



## Software Distribution



### FAST TRACK FOR SOFTWARE PACKAGES

Anyone building an airport is going to need processes they can rely on when it comes to routine activities. At the Berlin Airports DX-Union from MATERNA reliably handles the software management tasks.

The Berlin Airports (Berliner Flughäfen) transport almost 21 million passengers every year. Work started in September 2006 to extend the Schönefeld Airport to become the new Capital City Airport Berlin Brandenburg International BBI. After several years of construction the new airport will open its doors for passenger services in the middle of 2012. The Berlin-Brandenburg region's complete air traffic will then be concentrated at this airport in the south-east of the city.

At the moment around 1,300 Windows XP-based computer workplaces have to be administered and regularly equipped with up-to-date software. The solution used until now for client management has been in operation for many years. However the manufacturer discontinued the product and terminated the support in 2008. "We therefore had to find a follow-on solution for the software management. The new solution should fit as seamlessly as possible into the existing environment," says Andreas Heinze, system planner at the Berlin Airports.

DX-Union from MATERNA fulfilled exactly these requirements. The software has already been on the market for many years and MATERNA is considered to be a renowned and well-established company. The Dortmund software specialists were also convincing because they oriented themselves very much to the functions in the legacy system. "That means that the fundamental structure of the system very much conforms to our ways of working. That was important as we do not have time to change anything about the basis of our IT because of the construction of the new airport. We wanted to continue working as much as possible just as we had before," Heinze explains the decision for the Dortmund company. The sales partner here was the company Membrain.

#### Automated software package migration

The core requirement was to take over the approximately 550 software packages and migrate them to DX-Union. The DX-Union Migration Tool SLD2DXU and the Package Wizard helped with this.

The DX-Union Package Wizard facilitates the creation of new software packages. The Wizard guides the packager through the individual steps and recognises setup variants by itself. Based on that, the Package Wizard then provides the appropriate script variants such as Microsoft Installer Setups (MSI), Installshield- or InnoSetup-based installations.

The legacy system was extremely well developed so, for example, the existing software packages were already at a very high level. The IT department at the Berlin Airports hardly had to re-install any applications manually. “The seamless changeover functioned very well with DX-Union and the Package Wizard,” is how Andreas Heinze sees it. The Wizard also offers even more setup possibilities than before.

But the migration was very complicated and the administration team adjusted some of the packages afterwards manually – such as the mapping of the networks for problems due to versions and capital and lower case letters. Numerous tests accompanied the migration. “The migration tool was very important. It would not have been possible to handle such a project at a justifiable cost without it,” Heinze explains. In the end it is the quality of the packages which counts for the user. That is why updating the packages is one of the administration team’s regular tasks and the Package Wizard helps here too.

### Relief from routine activities

DX-Union provides an administration interface which can be operated simply and intuitively. The administration team at the Berlin Airports confirms this advantage too: practically no training was needed. Today DX-Union is the basis for the automated software distribution at the airport company, so the IT department can concentrate on upcoming infrastructure projects.

But there are one or two improvements which Dirk Klimpel, System Administrator at the Berlin Airports, would like to see: detailed control of the software installation for example to determine the order of the installation and the timeframe. In the new version 6.4 these aspects will be implemented. This will mean that the point of time when a particular software can be installed on a PC can be defined to the minute. In 6.4 a deadline can also be set to determine by when the installation has to be installed. This also demonstrates that development of this software continues constantly and that MATERNA takes user feedback seriously. ■

### The company

With their airports at Schönefeld and Tegel the Berlin Airports take care of the air traffic infrastructure for the Capital City Region of Berlin-Brandenburg. From 2012 the complete air traffic will be concentrated at the new Capital City Airport Berlin Brandenburg International BBI. The first step was on 30 October 2008 when the Tempelhof Airport was closed down. Tegel Airport will be closed down in 2012 when the BBI is opened. In 2009 almost 21 million passengers started and landed in Berlin. The Berlin share of the German air traffic market is 11.6 percent. This puts Berlin in 15th place.



The Berlin-Schönefeld Airport has grown dramatically over the last few years. By 2012 it will have been extended to become the new Capital City Airport Berlin Brandenburg International BBI.