

Sterling Commerce helps tie together business processes, applications, data and people



Location

Boise, ID, USA

Industry

Manufacturing

Business challenge

A seamless solution with uninterrupted data flow for nearly 90 customers

Solution

Sterling Integrator®

Sterling Information Broker®

Benefits

- Sterling Integrator enables Boise Cascade to map and integrate business processes securely with partners and suppliers.
- Sterling Information Broker provides guaranteed delivery of business-critical documents, data archiving, disaster recovery, end-to-end audits and controls and 24/7 customer support.

Boise Cascade, LLC

Customer background

Boise Cascade manufactures engineered wood products, plywood, lumber and particleboard, and distributes a broad line of building materials. The company also manufactures specialty and premium paper products, printing and converting papers, containerboard and corrugated boxes, newsprint and market pulp.

Business challenge

When it was time to consolidate its electronic business integration system, Boise Cascade looked to Sterling Commerce for a solution that would ensure a seamless transition for both Boise and its nearly 90 customers.

At the time, Boise was using the Sterling Commerce Gentran® Mainframe and wanted to move data from it, as well as data from IBM, to a single product that could integrate all internal and external

business processes. Boise also wanted a highly secure and reliable hosted service to serve as the centralized intermediary, thus enabling the electronic flow of business information, collaboration and integration between business partners (regardless of the technology being used).

The ideal solution would tie together applications, business processes, data and people, both within and outside of Boise Cascade. Flexibility—in terms of deployment, configuration, customization and licensing—would be the hallmark of this solution.

Solution

Sterling Commerce recommended that Boise Cascade transition from Gentran Mainframe and IBM to Sterling Integrator. This end-to-end integration system supports multiple protocols, technologies and business applications. Since it is

“Sterling Integrator provides improved functionality all around, such as incredibly quick payroll processing. Now when we run payroll for our several thousand employees, it takes less than 15 seconds, compared to the several minutes it took before Sterling Integrator.”

Andy Desilet
Manager of Corporate EDI,
Boise Cascade, LLC

designed to complement and not disrupt critical legacy systems, Sterling Integrator smoothly merged its business integration capability, robust security infrastructure and innovative visual management tools with Boise Cascade’s current workflow. All customers transitioned seamlessly and without interruption.

Sterling Commerce also recommended Boise use Sterling Information Broker, the world’s most trusted value-added network (VAN) service. Designed to serve a wide range of B2B integration requirements, Sterling Information Broker helps Boise manage high data volumes, perform any-to-any data transformation and respond quickly to customers’ requirements.

The company’s move to Sterling Information Broker also involved Community Management Services. Community Management is the practice of distributing and managing files securely in high-volume, multi-enterprise environments. It requires sophisticated store and forward technology, the ability to manage massive amounts of information concurrently and uncompromising security to protect a company’s business applications. In many cases, it also requires extended protocol support, so companies can exchange files with any number of customers—on their terms.

About Sterling Commerce

Sterling Commerce, an AT&T Inc. (NYSE:T) company, helps companies optimize and transform their Business Collaboration Network quickly, easily and securely so they can accelerate revenues, reduce costs and protect their enterprise. Sterling Commerce provides more than 30,000 customers worldwide with applications and integration solutions to connect, communicate and collaborate with their customers, partners and suppliers. Learn more at www.sterlingcommerce.com.

Key benefits

Sterling Integrator provides the following benefits to Boise Cascade:

- Consolidates the flow of EDI and XML purchase orders across the enterprise to back-end systems, allowing Boise to update inventory and create invoices directly from the new data
- Enables Boise to map and integrate business processes with partners and suppliers
- Securely exchanges multi-gigabyte files with business partners over the Internet and monitors transfers in real-time
- Provides a modularized upgrade path that supports all e-business protocols and services related to XML

Sterling Information Broker also provides multiple benefits:

- Manages high and rapidly growing data volumes
- Performs any-to-any data translation (it supports XML, all forms of EDI, including X12 and EDIFACT, as well as industry-specific and proprietary formats)
- Builds trading communities and expands B2B operations
- Gives customers Web-based support tools so they can track and restore documents, conduct solution searches, report issues and access product information
- Provides disaster recovery that restores service capabilities within 24 hours at a designated offsite backup data center

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