

IN BRIEF

Postilion showcased its mobile banking and payments solution at this year's Sibos event in Austria. The solution, which uses Microsoft Windows Server and SQL Server technology, offers a range of self-service banking and payments services via a mobile phone interface including balance inquiry, mini-statements, account administration, inter-account transfers, remittances, bill and utility payments, airtime purchases, and card and PIN services.

www.postilion.com

Danish financial IT service provider **Bankdata** has implemented a new payments processing system that includes Microsoft SQL Server 2005 and BizTalk Server 2006. Bankdata, which is owned by a consortium of 15 banks, has deployed BizTalk Accelerator for Swift, FileAct and InterAct Adapters as part of the solution.

www.bankdata.dk

ING Investment Management is using Microsoft BizTalk Server 2006 to enable Swift connectivity into **Bank of New York Mellon**, the settlement counterparty appointed by ING for back-office operations. The project is due to go live by the end of 2008. Coupled with a reduction in the number of parties involved in the transaction, ING hopes the project will transform its securities and payments processing and provide a highly efficient message processing structure.

www.ingim.com

www.bnymellon.com

Microsoft has agreed a partnership with **Swift**, which will ensure a new, higher level of cooperation between the organisations. The partners will work together to deliver deep industry value and simplify SwiftNet implementation for customers using Microsoft technology.

www.microsoft.com

www.swift.com

Quantix has launched a suite of services to support Microsoft SQL Server 2008. Microsoft has recognised Quantix as one of only 20 UK-based companies fully-capable of working on SQL Server 2008, which includes new and updated features such as Reporting Services, Analysis Services, Data Mining and Integration Services. These are reflected in the Quantix service portfolio, which embraces all the new features with services including a readiness review, migration and upgrade options.

www.quantix-uk.com

www.onwindows.com

LONDON MARKET NETWORK STEPS UP A GEAR

Microsoft and its partners have showcased the latest technologies for the insurance industry at the second London Market Network event.

Insurers and technology partners gathered in London to see demonstrations of the latest developments, including enhanced customer centricity and the integration of historic catastrophe data with Microsoft Virtual Earth to assist in the visualisation of risks. Paul Latache, consulting director of Moore Stephens, showed how this can help insurers to develop new products more accurately.

The audience saw how Finsbury Solutions' Spreadsheet Workbench can ensure higher levels of security, control and auditability in the use of spreadsheets, as well as how using K2 process workflows integrated into a Microsoft PerformancePoint Business Intelligence dashboard can help to

manage workflows from end to end.

"In the current economic climate, we continue to see a focus on costs, the requirement for a clear return on investment and the identification of any project risks before investments are made," said Bruce McKee, insurance business development manager at Microsoft UK. "Today we have demonstrated how London Market insurance companies can invest with confidence and use technology to drive their business in these uncertain times."

www.ciber.com

www.finsburysolutions.com

www.k2.com

www.bintelligent.co.uk

www.sequel.com

Raiffeisen swifter with SMA

SMA Financial has completed delivery of the Swift Hub Project in Romania for Raiffeisen International Bank.

Raiffeisen International Group operates in the Central Eastern European region. In 2006 it decided to build a shared service centre in Romania to streamline payments and back-office processes and reduce costs. By the first quarter of 2009, all 15 of the group's subsidiary Network Banks (NWBs) across the region will be migrated to the Swift payments infrastructure.

"Our project was based on a very aggressive timeline," said Pierre Brisse, general manager of Centralised Raiffeisen International Services and Payments. "It was therefore important to have a committed supplier capable of providing dedicated and skilled resources to make it happen together with our own team. SMA proved to be a knowledgeable and reliable partner and also showed the necessary flexibility in dealing with our various requirements."

"The SMA team has done an excellent job, working with the various teams in the NWBs across the CEE region," said Simon Murby, managing director of SMA Financial. "There is no doubt that



RAIFFEISEN INTERNATIONAL BANK HAS STREAMLINED PAYMENTS WITH SMA FINANCIAL

our experience and the fact we are the most Swift-accredited regional partner was a comfort to our client when it chose us for this complex project."

www.sma.co.uk

www.swift.com

www.raiffeisen.at