted upon by business users is a significantly more challenging problem. It requires an interactive user interface that each customer can customize to meet their own requirements.

The Progress Apama platform's first user interface consisted primarily of tables displaying event processing operations. While useful and a dramatic improvement on what had been available, it did not have visual tools which would allow business users to quickly and easily understand what was going on. To improve the user experience, Progress Software wanted to provide their users with rich dashboards that facilitated greater interaction with the system and which could be tailored to the needs of individual users.

Build or Buy?

In recent years, Progress Software has seen an explosive growth in the demand for their event processing offering. At the same time, user needs have evolved and there has been a demand for more sophisticated interfaces. Progress Software knew that a platform that delivered real business value had to encompass tools that allowed end-users to monitor these applications.

Apama Dashboard Studio. Create customized dashboards for your real-time business processes.

One consideration was the classic build or buy evaluation. According to James Arsenault, Software Architect at Progress Software: "There were some nice widget sets available in the market. However, they lacked the real-time performance and functionality that our customers demanded. And the Business Activity Monitoring solutions were not flexible enough for our needs."

Furthermore, it wasn't just about meeting an aggressive development schedule, according to Arsenault. With each customer building custom dashboards to create a unique business application, there was the concern that the resources required to support and enhance a home-grown dashboard offering with every customer could be resource-draining.

Enterprise RTView – the Only Viable Solution

The most complete solution to this problem was SL Corporation's Enterprise RTView® which provides a highly customizable monitoring, analytics, and visualization solution capable of delivering the real-time, operational visibility and performance that Progress Software and their customers expected.

Enterprise RTView provides the rich dashboard visualization features that are easy-to-use and can be configured by non-IT people. Progress Software also needed the assurance that, when they needed to add

features on short notice, they could do so without needing to involve SL. With Enterprise RTView's open architecture, Progress Software has been able to incorporate their own enhancements with changes to the Apama platform's custom data source, the customization and branding of the configuration environment, and the customization of the real-time analytic functions and the graphical objects available in the builder palette. Progress Software was further assured that any customization they put in place would be maintained with each new or subsequent release of Enterprise RTView.

Some Progress Software customers wanted desktop applications delivered via Java Web Start, while others wanted rich-client web applications. Enterprise RTView has been able to accommodate these requirements through its different deployment options.

Finally, the solution needed to be able to deliver sub-second event monitoring and visualization to all clients. Extensive benchmarking analysis was done before Progress Software determined that Enterprise RTView was the right solution.

SL Corporation – Geared for OEMs

In addition to their strong product offering, SL demonstrated a unique understanding of its OEMs and a commitment to their needs. Specifically,

- The SL product development teams demonstrated a strong focus on Progress Software's needs as an OEM partner including adhering to an aggressive product release cycle which enables Progress Software to rapidly respond to customer requests for new functionality.

- Progress Software found SL's technical support group to be well-trained in order to better focus on the unique needs of the company, which may differ from the needs of an end-user client base.

- Working with a company that deals extensively with OEMs enabled Progress Software to better manage their release cycles.

- SL has demonstrated consistent success working as a partner with Fortune 500 companies since 1983.

SL delivered immediate results when Progress Software undertook an evaluation. The two companies worked closely together to create a data adapter to read and display Progress Apama data. Using SL's experienced trainers and technical support team, Progress Software quickly developed the expertise to undertake development of the Apama dashboard.

Delivered Ahead of Schedule: Progress Apama Dashboard Studio™

In March 2006, Progress Software delivered the first release of Apama Dashboard Studio™, the customizable, real-time dashboard component for the Progress Apama Event Processing Platform. Progress Apama Dashboard Studio provides companies with the ability to create visually rich user interfaces featuring custom dashboards to help them monitor, assess, and revise their strategies.

Most importantly, Progress Software delivered their dashboard solution ahead of schedule. "We brought it to market very quickly," said Arsenault. "The demand was great and the response to the offering has been excellent. Customers are coming forward with a lot of ideas about how they want to use this functionality."

Enterprise RTView Fuels Innovation Within Progress Software

SL's real-time analytics and dashboards are excellent in illustrating the benefits of event processing. Enterprise RTView is a frequent part of demonstrations that showcase the performance and features of the Progress Apama platform.

About SL Corporation

Over the past 24 years, SL Corporation has become the most knowledgeable and responsive provider of real-time monitoring, analytics, and visualization solutions. SL's flagship product, Enterprise RTView, makes it both possible and practical for users to deliver meaningful real-time operational visibility solutions so that they can, with confidence, ensure that issues are highlighted and addressed before they become costly problems. SL's exclusive focus on visualization solutions, commitment to customer success, and partner-centric culture are why thousands of industry leaders have chosen to work with SL to support their most critical applications and businesses.

SL Corporation can be reached at +1 415-927-8400 or on the web at www.sl.com.