

Success Stories: AXA

Strategic Investments in technology and quality by AXA Equitable have positioned the firm to respond to the post-crisis market.

"We implemented our architecture model just in time, the business pushed our newfound flexibility to the limit to thrive in the recession"

Mitchell Wein Jr., SVP & CTO AXA Equitable

Client Profile

AXA Equitable Life Insurance Company is a premier provider of life insurance, annuity, and investment products and services with nearly \$540 billion assets under management and serves more than 3 million clients in the U.S., Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

Business Situation

In order to swiftly navigate through changing market conditions AXA needs to increase the pace of product releases. Moreover to cut costs more than 80% of coding is done by offshore partners, while there is a strong emphasis on process and execution discipline to minimize risks while reducing costs.

Solution

AXA's dedication to preparing for the demands of a changing marketplace has driven technology investments that would help cut costs while improving the agility of IT. AXA has identified CAST Application Intelligence Platform (AIP) to help achieve these organizational objectives, specifically to:

- Measure the quality and performance of offshore partners
- Quantify productivity and quality of software teams and projects to help drive six sigma and CMMI efforts
- Bring process and execution discipline through objective data measured directly from the source code
- Gain visibility at the executive level to drive change and reduce costs while controlling risk

Benefits

In the last 2–3 years AXA has successfully cut IT budgets by more than 35%, while increasing the speed of delivery for their business organization. The following examples illustrate some specific benefits that AXA Equitable is able to achieve with CAST AIP. "

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Questions?

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Example 1:

This vital business application provides a number of other applications access to vital enterprise information through web services and requires security assessment to ensure secure transactions.

	Without	With
Security Assessment	• Manual	• Automatic
Cost	• \$64,000	• \$0 • In-phase detection & prevention
Remediation Plan	• 5 weeks (1 resource)	• Instantly generated
Frequency of Assessment	• Once a year	• Every build
Comments	• Manual/Not Comprehensive • Post Implementation	• Automated/Comprehensive • During development

Example 2:

This customer facing system primarily big clients to manage employee insurance policies, had performance issues caused by memory leaks causing system to be restarted 10 times a year.

Challenge: More than 1500 modules with potential problem. Estimated manual review of all the modules would take more than 50 man days. Manual review won't be thorough and comprehensive

CAST AIP Advantage:

- Time taken by CAST to identify potential problems :1 day (one analysis)
- Savings of ~ \$40,000 (compared to 50 man days)
- Identifies all other performance problems not just memory leaks
- Proactively prevent all future problems by identifying issues right at the development stage

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