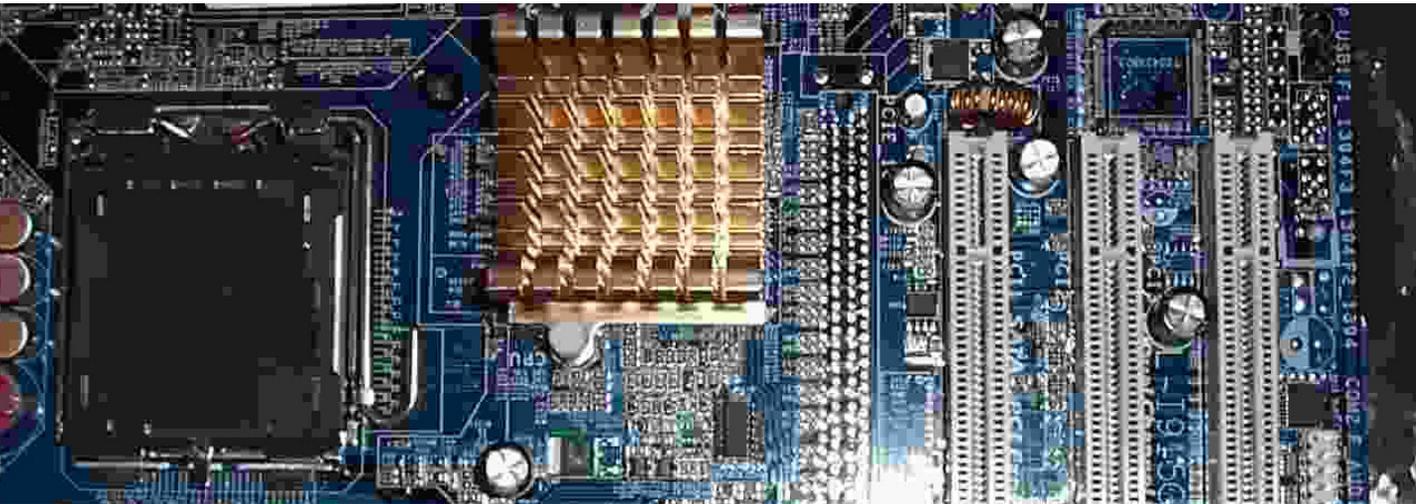


ANADIGICS Sets a Comprehensive Information Technology Strategy



THE CLIENT

ANADIGICS is a supplier of radio frequency/microwave integrated circuit solutions for the communications industry. ANADIGICS combines research and development, innovative design and manufacturing expertise to deliver high performance RF ICs (radio frequency integrated circuits) for high frequency and broadband communications markets. Their ICs can be found all over the globe being used in:

- Cellular and PCS handsets and base stations
- Fiber optic telecom and datacom networks
- Cable TV set top boxes, cable modems, and infrastructure products

THE CHALLENGE

ANADIGICS had grown to 500 employees in 60 different departments. They were aware that to effectively manage their growth it was imperative that they set a comprehensive strategy for their use of information technology.

THE SOLUTION

ANADIGICS engaged Praxinet to help them set an information technology strategy that would empower their work force during their continued growth. As a basis for developing the IT Strategic Plan and Architecture, Praxinet worked according to the most basic assumption: that the primary driver for IT is always the enterprise business purpose. The intent of the strategy was to define for everyone in the organization how information technology is to be used. For instance, is technology's goal to reduce costs or to be leveraged for competitive advantage? They would also determine the degree of change required to meet the changing business environment and transition from the current state to a new, revised vision for IT.

The IT Strategic Plan Praxinet developed included a vision of the future of IT at ANADIGICS, as well as the strategy to get there. The strategy was then supported by a series of initiatives that provided the greatest levels of return for the available resources, with an acceptable level of risk.

From a process standpoint, Praxinet's activities fell into three major steps: Business Needs Analysis, Program Development, and Project Definition.

The Business Needs Analysis step included comprehensive interviews with ANADIGICS' internal business units, competitive analysis, and reviews of best practices. The results of the business unit reviews were analyzed to define a number of Programs, defined to provide a technology service to the user community. The results of the business needs analysis fed the IT Architectural Definition Phase. The net result of these meetings was the articulation of "needs" that Praxinet found significant. These "needs" became the basis of the Strategy development.

In the Program Development step, the "needs" were aligned into consistent categories representing the business benefit to be realized. These were referred to as Programs. Three major programs were then defined, representing the three areas of IT needs: Information Management Needs, Collaborative Business Needs, and Business Process Needs. A number of projects were defined within each of these programs and were ranked in importance and aligned to find common solutions.

Praxinet carefully examined the needs in the final Project Definition step and determined that certain tasks would satisfy more than one project requirement. The result (fortunately) was not a one-to-one mapping of need to project. Eleven key projects were defined that would satisfy all of the critical needs that had been defined.

THE TECHNOLOGY

The technologies associated with the projects defined in this strategy included:

- Data Warehouse - Microsoft SQL 7.0 on an NT Server. This aligns with initiatives already completed and in process at ANADIGICS.
- On Line Analytical Processing - will provide the foundation for a number of subject-oriented Data Marts. These tools are already in place at ANADIGICS and are used as part of the SABRE application.
- Enterprise Application Integration (EAI) Software - will be used in the information infrastructure to provide data movement from one system to any other. It will create for ANADIGICS the benefits and capabilities of a fully integrated ERP system while utilizing their existing applications, thereby minimizing cost and effort. The EAI software will also allow for fully electronic supply-chain integration with suppliers and/or vendors.

THE BENEFITS

The Strategic Plan that Praxinet developed gave ANADIGICS a clear pathway to meet their IT needs. In addition, the comprehensive nature of the exercise itself provided ANADIGICS with a unique understanding of the integration of those needs.

About Us...

Praxinet, Inc. provides consulting and software solutions that improve business performance across government and private enterprise. Praxinet leverages its core competencies in strategic consulting, Internet technologies, and business intelligence to enable its clients to manage their operations more efficiently and intelligently. Praxinet has designed and developed mission-critical solutions for major clients such as Avaya, Swiss Re, Pitney Bowes, GE, Star Gas Partners, Deloitte & Touche, PricewaterhouseCoopers, Citibank, Pfizer, Verizon, UPS, IRS, NH Dept. of Health & Human Services, and Tishman Speyer Properties.

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