



ABBYY and Wüstenrot launch DMS project
ABBYY FormReader With FlexiCapture Studio Promises To Increase Efficiency and Accuracy of Document Capture Process at Wüstenrot Austria

Munich, Germany (8 September 2004) – ABBYY Europe, a member of the ABBYY Group and a leading provider of document recognition and linguistic technologies, and DM Document-Management GmbH have launched a document capture and archiving project together with Wüstenrot Austria.

ABBYY's FormReader Technology is to be used within Wüstenrot for the purpose of improving the process of capturing and preparing information used by their finance and insurance groups. ABBYY provides optical character recognition (OCR) and data capture technologies for processing forms and regular correspondence. The project is currently being developed to process five to six millions pages per year. Over time, if the system is successful, the goal would be to offer the system to other Wüstenrot companies in Eastern European countries. The new solution promises to shorten the overall process and handling time for Wüstenrot end customers and make the document entry process easier for Wüstenrot employees.

Wüstenrot faced the challenge of having to replace their current system, using outdated OCR-technology, with an efficient new solution that could be deployed across Wüstenrot Austria. Together with the consultants from DM Documenten-Management, they looked for the best and most comprehensive solution. During the first phase of technology evaluation by Wüstenrot, DM implemented ABBYY's technology as it was the only solution geared towards resolving such a refined problem without breaking the fixed price boundaries. Marcel Gallei, team leader for the archive systems and Document-Imaging at Wüstenrot Data Services, the IT service provider of the group, confirms this: "We evaluated a series of alternatives and in the end it was ABBYY who prevailed over the competitors, especially in two areas. First, the FormReader-API offers the most flexible options for adapting the system to our special needs and adjusting it to our existing systems, many of which were self-deployed. At the same time, the price/efficiency ratio of the ABBYY solution was also very convincing."

The project integrates ABBYY FormReader 6.0 Enterprise Edition and ABBYY FlexiCapture Studio with Wüstenrot's existing archiving, workflow, and correspondence systems.

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FormReader Enterprise Edition is the Client-Server version of ABBYY FormReader, a cost-efficient and easy to use solution for automatic form processing, which was developed for large projects and allows the processing of more than 10.000 forms a day. The addition of ABBYY's new FlexiCapture Studio makes it possible to collect and process semi-structured documents and forms.

The integration of FlexiCapture not only enables the processing of standard forms but also of non standardised letters from Wüstenrot`s customers. By using FlexiCapture Studio, documents of all kinds can be defined in a logical layout. Defining the layout with FlexiCapture enables ABBYY FormReader to determine which key elements it should use to analyse the document. The relationship between the key elements and the corresponding data are defined using logical terms.

In sum, the integration of ABBYY technology enables not only data and document collection, but through conversion of document images to recognised text -- categorization of data. As a result, Wüstenrot`s system can determine for example if a document is a financial request or a petition for a home mortgage account and can forward it to the appropriate office system.

"We are very glad to be working on this ambitious project together with Wüstenrot and DM," says Jupp Stöpetie, Managing Director for ABBYY Europe. "With the announcement of FlexiCapture Studio, we have experienced a growing demand for our technology. Thanks to FlexiCapture, we can offer our customers the flexibility they need to process a range of document and correspondence types. The flexibility of the form processing rounds out the capabilities of the system and continuously opens new areas for integration of our technology. We look forward to successful completion of the project with Wüstenrot."

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About Wüstenrot Austria

The idea of saving money with a building society was developed in the Swabian village of Wüstenrot by Guido Kropp in the year 1925. On November 25 1925 this idea was also spread to Austria in a lecture given by Dr. Siegfried Gmelin. The first house sponsored by Wüstenrot was built in Hallein in 1926. Wüstenrot has been an independent Austrian company since 1930, until 1997 a co-operative, it is now a joint-stock company. Wüstenrot Insurance AG was founded in 1976. The former daughter company is now integrated with the Building Society, Wüstenrot AG, under the holding company Wüstenrot Administration and Services GmbH. Following the motto „Securing and improving quality of life“, the Building Society Wüstenrot AG employes extremely successful sales representatives in Austria. Employees who have been professionally trained and who are

part of the permanent or part-time staff look after their customers locally in the areas of financial services, insurance, pension fund development, and savings. With 150 offices all over Austria, Wüstenrot has an extensive net of local offices. Apart from Austria, Wüstenrot Building Society and Insurance has subsidiaries in Slovakia, Hungary, Croatia, Poland and the Czech Republic.

Wüstenrot Data Services GmbH:

Wüstenrot Data Service GmbH was founded on 14.12.1990 and has been responsible for IT systems for the complete Wüstenrot group since 2000.

About ABBYY

ABBYY (ABBYY Software House) develops linguistic and Artificial Intelligence (AI) software providing a full line of OCR and text-processing programs and solutions. ABBYY's products include: FineReader OCR systems – a family of end user programs and development tools for recognition of printed texts, tables and forms; FormReader – an ICR program for recognition and processing of hand-printed forms; and ABBYY Retrieval & Morphology Engine – a set of developer's tools for integration of full-text search and linguistic capabilities into external applications. Companies that license ABBYY recognition technologies include Siemens Nixdorf, Samsung Electronics, C-Technologies, Sumitomo Electric Systems, Banctec, BenQ, Documentum, EPSON, Freedom Scientific, Hewlett-Packard, Kurzweil, Kofax, Lexmark, Microtek, NewSoft, Notable Solutions, Panasonic, Stellant, Toshiba, Verity, Neurascript, Saperion, and SWT. ABBYY Group headquarters are located in Moscow with offices in Ukraine (ABBYY Ukraine), the USA (ABBYY USA, Fremont, CA), the UK (ABBYY UK, Bishops Stortford, England), and Germany (ABBYY Europe, Munich).

For more information about ABBYY, please visit the company's website at www.ABBYY.com. For more information about ABBYY, please visit the company's website at www.ABBYY.com. ABBYY Europe can be contacted at Anglerstrasse 6, 80339 Munich, Germany, tel: 49 (0) 89 51 11 59 0 or via email: sales@abbyeu.com.

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