



## Case Study

**Industry:** Production  
**Operating System:** VSE/OS390  
**Data Structures:** DB2  
VSAM  
Stored Procedures

The customer is a large company producing electronical parts and equipment. tcACCESS was introduced to the DP department, because DP was looking for a product, which allowed them to access their mainframe databases from any MS-WORD application. An important requirement was to automatically integrate the existing COBOL file definitions. tcACCESS fulfilled all their requirements; file descriptions for huge files (over 2000 fields) were integrated. Later in the test, the customer decided to have tcACCESS use existing COBOL business logic. The product supports Stored Procedures, which was exactly they were looking for.

### Production use of the product:

**MS-Office:** The customer uses VBA macros to directly access the production databases on the mainframe. Existing file definitions have been imported to generate the relational table definitions used by tcACCESS. Mainframe file are interlinked using Joins. User dependent views have been defined, so that individual users only can see and access their relevant data.

**Stored Procedure:** A typical application is the creation of a pricing calculation combined with a product offer in a MS-WORD document. The pricing calculation depends upon individual parts being used and their actual price tag, which may vary quite often. The pricing information is stored on mainframe files. Existing CICS-programs are available to calculate the price based upon the BOM chain. The MS-WORD macro CALLs the CICS-COBOL program and supplies the part numbers needed for the calculation. The COCBOL program is executed on the mainframe, gathers the information, calculates the prices and returns them back as an OLEDB result set to the MS-WORD macro.

The integration of an existing mainframe does not require presence of either APPC nor MQ-Series or TCP/IP. The standard connectivity, as required and defined by the user, will be used.

**Conclusion:** The customer evaluated tcACCESS and found it extremely flexible and efficient. The existence of the Stored Procedure support certainly broadens the possible use of the product.

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