

Two large divisions of local retailer automate computer operations by utilizing STAR BASE Consulting, Inc.



Client: Optical Distributor/Vision Care Division

SITUATION

A Cincinnati based retail division of an optical distributor recently acquired another company. Both companies used JDA marketing management software. The retail division's IT managers wanted to bring the two companies' processes into alignment.

Our client uses ECS (Enterprise Control Station) to schedule their day-to-day jobs that run in the data center. Even though the new company had its own AS/400, the parent company needed to bring both jobs into ECS. The company also wanted a way to run these approximately 150 jobs outside of ECS without manual intervention; nearly all the jobs had an interactive front end that required the data center operators to key the parameters manually every time the jobs were run.

TECHNOLOGY

- AS400
- RPG
- JDA
- Control Language
- Enterprise Control Station

SOLUTION

STAR BASE consultants analyzed each job, and replaced the interactive piece with a control language program. They created programs to monitor jobs that spawned additional jobs, so ECS knew when all the jobs for a process were really finished. They created menus for those jobs in case the ECS system went down. The results freed up one full time employee to work on other projects.

All jobs now run on ECS, with no operator intervention required. The small window of time needed to perform nightly jobs was decreased while capacity was increased because of the efficient manner in which ECS was set up. Reports are now delivered in record time.

Our client can now concentrate more on running the newly-acquired company and less on day-to-day operations it takes to keep it afloat.

