Case Study

Project Tokologo – Tshwane Metropolitan Council

EBE Computing recently completed a large and high profile migration project by helping the City of Tshwane (formerly Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa) move decades of investment in the legacy backend to a Windows 2000 system. The City was faced with the removal of support for their ICL mainframe, and was confronted with the prospect of an expensive, unbudgeted, hardware upgrade. The City now successfully uses the OpenSCL migrated environment:

- Tshwane had been using its ICL mainframes since the early 1980s to host the primary systems for their billings, reconciliations, and other backend functions

- ICL advised the organisation of the cessation of hardware support for the Series 39 mainframes. Tshwane was given six-months notice

- The alternative proposed by ICL to Tshwane was to upgrade to a Fujitsu Nova-series mainframe, at considerable incremental expense to the organisation

- Since running mission-critical backend applications on unsupported hardware was not an option, Tshwane could not get away by "doing nothing"

- Options for maintaining continuing operations were narrowed down to four choices:

    1. Upgrade to new ICL/Fujitsu mainframe(s)

    2. Carry out a manual migration of the mainframe applications (1.2m lines of code), with more than 250 users, to a server platform

    3. Implement a package to replace the applications

    4. Use OpenSCL to migrate to a Windows 2000 server platform.

RISK ANALYSIS	ICL Hardware Upgrade	Manual Migration	Implement Package	OpenSCL Migration*
Time-of-conversion	N/A	2.12 man-years	20 + man-years	1.2 man-years
Data Migration Included	Yes	No	No	Yes
Level-of-Risk	Low	High	High	Low
3-Year Economic Impact**	£1.7 mil	£2.2 mil	£7.5 mil	£0.7 mil

EBE Computing successfully completed the migration within four months, with the machines being physically removed two months later