

GET THE GMI DATA YOU NEED WHILE REDUCING COSTS AND RISK

Data has always been crucial to financial services businesses, but accessing it is often a challenge. Users on the business side may be forced to request assistance from the IT department just to run a report, while those in IT may need to become experts in a system in order to use its data.

Moreover, a multitude of database models has extended IT development time for new initiatives, delaying time to market and revenue growth. The tangle of architecture can also prevent users from seeing a full picture of an account or the firm's own position or exposure.

Now firms are better equipped to meet those challenges, because they can leverage the integration of Stream, SunGard's single source solution, with GMI, its global back-office clearing and accounting system for exchange-traded derivatives, futures, options, energy and cleared OTC products.

Stream consolidates and normalizes the GMI data and then stores it in a relational database. This allows users to access the data with standard development tools and eliminates the need to understand the intricacies of the GMI database. As a result, staff from across the firm can more easily access the data they require.

This solution can help users from across the enterprise:

- IT – use GMI data in internal applications or build a new application that will use the data
- Operations – run ad hoc queries and create customized reports
- IT and operations – assist with system orchestration and help move to exception-based processing
- Audit department – more easily access historical data from GMI, for example to research a disputed trade or to reprint a historical statement
- Customer service – view the entire customer portfolio across systems and asset classes
- Sales – show an up-to-the moment picture of commissions, fees and profit/loss for the day across asset classes and systems
- Credit and risk management – feed risk management engines to calculate real-time concentration risk and limit reporting
- Management – provide real-time information with flexible reporting tools
- Clients – feed client-facing Web applications in real-time

Value-added tools

With the integration of Stream, customers can access a range of value-added tools.

Stream Report Writer allows users to run ad hoc queries and create customized reports on demand, without having to understand the complexities of the data or rely on IT. Stream Report Writer is a business facing solution that sits on top of Stream. In addition, because Stream can draw data from multiple sources, users can create reports that reflect the status of an account across systems or the position of the firm as a whole.

Stream also allows firms that run multiple instances of GMI to see a single view of all their content, making it easier to understand the positions of both clients and the firm itself. Moreover, customers can view GMI data alongside content from any back-office system and any asset classes, presenting a more complete picture.

With a real-time, enterprise-wide view of position and trade data, firms can better assess risks in today's often volatile marketplace. Whether using Stream to feed Stream Credit Monitor (formerly known as Margin Advisor), SunGard's credit monitoring and real-time margining solution; a third-party risk tool; or a proprietary solution, Stream provides the relevant data in real-time.

The integration of GMI and Stream is available on a licensed or ASP basis.

Reducing cost, risk and time to market

Stream is based around a single database model, which can provide a number of advantages. For example, there is less point-to-point system integration and thus fewer feeds to maintain or tests to be completed during system upgrades. This helps reduce the cost of system integration and maintenance. In 2009, financial services firms are expected to devote more than 70 percent of their IT budgets to maintaining existing IT infrastructure.* Freeing up just a portion of that spend for more important projects could provide a significant competitive edge.

Stream can also help reduce conversion risk. Many firms take a “big bang” approach – turning off an entire system and turning on the new one. By integrating downstream systems with Stream instead of directly to source systems, firms can take a phased approach to system replacement, upgrade and conversion, giving the IT group more flexibility to meet tight deadlines with existing resources.

In addition, rather than spending time and money on building new point-to-point interfaces to support new initiatives, firms can leverage Stream’s direct access to a range of data sources across the enterprise to reduce time to market. That can, in turn, help firms achieve revenue growth more quickly.

Using a single database model can also reduce training costs and intellectual capital risk. Employees only need to be trained on one model. In addition, a firm is at less risk if an employee leaves, because it doesn’t take as long to train a replacement and there is no need to develop in-depth knowledge of the system.

SunGard has demonstrated its own support of the Stream data model by adopting it as a CSA standard for use across the company.

KEY BENEFITS OF THE INTEGRATION OF STREAM AND GMI:

Makes it easier for business and IT users to access GMI data

Because the data is stored in a relational database, users can access the information residing in GMI without needing to know the minutiae of the GMI system.

Provides tools to run standard and custom reports

Stream Report Writer allows users to create reports that are based on their specific requirements and that cover the entire enterprise. They can also select from a range of standard reports.

Helps free up IT budgets for projects that will provide a competitive edge

Because Stream is based around a single database model, it can reduce development time and training, thus lowering costs and allowing firms

to redirect IT spend towards projects that can provide a competitive edge.

Can reduce time to market for new initiatives, therefore helping firms achieve revenue growth more quickly

Because firms don’t need to build new point-to-point interfaces, they can go to market and start reaping benefits from new initiatives more quickly.

Helps reduce conversion risk and enables firms to migrate systems in a phased, flexible manner

Customers can leverage Stream to avoid a big bang migration and the associated risks.

Helps simplify the IT environment and provide a more complete picture

Customers can view a single source of data, helping to simplify their environment and reduce the IT management burden.

Can improve data management and reduce the opportunity for errors

With a single source of data, individuals and systems across the firm view the same content. The integration of GMI and Stream also allows firms running multiple instances of GMI to consolidate the data into a single view. As a result, everyone is working from a consistent set of information and can see a more complete picture of clients and their own firm’s exposure.

The integration of Stream and GMI gives customers the power to unlock the data within GMI that they need to meet their goals. Ultimately, the integration can reduce the cost and time devoted to system maintenance, integrating new interfaces, training and other back-end work – freeing up resources for projects that provide a competitive edge.

**Celent, IT Spending in Financial Services: A Global Perspective, December 2007.*

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