virtel
CASE STUDY

AG2R LA MONDIALE

AG2R implements Virtel to
replace their terminal emulation and multi-session solutions

THE CUSTOMER

AG2R La Mondiale is the largest supplementary pension fund in France, accounting for one quarter of employees from the private sector. It is also the second largest private health insurance company in the country.

THE CHALLENGE

AG2R La Mondiale were seeking to replace their costly multi-session tool and outdated Terminal Emulation tool.

The solution was to comply with the following requirements:

• Architecture: multi-session support for up to 500 concurrent users
• Security: encrypted communication and RACF interface support (including automatic logon to applications)
• Ergonomics: easy switch between sessions, configurable keyboard and terminal models, terminal macro support
• Administration: centralized user administration.

The migration window was particularly short, in order to fit in with the end of support period for the old software.

THE SOLUTION

Virtel Web Access was implemented with a custom HTML welcome page emulating the existing multi-session menu and sub-menu system. Logon scripts were provided to automate user connection to the various (IBM and vendor) applications.
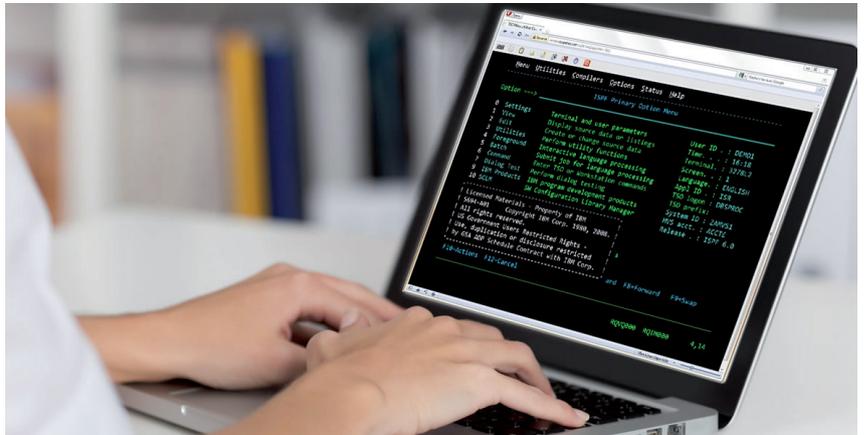
The Virtel Web Access standard ergonomics were intuitive for all users, and therefore did not require much customization to satisfy everyone. Certain user parameters were set centrally by the system administrator, so that the user interface

VIRTEL KEY FEATURES:

❶ Serves 3270 transactions as web pages or web services

❷ Nothing to install or support outside the host

❸ Instant deployment: point web browsers to a predefined URL

❹ Works with any browser or platform (mobile devices, Apple products, Windows...)

❺ Concurrently serves different presentations to different users (3270 TE, WUI/GUI, mobile UI)

❻ Supports any protocol and format: RESTful, XML, JSON, SOAP, MQ Series, etc.

❼ Low impact and low risk: no application or server change

❽ High performance and small host footprint for highly scalable solutions

❾ Simple host-centric configuration and support for low TCO and early ROI

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would remain as close as possible to the old terminal emulation software.

The solution was implemented in parallel with the existing software, which allowed for a gradual migration to the new interface.

THE RESULTS

The custom session-management menu allows users to easily switch between dozens of CICS and TSO applications within a web browser, just like they would navigate between web sites, so no training was required for the end-users.

¨*Our initial requirement was just to replace our 3270 emulation product to reduce software and maintenance costs. When we discovered that Virtel could also replace our expensive mainframe-based session manager, it didn't take long to convince management to migrate*¨ says AG2R's Systems Manager.

After the initial installation and customization, the migration of all users to Virtel Web Access took less than 2 weeks.