



Havenshire Limited Newsletter

Sept 2010 From Our Founder

The Wise Choice for Business and Technical Consulting

Let's Keep in Touch!

Newsletter Subscription
Subscribe to our free email newsletter

Send An Inquiry or Comment

Ask a question, send us feedback, tell us what your business needs

Information to Help You Prosper

Information and Referrals to Bargains

Information products for sale, and also free reports and referrals to special discounts we negotiated for you with our favourite vendors

Get Paid! As Much As You Deserve, And On Time

Affordable updated ebook – how to get your customers to pay on time and in full, without needing collection agents or lawsuits (USA edition, very helpful if you sell into the States)

2003 Book (USA)

Amazon.com listing for the original book Make Sure You Get Paid (And Other Business Basics)

Contact Us

www.havenshire.com
service@havenshire.com

10 Nursery Close
West Felton
Oswestry
Shropshire SY11 4LZ
England (UK)

+44 (0)121 288 1440 phone
+44 (0)870 123 6161 fax

Director: Bonnie D. Huval

Copyright © 2010 Havenshire Limited. All rights reserved.

Technology that Appears to be Magic

One of Arthur C. Clarke's most widely quoted 'laws' of prediction says:

Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic.

Havenshire now offers magic for modernisation of legacy software.

Let's say your business relies heavily on a large software system written in COBOL many years ago. The software has been patched over and over again to fix bugs, add new features and remove obsolete features. Its documentation has not kept up with all the changes. So much patching has made it such a convoluted mess that every time your IT staff touches it, something breaks.

But you need it.

Maybe you issue loans and accept repayments on the loans, and the software does all the calculations and tracking for you. Maybe you would love to offer new types of loans, but the very thought of adding the rules for new loan products into the software is daunting.

Maybe you write insurance policies, manage rental properties, run a retail store... Whatever it is that you do, the software has become essential. Unfortunately, the software is showing its age. *You can't live with it much longer but you can't live without it either.*

Traditionally, modernising software like that has been painfully expensive and risky. You would have to hire analysts capable of wading through the old source code, figuring out what it does, and producing detailed documentation suitable for telling programmers what new replacement software must do to accomplish the same thing.

The analysts had to be expert, so they were costly—but as human beings, they could easily overlook something. If they did, the programmers would get incomplete instructions and would create new software that would not do the same work as your old software.

We can now automate nearly all of the analysis and source code translation into new software so it is faster, cleaner, lower cost and much lower risk.

In early September, we became the only European firm offering this technology from a new technology partner firm in the States. It's the next best thing to getting your legacy

software modernisation overseen by Dumbledore.

We feed your source code into the renewal engine, and it produces several results you can see and use:

- It deduces the business rules being carried out by your software.
- You can see the business rules, diagrammed as though an expert analyst laid them out for business domain experts and a modern object oriented programmer.
- You can see which original source code goes with which elements of the business rules.
- Suggested new software in a modern language is automatically generated, nicely structured, clean and ready for you to compile or tweak if you want to make a few manual changes.

This can handle big ugly systems.

Our top expertise went to the States to see it in action. There's no need to worry that your software is too big or too complex.

At the time, the firm was analysing a 750,000 line COBOL application built decades ago. We could see how it did such tricks as recognising and consolidating duplicated code. We could see existing COBOL source, object oriented documentation, which source code lines relate to which business rules, and the new cleanly structured Java source code that has been automatically generated.

Months worth of work was in front of us—done in just weeks (most of which was setup time), accurately, by a fraction of the size of team a standard project would need.

Everything else we have seen for legacy modernisation is along the lines of providing some tools to facilitate manual modernisation. This is so much more advanced and automates so much of the process, it looks like magic.

Not every legacy system is a great candidate. If yours is, this can smooth the way for you to update your proprietary software so it is easier and safer to enhance, cheaper to maintain, and can be tended by programmers with skills that are more readily available in the labour market.

We understand it's hard to believe how good this is until you see it.

Contact us for a free consultation to find out whether you qualify for a low cost small scale feasibility study. It's a great 'test drive' before committing to full modernisation and results from the study feed directly into any follow-on modernisation or migration effort.