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# **Business Rules Applications**



# Application Examples

- Credit Suisse
- Leading Swiss Bank
- RTC







# Challenges for a Bank

- Globalisation of bank business
- fast reaction on changing environment
- high innovation rate for bank products
- product variety and complexity
- reliability
- regulations





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## Where are rules today

- In head of people
- manuals
- tables (Excel, Word)
- business process description
- IT systems
  - Credit Suisse
    - 700 application
    - 15 Mio LOC PL/1
    - 10 Mio LOC Java

• purchased software systems







# Difficulties

- Number of rules increases
- ten thousands of rules in code of applications
- identification and modification of rules time-consuming
- new rules → new release of application
  - but: product development is not synchronized with software release cycles





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(Quelle: A. Singer, 2005)

# Idea: Extract Rules from Applications and store in Business Rules Engine



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann MSc BIS





# Application 1: Opening of new Bank Accounts

- Existing Application with the following functionality:
  - Opening bank accounts, customer identification, sales of more than 100 products, controlling of legal aspects, generate and print contracts
- Problem area
  - ♦ > 20'000 rules
  - redundancy of rules
  - insufficient comprehensibility an clarity
  - high maintenance costs
- Solution:
  - Business Rules Engine
  - Reengineering of existing application

Cases	Einzelfirma	AG	GmbH	Kollektiv- Gesellschaften	Kommandit- Gesellschaften	Genossenschaften	Vereine	Trust	Stiftungen	:
Relationship opening (create)										
Relationship enhancement (modify existing data)										
Product 1										
Product 2										
Product n										





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#### **Business Rules and Software Validation**



market







#### Finding

- Business Rules work even with thousands of rules
- Combination of rule builder and rule engines works
- BRE required re-engineering of existing rules
- building up vocabulary in the beginning was important
- new role distribution between IT und business
  - more tasks for business (e.g. testing and changing rules)
- iterative development more important than in other projects
- testing and deployment require adequate processes (who makes tests, what has to be tested, ...)?
- validation of rules by business
- tracing rule changes is important



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# Pricing of financial products

- New pricing models
  - service bundling
  - cross selling
- customer-specific fees
- influence customer behaviour
- central pricing and billing



## Task

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#### Maestro and customer cards

- simple fee models
- different types of customers (private, company, ...)
- perdiodical and ad-hoc fees
- keeping customer accounts
  - complex fee structure
  - retail and private bank customers
  - individual special conditions





# Result



- Maestro and customer cards
  - ♦ 12-15 rules
    - 1 decision table
    - 5 extra rules
  - Test with 400 transactions: 100% correct
- keeping customer accounts
  - ♦ 70-80 rules
    - 20 for retail customers, 20 for private banking customers
    - 40 for special conditions
  - Test with calculations: 3 deviations >1 Rappen





#### Result

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**logica**CMG

Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann MSc BIS





# Universal Banking Software IBIS

- 3.4 mio accounts and depots
- 254 mio bookings per year (about 1 mio per day)





# **Central Accounting System**



Prof. Dr. Knut Hinkelmann MSc BIS



#### **Rules and Processes**





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# Some Experiences

- During development
  - high requirements for people
  - multiple iterations necessary
  - default rules (rules for every case)
- Performance
  - Key is efficient data access
- Test
  - optimal comparability of specification and implementation
- Rule identification was time-consuming and error-prone

