

Rollins Leasing Corporation

By Don, Axon, Database Administrator

With more than 200 leasing/sales offices around the country and \$500 million in annual revenues, Rollins Leasing Corporation is one of the nation's leading truck fleets leasing companies. The company recently began a new business unit to provide its customers with complete trucking and logistic services, providing trucks, manpower and warehousing management. To support the new business venture, Rollins Leasing is building a new computer information system using Visible Analyst Workbench (VAW), a graphical analysis and modeling tool for client/server application development from Visible Systems Corporation.

Along with data and process modeling, Rollins development team is using VAW for project management. With user-defined entities added, VAW generates milestone reports during the development cycle so that Rollins' development team can compare processes directly against their specified system requirements and ensure all application development issues have been addressed before the program coding phase.

"Visible Analyst Workbench provides good functionality at a reasonable price," said Don Axon, database administrator. "In addition to collecting data and diagramming entity relationships, we're using VAW to generate SQL scripts to populate our database which saves us an incredible amount of time – anywhere from one day to two weeks." Axon also uses VAW to export information to a spreadsheet and calculate I/Os before the application is programmed. The result is a reference diagram that ensures that the program's I/Os fit within specified parameters, helping the development team identify problems early on.

At first, Rollins' project team uses VAW to review processes at a high level and determine system requirements, storing this data in VAW's repository. Next, VAW outlines data tables and helps develop the physical database model and program, providing consistency throughout the development cycle. "Visible Analyst Workbench is also a process modeling tool and ensures data access is consistent with relationships in the repository. It reliably identifies potential problems before the coding phase, saving us time and provide thorough analysis," Axon said.

According to Axon, Rollins plans to continue using VAW in all project development. Eventually, Rollins plans to use the tool as its complete repository and for creating standard specification development, as well as code generation.

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