

Transport for London (TfL) Heads for the Clouds

Managing Complexity

Transport for London (TfL) runs the day-to-day operation of the Capital's public transport network and manages London's main roads. Every day more than 31 million separate journey segments are made across TfL's network.

The services TfL operates include: London Underground, London Buses, Docklands Light Railway, London Overground, TfL Rail, London Trams, London River Services, London Dial-a-Ride, Victoria Coach Station, Santander Cycles and the Emirates Air Line. It is a huge and complex organisation part funded by the Government with the associated public pressures to succeed.

SyntheSys was the successful candidate for winning the TfL contract providing the Hosting environment for IBM® Engineering Requirements Management DOORS® Family on the cloudbaSE Software as a Service (SaaS) solution.

TfL has outsourced this service for many years because this reduces overheads and is more economic than providing the service in house. SyntheSys won the bid to take over the service.

A Customer View

Graeme Pate who is a Systems Engineer at TfL, spoke to us about the complexities of managing systems engineering programmes at this level, and why development tools are paramount to success.

He said...

"The complex nature of TfL's major projects means that robust requirements management is essential to success. IBM® DOORS® Family is an integral part of the requirements management process on our most complex projects, providing baselining, configuration control and the ability to link related information to each other. This facilitates an efficient impact assessment and configuration control process and is far superior to other less integrated products. Verification and validation processes are also made easier by having a clear, controlled and traceable set of requirements and ultimately leads to a simplified project completion and closeout."

A representative from SyntheSys said: "Instead of having licences and environment managed internally which would involve the costs for staffing and internal system support costs, TfL has chosen SaaS and bring their own licences to cloudbaSE. The cloud solutions are the way forward when managing data and files in the future. Our cloudbaSE environment provides a secure and compliant environment with a flexible approach."

Utilising cloudbaSE, on Scale

The Bring Your Own Licences system means that companies who already have licences can utilise those exact licences within the Cloud and create a level of flexibility above on-premise software. This also saves time because applications can be brought into use faster and the infrastructure can be adjusted rapidly to meet varying demand. It is also very easy to increase and decrease both licensing and performance as needed. Finally, the application can be made available to a user anywhere in the world with internet access.

About SyntheSys

SyntheSys provides defence systems, training, systems and software engineering and technical management services over a spectrum of different industry sectors. Along with distinct support and consultancy services, our innovative product range makes us first choice provider for both large and small organisations. Established in 1988, the company focus is on fusing technical expertise with intuitive software applications to solve common industry challenges.

