

ITW Delivers Enterprise Applications Globally

Situation:

Globally Diversified Fortune 500 Manufacturer Must Deliver Financial SOX Compliance and HR Applications Rapidly and Securely to 875 Decentralized Business Units in 54 Countries

"Implementing Corente across our entire global infrastructure has enabled us to deliver mission-critical applications and advanced services even where locations lack experienced IT staff...This is the most effective service we've put in."

—Gary Anton,
CIO and Strategic VP, Sourcing

Illinois Tool Works, Inc. (ITW), a Fortune 500 manufacturing company with hundreds of business locations worldwide, needed to simplify the secure and reliable delivery of corporate finance and HR applications to ensure rapid cost effective adoption by independent business units. The company was under pressure to deploy the financial reporting application to meet Sarbanes-Oxley compliance mandates.

ITW required a scalable solution that would easily connect its diverse IT environments into one coherent "virtual network backbone" to deliver and ensure the availability of these critical applications.

Each of ITW's business units had its own independent network, IT staff, and budget. Many units had overlapping IP address spaces, which were difficult for staff to manage. Other challenges included a diverse, multi-carrier environment and remote global locations with little or no IT staff, and a dynamic network environment driven by the constant M&A activity that is central to the company's business strategy.

In addition to M&A support, a decentralized management structure that allows operational autonomy for business units while enabling shared corporate services to create efficiencies of scale was core to the ITW management philosophy. Creating and managing secure collaboration between business units, their independent networks

of buyers and suppliers, and corporate—without compromising autonomy—was key to aligning IT with the business at ITW.

ITW evaluated a traditional mix of hardware, software, and services, seeking a secure, reliable applications delivery solution with proactive visibility into application performance. It soon realized that traditional options would not meet the company's needs.

Solution:

Secure Reliable Delivery across ITW's Extended Enterprise

ITW turned to Corente to easily integrate hundreds of diverse networks and processes across its extended enterprise into a single network infrastructure that can be operated centrally, while allowing business units to maintain sovereign control. Corente was rapidly deployed to hundreds of locations, enabling ITW to roll out its corporate applications in 4 months ahead of Sarbanes-Oxley deadlines, without requiring any modification to the existing infrastructure. Deploying services to a new location with Corente takes less than an hour, making it easy for ITW to scale rapidly by adding new locations in support of an acquisition to ensure that new business units are compliant. By eliminating the need for complex networking and security devices and management tools at each location, and providing simple centralized administration and automated change management, Corente has saved ITW's business units thousands of dollars annually without additional IT resources or changes to existing IT environments. Today, a single administrator manages all ITW locations worldwide.

Corente has created further value for ITW by allowing the company to move away from private circuits and provide secure and reliable end-to-end applications delivery to even the most remote locations using DSL or Broadband. Finally, the Corente centralized monitoring and management gives ITW complete proactive visibility into the performance for both ITW corporate and mission critical applications that connect business units with key partners to optimize business performance.

Company

Illinois Tool Works
(NYSE: ITW)

Industry

Manufacturing

Challenge

Provide a secure, reliable distributed applications delivery service for corporate financial and reporting and HR applications that can be used across multiple providers, business units and geographic locations. Enable business units to leverage key corporate services while maintaining independent operations and external business relationships. Create central visibility, control and administration of applications and locations across the globe to support an M&A based growth strategy, external business connections, and compliance mandates.

Solution

Corente's SaaS Applications Delivery Management service met ITW's needs and enabled the company to rapidly, easily and securely deploy corporate applications to all business units over multiple infrastructures.

Results

ITW has installed over 850 Corente SaaS Gateways with minimal use of IT resources. Corente's service has resulted in significant cost savings (estimated at 30%), while enabling ITW's corporate finance and business units to operate more productively by delivering applications to even the most remote locations.

Corente's Distinctive Capabilities

Some of the key capabilities that Corente's solution brings to ITW include the following:

Automatic Configuration

- Automatic discovery of ports and local configuration
- Automatic software updates and fallback on update failure

Security Management

- Each connection authenticated
- User Authorization
- Firewall

Integration with Directory Services

Network, Server and Application Monitoring, Alerting and Reporting

Business Continuity through Access, Datacenter and Server Failover

Central Control with Distributed Execution

Application Traffic Prioritization

Unified Administration Portal

- Graphical Network Topology
- Drag and Drop Administration

High Availability

Global Policy Directory

Federated Extranet Creation and Security

- Each business unit controls its own connections
- Only mutually agreed-upon traffic exchanged
- Business units cannot override each other's security policies
- No additional firewalls required
- No visibility into the other business unit networks
- Security not dependant on physical or logical integrity of remote devices

About ITW

A leading international business corporation with nearly 100 years of history, Illinois Tool Works Inc. (NYSE: ITW) is a diversified manufacturer of advanced industrial technology. Specifically, we design and produce an array of highly engineered fasteners and components, equipment and consumable systems, and specialty products and equipment for customers around the world.

The 875 decentralized business units that comprise our international business corporation are located in 54 countries and employ approximately 60,000 men and women who are focused on creating value-added products and innovative customer solutions.

About Corente

The Corente Applications Delivery Platform is an integrated, scalable, multi-tenant, suite of modular services that secure and simplify the delivery and management of applications and cloud based services to Extended Enterprises (an organization's business network of branches, remote offices, partners, customers, suppliers, business units, franchisees, etc.) in over 63 countries worldwide. Corente enables a set of modular services that allow internal IT organizations or Cloud Services Providers to give even the smallest office or remote location the benefits of a large scale professionally managed and operated IT infrastructure that provides:

- Integrated security and performance monitoring, alerting, and reporting;
- Automated provisioning, configuration, and management; and
- An Anything as a Service (XaaS) architecture that delivers a complete environment for distributed applications that easily integrates with any existing network and data center infrastructure without network or application modification

For more information, please visit www.corente.com or contact Corente at 888-783-0383.

