

BNP Paribas Factor optimizes its Web Services' performance with NeoLoad

**BNP PARIBAS
FACTOR**

Thanks to NeoLoad, the load testing software from Neotys, the factoring subsidiary of BNP Paribas was able to validate its web services' reliability under load. It continues to use NeoLoad regularly to maintain optimum performance.

BNP Paribas Factor is a wholly owned subsidiary of the BNP Paribas Group. As part of its "Receivables Solutions" package, the company provides a complete range of accounts receivable-oriented services, including factoring, reminders, debt collection and credit insurance, designed to answer fully companies' needs.

The company, which employs 270 staff across France, gained its ISO 9001: 2000 certification in December 2004. With a 2007 turnover of nearly 10 billion euro (up 20% on 2006), BNP Paribas Factor showed one of the best improvements in a factoring market that totaled 122 billion euro in France in 2007.

Web Services at the Client's Service

For any company, payment periods and outstanding debts are a source of risk and require action: late payments, cash flow problems, bad debt risk, need to issue reminders etc. Factoring, which includes a complete range of accounts receivable-related services, provides an appropriate and efficient solution to these problems.

BNP Paribas Factor's offer is designed to fulfill companies' varied needs, from the start-up VSB to the international conglomerate. The company provides its clients with an integrated accounts receivable management product, as well as a factoring solution tailored to meet each company's specific requirements.

In such a context, customer service quality is of the utmost importance.

In its constant drive to provide its clients with more value added, BNP Paribas Factor decided to put in place forty or so web services, one for each of the business processes that make up the factoring business (invoice and credit note remittance, requests for financing, authorization requests, etc.). In order to ensure the highest level of quality for its web services, and to verify their operability before putting them into production, BNP Paribas Factor needed to find a solution that would:

About BNP Paribas Factor:

BNP Paribas Factor, the wholly owned subsidiary of the BNP Paribas Group, is part of the group's French retail banking division (BDDF), with which it does the greater part of its factoring business.

BNP Paribas Factor's offer is designed to fulfill companies' varied needs, from the start-up VSB to the international conglomerate.

BNP Paribas Factor is ISO 9001: 2000 certified.

To find out more:

<https://factor.bnpparibas.com>



Project High Points:

- NeoLoad's assimilability and immediate ease of use
- Extensive use of NeoLoad, from performance validation through to regular operational testing
- NeoLoad's exhaustive features
- Rapid return on investment



- provide an accurate insight into the impact the web services' load would have on existing applications;
- test the technical building blocks upon which its web services rest;
- detect and solve certain performance-related problems, then accurately evaluate the web services' performance;
- assess the resources and measures required for their optimization;
- generally, provide a benchmark client for its web services that could be used to carry out regular operational tests.

To begin with, BNP Paribas Factor carried out its load testing manually, but this quickly proved to be too difficult, complicated and costly, prompting them to look for a commercially available solution. During the fourth quarter of 2006, BNP Paribas Factor finally chose the NeoLoad solution from Neotys.

"We needed a comprehensive and powerful tool that was also simple to use and quickly deployable. After downloading the software from the Neotys web site, and after only twenty minutes' use, it became obvious that NeoLoad fulfilled all our requirements", explains Damien Vincent, IT Project Manager at BNP Paribas Factor. "Its ease of use was due to its immediate familiarity, and it was quickly assimilable. The basic features are easily accessible and we were quickly able to start the first load tests on our web services. Access to the more advanced features remains straightforward, with no real complications. For example, the use of variables is instinctive and well documented, and managing assertions, a major feature of NeoLoad, is simple too".

Using NeoLoad from Neotys, BNP Paribas Factor was able to define test scenarios and validate its web services' performance and reliability under load, prior to their production phase. Thus, BNP Paribas Factor was able to open its web services to its clients with total confidence.

Extending NeoLoad's Uses

Far from restricting its use of NeoLoad to load testing, BNP Paribas Factor utilizes the solution's features extensively, for the web services' continual optimization in particular.

"Over and above its load testing capabilities, NeoLoad has proved to be an excellent benchmark client for our web services. In fact we use it regularly to carry out operational and regression testing," adds Damien Vincent. "NeoLoad is a powerful and very practical tool that has been designed to fulfill very real needs. We now use it on a regular basis to optimize the quality of our web services, while at the same time verifying the performance of our entire information system".

The NeoLoad solution from Neotys has aided BNP Paribas Factor in supplying value added services to its clients, enabling the latter to manage their accounts receivables efficiently, and continues to benefit the company by allowing it to optimize its web services on a daily basis

The Solution:

The NeoLoad software tests a web application's performance under load, allowing you to burn-in your web applications before they are put into production.

Powerful, affordable and very easy to use, NeoLoad is able to generate heavy and realistic loads on a web application. This allows you to study the server's behavior statistics and to pinpoint any errors and performance-related problems.

NeoLoad lets you test any web infrastructure, including J2EE, .NET, PHP, ASP, CGI, AJAX and SOAP by recording and playing back the HTTP and HTTPS requests sent to the server

About Neotys:

Founded in January 2005, Neotys develops and markets NeoLoad, the load testing software for web applications, which allows applications to be burned-in prior to their production phase. Based in Gémenos (South of France), the software publisher currently has over 350 clients in more than 40 countries in Europe, North America and Asia.

In early 2007, Neotys was named "Young Innovating Enterprise" by the Ministry of Research, and is supported by OSEO Anvar, the French innovation and funding agency. The company has a staff of around ten

For further information:

www.neotys.com

Contact:

To find out how Neotys can help you test the performance of your web applications prior to their production phase, please contact us on the following number:

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Or by e-mail at:

contact@neotys.com.

You can also visit our website at:

www.neotys.com





NeoLoad not only fulfils all BNP Paribas Factor's needs, but also provides an extremely rapid return on investment that will continue to offer long-term benefits for the company.