Leading European energy company optimizes commodities trading with containerization

One of Europe's largest energy companies will optimize its commodities trading with a containerized implementation of the FIS' Energy Trading and Risk Platform (ETRM) - Aligne. The company will leverage the solution as a first step toward achieving a continuous delivery model.

The approach will enable the firm to benefit from always-on access to the latest solution enhancements. Automated testing of all relevant business processes will ensure an optimized and fully functional environment.

FIS' ETRM - Aligne is a front-to-back trading system that streamlines and integrates the trading, risk management and operations of physical commodities and their associated financial instruments. Backed by FIS, the solution supports trading for energy commodities, weather, emissions, heat, freight, metals, FX and derivatives.

Less pain, more gain

Energy companies are all too familiar with the effort and disruption of major system upgrades and lengthy test timelines. More and more firms are seeking to reimagine the upgrade process with a continuous delivery model that enables rapid installation of packaged software.

The solution? Containerization, which delivers key advantages over a traditional deployment model involving physical servers or virtual machines (VMs).

Containerization enables virtualization at the level of the operating system (OS). It enables you to deploy and run applications without launching an entire VM for each application server. It allows multiple isolated applications or services to run on a single host and access the same OS kernel.

The containerized version of FIS' ETRM offers an attractive deployment model. The containers abstract the innovative application from the underlying hardware in both on-premises and cloud environments.
Containerization for optimized trading

With containerization, the application containers consume fewer hardware resources than a comparable VM deployment. They share resources without requiring a full OS to underpin each application service. The approach uses memory, CPU and storage resources more efficiently, allowing you to deploy more application containers on the same hardware infrastructure.

In addition, the containerized model centralizes and simplifies application administration. The container engine deploys the application images on one or more hosts. A simple-to-use dashboard enables robust application monitoring. There is no requirement to go through servers to secure virtual machines. We estimate 90% cost savings on human resource effort can be achieved for maintaining applications in comparison with VM.

In cloud services environments that offer elastic pricing models, dynamic use of resources through containerization offers even more cost reductions. A containerized application can scale resource use on demand based on preconfigured limits. There is no requirement to go through servers to secure virtual machines. We estimate 30% cost optimization by utilizing elastic computing power. You pay for what the application uses and not the reserved VM.

Rolling patch updates don’t just automate deployment. they reduce 90% of human resource time for several environments including installation and patches compared with VM. They also eliminate downtime and avoid user and process disruption. The container engine deploys container images on hosts. It also supports live updates of images while users are still active within the system. Just as important, the containerized model provides simpler and cheaper availability and disaster recovery.

With all these advantages, it’s no wonder this European energy leader selected the containerized version of the FIS’ ETRM – Aligne trading platform. The company has positioned itself to achieve an effective continuous-delivery model – and optimize its commodities trading.

For further information please contact us on email getinfo@fisglobal.com
About FIS

FIS is a leading provider of technology solutions for merchants, banks and capital markets firms globally. Our more than 55,000 people are dedicated to advancing the way the world pays, banks and invests by applying our scale, deep expertise and data-driven insights. We help our clients use technology in innovative ways to solve business-critical challenges and deliver superior experiences for their customers. Headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida, FIS is a Fortune 500® company and is a member of Standard & Poor’s 500® Index.