

"Overall design is simple, and evolutions are quickly integrated"

Vauban Humanis: 9 million documents batch treated each year



Thanks to Bdoc Suite, the Vauban Humanis group now benefits from a nation-wide common document repository and automated treatment of its mass publications. The result: improved document and process quality, which translates into time savings and increased performance.



A look at the Vauban Humanis Group

Vauban Humanis, the social welfare expert, works with companies of all sizes to advise and assist them in optimising the coverage of collaborators, leaders and individual entrepreneurs. The group also covers the full gamut of private individuals' needs in health, insurance, savings and retirement expenses, thanks to its product line. The Vauban Humanis group, France's 8th largest social welfare group, represents 5.78% of Agirc / Arrco.

Personnel: 1,600 collaborators

Key figures

- 3,300,000 people insured
- 300 document models
- 8 to 9 million pages published each year
- 3.5 million documents mailed out each Year

Benefits

- Adaptability of the Bdoc Suite solution to the field-specific applications developed by the GICR
- Standardisation of documents through a nation-wide common repository
- Easy to maintenance: document design and evolutions are quickly integrated
- Solution's capacity to handle very large volumes in batches

As part of its creation, in 2000, of a dedicated DTP cell, the Vauban Humanis group was looking for a unifying solution, well proportioned and adapted to its specific needs. As a result of the association between the Vauban and Humanis groups, this unique group offers retirement, insurance, health, and savings products and services to over 3,300,000 recipients.

Up to 2002, publications were handled using small, heterogeneous programs, with a resulting lack of any common repository and with significant functional limitations. After having studied a number of solutions on the market, Business Document's Bdoc Edit solution was chosen. Vauban Humanis' DTP teams then asked their supplier of field-specific applications (the GICR) to adopt Bdoc Edit, and eventually became the solution's promoters with the association.

A solution adapted to the specificities of professional applications

The project took less than two months, and was followed by a progressive implementation. Business Document teams saw to all developments needed to take into consideration the specificities of the GICR's tools, particularly concerning formats. Finally, what had previously been group-specific (e.g. handling DTP files) became standardised under the Bdoc Edit solution.

There are no fewer than six Bdoc servers, two of which are validation servers that permit testing major publications in real time before production is launched. Likewise, after each evolution of the software, mass tests are conducted to secure procedures as far as possible.

Documents Homogénéisation

The solution, which was first implemented only in the retirement activity, has now been extended to insurance. For each sphere of activity, designers create the models which constitute the national repository.

Overall design is simple, and evolutions are quickly integrated. Bdoc Edit connects production flows and the repository, after which the documents are treated under Bdoc Printer.

The group currently has nearly 300 document models; thanks to the repository, standardisation has become the norm. The group graphic charter is now applied to all documents, and the number of overlays has been reduced to 20.

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Significant volumes

A Vauban Humanis particularity is that Bdoc Edit is used only for batch impressions, with very significant volumes: all in all, the group handles no less than 8 to 9 million pages each year. The largest publications include quarterly insurance calls and recanvasses, which represent nearly 241,000 pages and 50,000 documents each quarter for the retirement activity.

Technological partnership

In light of the success of this first project, the Vauban Humanis group is determined to move ahead... Working in close collaboration with Business Document teams at all times, it is analysing the possibility of integrating XML fluxes and setting up an N-Way multiprocessor architecture that would reduce composition times by 60%.

It should be said that the relation which has grown between the Vauban Humanis group and Business Document is a true technological partnership. The service provider is always available for consultation when new needs arise.

What is more, the teams are always alert, and have caused the solution to evolve in such a manner as to adapt as closely as possible to the group's distinctiveness, particularly as concerns volume. In other words, Vauban Humanis has lead Business Document to push back the limits of its product, through constructive and productive exchanges for all concerned.



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