

CJS EXCHANGE HOSTING

The Challenge

Criminal Justice System (CJS) Exchange hosting is a service for the Criminal Justice Information Technology Unit (CJIT), part of the Office for Criminal Justice Reform, a tri-lateral organisation across three Departments of State – The Home Office, Department for Constitutional Affairs, and the Attorney General's Office. The vision for the Exchange is that "by March 31st 2008 anyone involved in the Criminal Justice System – users of it or people working within it - should have access from any browser enabled device to a seamless, coherent set of applications and information to cover the breadth of their dealings." The Exchange will join-up the Police Service, Crown Prosecution Service, Crown Courts, Magistrates Courts, National Offenders Management Service (formerly Prisons and Probation) and DVLA, and provide information to the agencies, companies and members of the public with whom these interact in the administration of criminal justice.

The Solution

Through a series of pilot projects, the Criminal Justice Information Technology Unit has created an Exchange which provides an XML message hub and portal. Fujitsu has been contracted to transition these to an industrial strength hosting environment with no single point of failure and comprehensive disaster recovery provision. The Exchange will be scaled to support national rollout with volumes approaching one million messages per day. The hosting platform will also be used to develop a new Strategic Portal Framework, extending the Exchange for new requirements such as case progression and police enquiries to the DVLA.

The Implementation

Fujitsu, working closely with CJIT, the application service provider and incumbent suppliers, is responsible for design, build and implementation of the hosting infrastructure and the successful transition of the systems into a pair of List-X data centres, complying with RESTRICTED-HIGH security requirements. The technology involved is based on IBM's Websphere middleware using web services, MQ and FTP channels, hosting on industry-standard Windows and Linux platforms. Transition started in August 2005 and is due to complete in May 2006.

The Expertise

The Exchange service draws on Fujitsu's established expertise in secure Government hosting and data centre operations, including network and infrastructure management and support, helpdesk services and service delivery management. Our experience of leading complex and challenging programmes, culture of realism and collaborative approach are key factors in the transition. We are working in partnership with CJIT to make the Exchange a secure, resilient and scalable basis for joining up Criminal Justice organisations across England.

The Value

£18.5m over 5 years for Transition & Hosting services. £5.2m (est.) Supply Chain.

Background - Office of Criminal Justice Reform

The objective is to deliver the National Criminal Justice Board's vision,:

- Victims and witnesses will receive a consistent high standard of service from all criminal justice agencies
- More offences will be brought to justice through a more modern and efficient justice process
- Rigorous enforcement will revolutionise compliance with sentences and orders of the court.
- The public will have confidence that the CJS is effective and it serves all communities fairly
- The Criminal Justice System will be a joined up, modern and well run service, and an excellent place to work for people from all backgrounds.

Background - CJIT Services

Current Applications:

- ExISS is the data exchange connecting the Crown Prosecution Service, Police, Magistrates Courts, and DVLA.
- OASys is the offender information transfer between HM Prison Service and the National Probation Service
- XHIBIT Portal (Microsoft .NET Version) is the portal connecting the XHIBIT system with Crown Courts
- Secure email (not in our contract)]

Planned Applications:

- Portal (to all CJO applications)
- Case Progression Tool
- Transformation services