



AT THE CUTTING  
EDGE OF iSERIES  
SERVICES - A LEADING  
F&B FIRM TRANSFORMS  
SERVER SYSTEMS WITH HCL



ABOUT THE  
CUSTOMER

The US-based food and beverage firm has 100 business units across 35 states, alongside five manufacturing plants in Europe. Their diverse portfolio comprised a range of products – including dairy, condiments, and canned and frozen foods.

The F&B major was looking to upgrade existing server infrastructure, while effectively containing operational spend.

The customer was struggling with several challenges arising from their dated server environment.

A fragmented iSeries framework led to a jump in total cost of operations. While the system enjoyed support from IBM under its extended SWMA program, it was running on outmoded OS – version V5R4M5, classified as End-of-Service-Life (EOSL).

Moreover, the P50 processor group was too vast for ongoing workloads, causing resource underutilization and high upkeep costs. Finally, the in-house system monitoring tool needed to be replaced at the earliest, given the absence of developer support and inadequate disaster recovery (DR).

With internal storage occupying eight SAS drive stacks, hosting cost was pushed beyond the optimum.



KEY  
ROADBLOCKS



THE HCL  
APPROACH

The F&B leader availed HCL’s state-of-the-art iSeries consulting service “Optimize-i” to overhaul their server infrastructure

The entire iSeries ecosystem was transitioned to two dedicated Power 7 MMD servers – production (PROD) as well as DR – while iSeries storage was refreshed to SAN (V7K-based) systems. Further, data replication between PROD and DR logical partitions, or LPARs, was elevated to industry-best standards – with a host-based replication tool (QEDD). Ensuring near-zero downtime, HCL simplified the migration process for all the PROD iSeries LPARs

The entire P6 FHA server matrix underwent full-fledged integration, alongside the shift to two P7 MMDs. A V7Rx platform was put in place, decommissioning the previous OS. HCL also centralized the customer’s monitoring platform via Nimsoft (UIM) – with a dashboard for complete event & alerts visibility.

HCL helped the F&B company reduce spend across a host of verticals – power requirements, hosting space, and software/hardware maintenance. As a result, the customer gained the following benefits:

100% OEM  
support

30%  
reduction  
in TCO

Platform  
virtualization

Enhanced  
equipment  
services (parts,  
maintenance,  
and the like)

Automated  
alerts and  
event  
monitoring

Dramatically  
reduced  
backup time  
via LTQ4  
transition



TANGIBLE  
OUTCOMES

