



Customer: ICF International, Inc.
Website: www.icf.com
Country or Region: United States
Industry: Professional Services
Partner: COZYROC

Customer Profile

Formed in 1969 and based in Fairfax, VA, ICF International, Inc. provides management, technology, and policy consulting and implementation services to government and commercial clients in the United States and internationally. It is a publicly held company (NASDAQ: ICFI).

“The controls are a good approximation of the controls that come with SSIS and they’re intuitive to use.”

“Support has been extremely accurate and has gotten us going in the right direction.”

Jonathan Lewis, ICF International, Inc.

Business Needs

ICF is in the energy solutions and services business. The division that is the subject of this case study manages about 40 different energy efficiency programs. This requires the collection of data related to energy usage which they then use to provide reports for their public and private customers. Their ETL requirements span data related to utility companies, banks, grocery stores and individual users of energy.

The ETL team had formerly been Oracle developers. They were thrown onto a Microsoft project and found themselves struggling with some of the missing plugins—for instance, ones related to SFTP and PGP encryption. The immediate solution they came up with was to use Microsoft’s Script Task (in SSIS) and write their own

scripts for SFTP, PGP encryption and Zip compression.

Eventually, they needed to be able to pull data from Excel files. The Server Admin team would not allow the installation of MS Office on the servers, so the Excel software was not available to the ETL solution. This prohibited them from using the standard Excel Source component that comes with SSIS. They needed to find a way around this obstacle.

Solution

They found that COZYROC’s SSIS+ Library contained an Excel Source component that functioned without the Microsoft Excel software being installed on the server.

The ETL team found that COZYROC’s SSIS+ Library contained several tasks and components they could use to make their lives easier. Besides

the Excel Source and Destination components, it also contained tasks for SFTP, OpenPGP and Zip compression. These tasks would allow them to shift away from using the scripts they had to maintain themselves to tasks maintained by COZYROC.

The team tried it out in a sandbox environment first to make sure there weren't any conflicts with other services they were using and to ensure there was no malware detected. They also made sure they were comfortable with the support they were getting from COZYROC and that there would be support for future releases of SQL Server.

Once they felt comfortable, the ETL team purchased COZYROC's Perpetual License. Eventually, they shifted to the Ultimate Subscription, which allowed them access to any releases supported by COZYROC, including any future releases. The solutions using COZYROC's components and tasks have been running smoothly in production for more than six years.

Benefits

The beauty of having access to so many components for one low price is that the ETL team found other components and tasks they could use after making the purchase for the short list of capabilities that led them to COZYROC. For instance, when the team was told they would be working with Salesforce, they checked the COZYROC toolkit and found they could easily accommodate Salesforce data with the use of COZYROC's Salesforce Destination component and connection manager.

They have also been using COZYROC's Send Mail Task Plus, Receive Mail Task, the SharePoint components, and Address Parse, as well as the powerful and elegant Data Flow Task Plus.

The team was able to configure some of the simpler tasks, such as SFTP and OpenPGP, without any assistance. They knew some demonstration videos were available if they needed them, but they were not needed because of the intuitive interface.

For other more complex tasks such as Data Flow Task Plus, they found the demonstration videos to be extremely useful. Occasionally, the team did need to reach out for assistance from support, about which, Jonathan Lewis had this to say: "support has been extremely accurate and has gotten us going in the right direction."

Because the team had been working with SSIS for about a year prior to working with COZYROC's toolkit, the learning curve was relatively easy. Jonathan said, "the controls are a good approximation of the controls that come with SSIS."

For More Information

For more information about COZYROC products and services, call the COZYROC Sales Department at (919) 249-7421, email sales@cozyroc.com, or visit www.cozyroc.com

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