



### Highlights

- Added Java deployment platform for ease-of-use, portability, and new technology integration
- Preserved investment in existing COBOL application
- Eliminated risk of uncertain product support and higher licensing fees

## Sintecop S.p.A.

### Veryant's isCOBOL Offers COBOL with Java, Lowers Costs of Administrative Application

#### Small business customers and government agencies benefit from change to isCOBOL

Sintecop S.p.A. has provided administrative software applications to local governments and small and medium-sized businesses in Italy since 1980. When the respected company wanted to offer a Java version of its COBOL application, Sintecop turned to Veryant, whose isCOBOL™ Application Platform Suite (APS) was used to add Java capability, preserve COBOL assets, and remove uncertainty over support and pricing from a previous COBOL supplier.

#### Sintecop business goals include Java, reduced licensing costs

Located just west of Milano, Sintecop has become a trusted source of application software for companies and public agencies in northern Italy, and, through a partner network, to organizations throughout the country.

Sintecop wanted to introduce the benefits of Java to its customers by offering a Java version of its existing application to end users. The addition of Java to an existing COBOL application would provide an extremely robust solution to simplify development, administration, and implementation tasks, and ease application modernization efforts. Sintecop's current customers could keep their sizable investments in the COBOL-based application, and gain the flexibility to use Java. New customers would have the choice of adopting either technology, giving Sintecop additional competitive advantage in the market.

In addition to offering new technology, Sintecop wanted to reduce COBOL licensing costs, which were rising quickly and unpredictably. With cost pressures mounting for its customers, especially government agencies and small businesses, it was important for Sintecop to offer a cost-effective solution.

#### Veryant selected as best COBOL solution

While Sintecop previously used ACUCOBOL-GT®, the company knew that was not a viable long-term solution. Another company had acquired Acucorp, Inc. The acquiring company's past practices with acquisitions included cancelling the product, reducing support, and rapidly increasing license fees. Sintecop didn't want to be caught in a changing environment that could affect its core business.

The company decided to move its application with 14,000 online and batch COBOL programs to isCOBOL APS. For Sintecop, Veryant offered the most portable and cost-effective solution with the best technology and ease-of-use. Veryant has had proven success in helping companies worldwide extend their valuable enterprise application assets by blending the optimized, business-oriented nature of COBOL with the openness, portability, and power of the Java platform, without requiring businesses to retrain staff or rewrite code.

“We considered Veryant the best solution for maintaining our existing applications and expanding to new technology,” explained Ugo Pagnini, Vice President and Technical Director at Sintecop. “We absolutely trusted the people who worked for Veryant.”

With isCOBOL, Sintecop can retain its core business logic that has proven so valuable to its customers for nearly 30 years. At the same time, it can offer a user-friendly, portable environment that extends to many platforms. While Sintecop primarily deploys in a UNIX environment, isCOBOL can offer even more platform independence and flexibility for future development. Because the isCOBOL™ Runtime Environment is written 100 percent in Java, COBOL application developers can develop and deploy across many platforms, including AIX®, HP-UX®, Solaris™, Linux™, Windows™, Mac OS, and mainframe systems, using a single code base.

#### **New Veryant environment**

Sintecop chose several components of isCOBOL APS: the isCOBOL™ Compiler, isCOBOL Runtime Environment, isCOBOL™ Server (thin client and distributed processing), isCOBOL™ ISAM Server, and isCOBOL™ Web Direct.

To move the application to isCOBOL, Sintecop relied on its internal IT team that was very experienced in COBOL applications. The migration project was quick and efficient, especially with the feature-rich management utilities of isCOBOL and the assistance of Veryant experts, who have years of experience in helping customers move their applications with little effort.

Sintecop’s environment now includes the isCOBOL ISAM Server, a high capacity, scalable, transactional client/server indexed file system. For its relational database needs, the company uses DBMaker and in one instance, Oracle. Within the complex application, there are 5,000 screens, 1,800 files, and eleven million lines of code. Users access the application directly from their desktops.

#### **Veryant Java solution proves successful**

Sintecop is pleased to have the innovative Java option added to its valued COBOL asset of many years.

The company finds that it has created new business agility by moving to isCOBOL; Sintecop is more competitive because of its extended offering and it has reduced costs by switching to Veryant. In addition, Sintecop has realized better use of its resources through the partnership with Veryant. When there are questions, the Veryant response is always very quick, qualified, and comprehensive, noted Pagnini.

The decision to use isCOBOL APS from Veryant is expected to serve Sintecop and its customers for many years, with added flexibility and options for new technologies, and, of course, its highly-valued application.

“Opening up our application to Java has proven easy, fast, and efficient with isCOBOL. We are now able to deliver powerful multi-platform user interfaces to our customers and have been extremely pleased by the talented, responsive team at Veryant.”

- *Ugo Pagnini, Vice President,  
Sintecop S.p.A.*

