

How can one repository of IT data help a devolved organization keep digital transformation on track?

Enabling robust enterprise architecture management while allowing five autonomous businesses to make their own decisions

As the owner and operator of Great Britain's railway infrastructure, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited is responsible for 20,000 miles of track, thousands of signals and level crossings, 20 of the country's biggest stations, and 30,000 bridges, tunnels, and viaducts. Digital transformation is central to Network Rail's quest to deliver a "simpler, better, and greener railway."

Such transformation requires a detailed view of IT applications. But Network Rail's nationally critical IT footprint had evolved over time, necessitating simplification, standardization, and modernization. To help it meet future rail needs, the company needed one source of IT information so it could better manage its data architecture and applications, integrate solutions, and reduce risk.



Gaining a trusted, holistic view of the IT landscape to enhance decision-making and efficiency with SAP LeanIX solutions

Before: Challenges and opportunities

- Simplify and standardize a complex, fragmented IT landscape with both legacy and modern technology, overlapping functionality, and areas of duplication to improve integration and efficiency
- Mitigate IT risk, identify investment and innovation opportunities, cut expenditures, and enable change impact analysis while enhancing knowledge management, collaboration, data quality, and ease of use
- Prevent technology proliferation while enabling devolved decision-making for five regional businesses

Why SAP

- SAP LeanIX solutions, offering a single repository for knowledge management as well as tools for data quality management, robust auditing support, and prebuilt integration with ServiceNow software
- Application-based licensing and an intuitive interface, promoting broad business adoption and democratized data ownership and allowing a small team to scale insight without scaling effort
- Ability to quickly slice and dice views and heat maps for insights that underpin data-driven decisions

After: Value-driven results

- Improved application inventory and portfolio clarity, IT risk and obsolescence management, business-IT alignment, and speed to insight while eliminating manual overhead and freeing up teams' time
- Enhanced governance and democratization of data by making data more accessible to diverse users
- Gained powerful visualizations for decision-making, including portfolio-style reports for the CIO level

“SAP LeanIX solutions are particularly intuitive, aiding adoption. An increasing number of communities have now bought in to help, contribute, and—most important—**take ownership of IT data**. Our internal audit team calls the solutions a potential game changer.”

Chris Hardwick, Associate Business Architect, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited

600+

Applications in the IT inventory, most of which are now linked to business capabilities

1,400+

Of IT components now in the lifecycle catalog, helping manage obsolescence and risk

Helping diverse business owners make smart decisions about the IT application portfolio through speedy, intuitive access to data

With IT components linked to applications in a lifecycle catalog in SAP LeanIX solutions, Network Rail Infrastructure Limited can now automate vendor end-of-life dates and proactively identify technology obsolescence and risk. Linking applications to the core process framework means the solutions act as both a business tool and an IT tool. Business system owners now understand the current and future states of the applications behind their processes as well as the impact and value of digital changes.

Instead of manually collating IT data, Network Rail can now access information at the touch of a button, enabling speedy insights and better use of resources. Diverse teams can collaborate more easily and take ownership of data thanks to smooth sharing and self-service access linked to the single-sign-on tool. And this data is intuitively visualized and actionable. Applications are grouped by business capability and categorized by heat map, with a top-down view of applications provided for CIO-level decision-making.

Together, these changes help Network Rail better manage software integration and data architecture while reducing overhead, complexity, and technology risk.

