

services made with z Systems



SDV-IT eG provide IT services to the Sparda banking cooperative in Germany, relied upon by 4.2 million customers. To serve Sparda effectively they created a secure and consumable portal to their trusted z Systems services.

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IN THE BEGINNING

Sparda-Datenverarbeitung e.G. (SDV-IT eG), provide banking IT solutions for the Sparda-Bank Group throughout Germany.

SDV wanted to allow external partners to access their back-end core banking applications and data stored on the SDV mainframe.

They needed to ensure that the selected solution was secure, fast and scalable.



THE BIG IDEA

To provide a modern and intuitive API interface to trusted back end services, SDV were deliberating a distributed JBOSS and CICS TG solution. IBMs zChampion for Modernization proposed an alternative solution using a WebSphere Liberty Server application hosted within CICS.

A key advantage to the Liberty proposal was that it allowed tight integration to existing security mechanisms, as well as a simple, maintainable architecture with reduced latency through co-location.



TAKING ACTION

SDV worked with IBM to build and configure a robust infrastructure within z/OS, creating the necessary zFS and CICS resources.

Security is ensured through the integration between the Liberty server and existing processes. Liberty in CICS allows direct access to RACF keyring Certificates. Together with RACMAP statements, SDV are able to map a certificate to a z/OS user ID and therefore provide end to end control and auditability.



RESULT!

The Liberty in CICS solution met Sparda's requirements and provided their partners with the desired access to services and data.

This enabled a very highly integrated service; running JEE applications within WAS Liberty in CICS.

The successful solution provided a template for a future set of applications that bring JEE technology and traditional CICS applications closer together.

CICS and Liberty: an ideal partnership to unleash z Services securely