

"DataSynapse has built its business on a grid computing platform that allows customized applications to use virtualization and automation to share IT resources in a heterogeneous environment...as organizations become more mature in managing IT services over time, a natural inclination is to optimize by consolidating and reducing costs."

- Gartner, Cool Vendors in IT Operations, 2006

The Challenge

Many of the largest financial services organizations rely daily upon compute-intensive, business-critical Trading and Risk applications, which require high performance processing power that is both scalable and reliable. Capital markets thrive on complexity, and sell-side institutions rely on high-volume, complex trades to generate profits. The ability to master highly complex scenarios is the key to generating profits and delivering new structured products to market fast and effectively. In an increasingly competitive industry, maintaining high margins on new products demand increasing compute capacity to run highly complex pricing and risk models accurately and reliably.

- Risk figures that are critical to traders must be available at the start of the trading day; late data or processing bottlenecks significantly impact the window available for the traders to carry out profitable business – significantly impacting the bottom line.
- Complex and compute-intensive applications such as pricing scenarios for structured derivatives can often take hours to run. This leads to significant lag times from the time a sales representative contacts a customer to the time a quote could be delivered. This latency translates into missed profit generation opportunities for the institution.
- Batch-oriented applications "stove piped by trade" can result in unproductive allocation of system resources. While some areas of the computing environment are idle, other parts require additional capacity driven by volume growth and complexity.
- Too often, business-critical applications – a combination of home built applications and third party ISV products each with their own proprietary distributed computing software – reside on static and siloed systems. Traditionally, the only way to meet increasing demand for processing power is to replicate the systems and purchase new, dedicated and costly hardware for each individual application.
- In order to guarantee that enough processing power is available during surges in demand, IT resources are over-provisioned to provide sufficient "headroom." This over-provisioning of resources, as well as new hardware purchases, leads to an increase in IT spend for support personnel, bloating total cost of ownership (TCO).
- Finally, the challenge is magnified by the global nature of Trading and Risk. Expensive hardware platforms are replicated across geographies and time zones, resulting in expensive resources lying idle during non-working hours.

Murex

With over 200 sites worldwide, Murex has developed a leading competence in the design and implementation of integrated and cost effective software solutions to support the entire trading, risk management and processing cycles of credit derivatives, interest rates, foreign exchange, equity and commodity instruments. The Murex innovative solution delivers superior power and flexibility from high volume trading to exotic product structuring. A team of over 500 specialists, located in Europe, Asia and America, are dedicated to providing clients with the best support in the industry.

Murex offers a cross asset platform offering uncompromising specialization and leading functionality in each asset class. The Murex solution called MX.3 provides their clients with a platform delivering standard processes and coverage for standard products on all asset classes, while offering extension abilities for in-house development of value-added functionality.

Murex is a full front-to-back office credit risk and trade processing application suite. It provides facilities for Risk calculation, trade processing, pricing and analytics. Murex has developed an integration layer that allows Murex to leverage DataSynapse technology "out of the box".

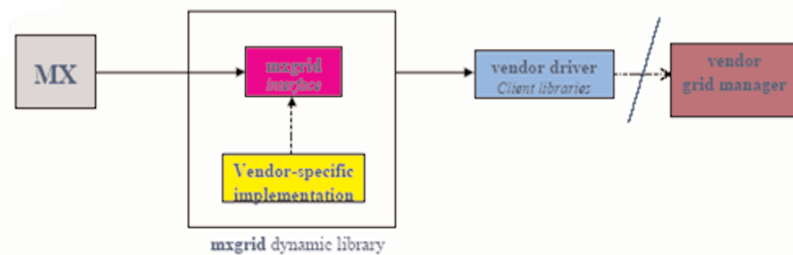
Joint Solution Benefits

The combined solution, MXGrid, makes it possible for Murex pricing, risk, compliance and processing engines to be distributed to multiple CPUs on multiple machines, whether they are dedicated to running the simulations, or machines that are not currently being fully used. The MXGrid integration module is tightly coupled to the MX application, meaning that the client side work for the distribution is built in to Murex, and requires no additional work from the integrator. The MX application has an MXGrid dynamic library, which it utilizes for distribution of requests. This library provides a façade for the DataSynapse grid implementation.

With the integration complete, there is no additional development necessary and very little implementation or configuration work to be done, thus slashing the total cost of ownership.

The ROI for this joint solution:

- Significant application performance gains: from time-to-build and deploy to improvements in scalability and resiliency
- Increased revenues: through expanded capabilities, product offerings and accelerated time-to-market for new complex derivatives
- Capacity On-Demand: to scale the Murex application without any modifications to the implementation
- Increased trading volumes: providing the ability to trade larger volumes and provide key traders with valuable, reliable and accurate risk figures throughout the trading day
- Cost Reduction and Containment: reduction in operating and capital costs and ongoing cost avoidance through shared and aggregated IT resources, based on business needs. IT silos can be broken down, increasing sharing and utilization of existing resources across multiple applications while providing dramatically improved application performance and response time.



About Murex

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About DataSynapse

DataSynapse, Inc. is a global provider of application virtualization software. The company's flagship products, GridServer® and FabricServer™, virtualize business-critical applications and adaptively provision them across a real-time infrastructure. DataSynapse drives business agility through shared services, helping clients reduce the cost and complexity of their IT infrastructure. The company is headquartered in New York City.