Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company Receives Peace of Mind from Time Machine knowing that Testing Date Sensitive Application Is Complete

About Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company

Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance was founded in 1946 to provide its Farm Bureau members with competitive life insurance policies and to provide the service needed for those policies. The company and its agents have excelled through all these years and through all economic cycles and natural disasters. Its dedicated board, professional agency force and well trained home office staff embody all of the elements needed to maintain the company's record of success and meet the challenges of today and in the Future.

Challenge: Testing Under Active Directory

Due to Windows Active Directory (AD), end of year processing and batch back date testing was impossible to perform at Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance. Lack of a way to effectively perform testing with dates in the future resulted in encountering production problems in a critical application, ACIS (Agent Compensation and Incentive System), being migrated from the mainframe to SQL. Not only were they unable to perform “future date testing” but they were blocked from completing thorough “regression” tests due to their MS Windows Active Directory environment. AD’s built in security locks you out of network if you change the system clock resulting in even a minor time skew. The only options available were to be hostage to the system clock and wait for real time to match their tests, which was a huge failure as testing could neither be completed or successful.

Time Machine Solution

With Solution-Soft’s Time Machine software, Southern Farm Bureau Life Insurance Company is now able to perform data aging, back date and future date testing on their multi-tiered environment at any time without any negative repercussions. The system clock goes untouched as they test with virtual clocks created from Time Machine. With these virtual clocks they can move back or forward in time to perform the desired
testing required which is end of year processing, batch testing, regression testing and future date testing of their ACIS application. The production team also benefited from using Time Machine in their regression testing. Southern Farm Bureau Life now has the ability and confidence to test changes at any time, see immediate results, and move onto the next test scenario.