DB/IQ Package Management
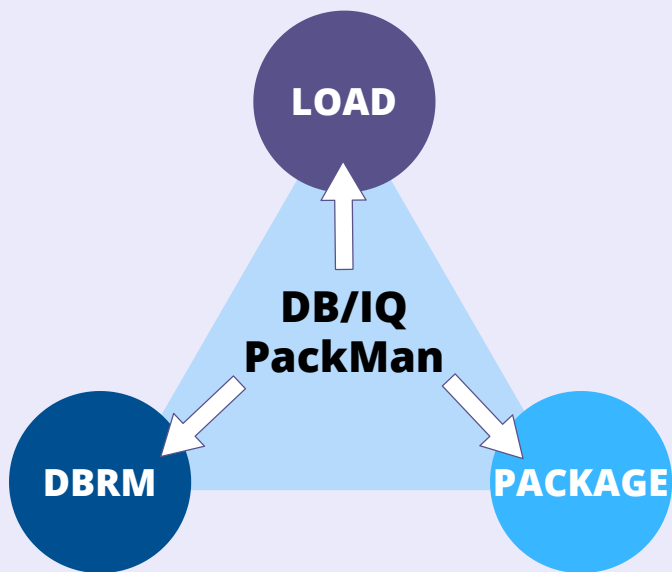
Helping a major insurance company clean up their Db2 Catalog to improve Db2 performance and control IT budget
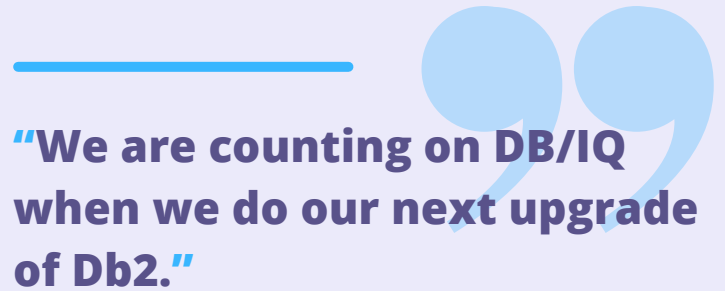
ABOUT THE COMPANY

This European insurance company grew from a local fire hazard insurer for home owners in its early days into a multifaceted major national insurer with more than 5 million insurance contracts, 2500 employees and approximately 650 branch offices.

Accurate record keeping as well as instant and easy access to this data was essential to serving insurance claims and providing efficient customer service.

LOAD

DB/IQ PackMan

DBRM   **PACKAGE**

Insoft Infotel DB/IQ PackMan can help clean and declutter you Db2 Catalog in multiple areas of the SQL programming life cycle.

> **"We are counting on DB/IQ when we do our next upgrade of Db2."**
>
> *DBA at Major European Insurance Company*

CUSTOMER CHALLENGE

The company had installed its Db2 in 1987 for its database request modules (DBRMs). Similar to many growing insurance companies at the time, it was difficult to keep pace with the rapid increase in data. Over time, development teams creating mainframe applications cluttered the database, leading to greater-than-expected CPU consumption and unplanned budget churn. This growing Db2 Catalog complexity was managed through BIND packages, leading to clunky EXPLAIN tables and other third-party programs that became increasingly difficult to manage. With the rise in time to back-up and REORG, IT budgets continued to creep upwards.

INSOFT INFOTEL SOLUTION

With DB/IQ PackMan software, any Db2 Catalog can be scanned identifying which packages are being used in production. Unused and unbound packages can then be eliminated, delivering a cleaner Db2 Catalog. The insurance company's IT department discovered through this process that with a cleaner Catalog, their mainframe budget consumption reduced dramatically. With more than 5 million insurance contracts to manage, the Db2 Catalog cleansing further strengthened the long-standing relationship with Insoft Infotel dating back to 1997.
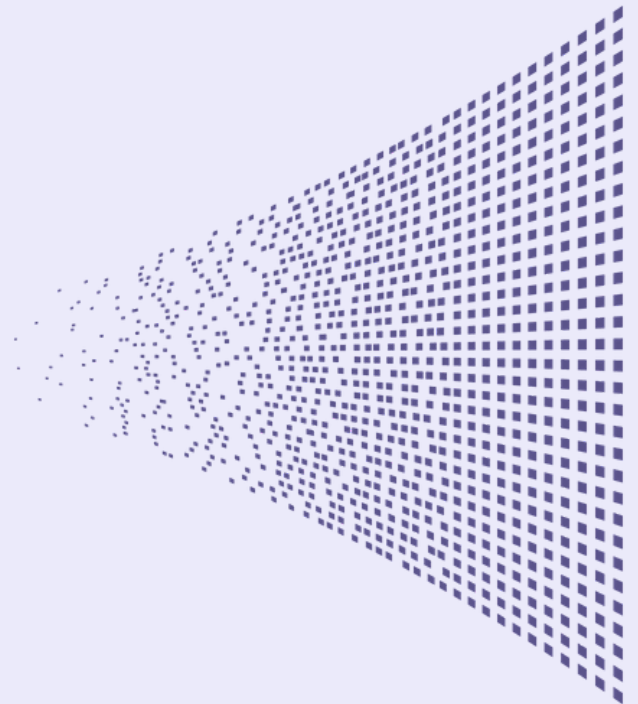
CUSTOMER OBJECTIVES

The company needed to scan more than 50,000 load libraries - with modules at least 16Mb or larger - all employing a diverse array of coding languages including PL/I, COBOL, ASM, C and C++. Ultimately, the goal after this scan was to collectively reorganize their Db2 Catalog and DBRM libraries. By cleaning up redundant packages and minimizing gigantic EXPLAIN tables, it was also hoped that the monthly IT budget could become more stable and predictable.

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BENEFITS REALIZED

The insurance company reported back to Insoft Infotel that after they cleaned up their Db2 Catalog using DB/IQ PackMan, at least 50% of their redundant packages were eliminated. Within the first week of implementation, no less than 15 million rows in Db2 were removed from their generally used EXPLAIN tables. Their IT budget stabilized and backups, REORGs and application performance improved for agents across all 650 branches

Germany	+ 49 (0) 211 44 03 16 6
France	+ 33 (0) 1 48 97 38 38
USA	+ 1 727 343 5958

insoft
Infotel Software

software@insoft-infotel.com