

‘RASDA has evolved over time, and the good working relationship with Fujitsu has been beneficial to its continuing role in operations.’

Flight Lieutenant Chris Davies - RAF Air Command



SUMMARY OF KEY FACTS

Organisation

The Royal Air Force

Contract signing date

November 1999

Service/s delivered

Design, build, operation and delivery of roll

Benefits For MOD

- See who is in the air on one screen
- A single source of data
- Easy management of operations
- Uninterrupted operations
- Instant access to information at all levels
- Integrated with other key applications

The challenge

The Royal Air Force needed to be able to monitor and exercise Command and Control over its operational aircraft worldwide.

The RAF's task is a complex one with operations overseas as well as day-to-day training for operations in the UK; they needed an application that could replace their disparate, standalone systems.

The lack of a cohesive database meant that air traffic control and operations staff had to phone from base to base to manage flying programmes. Phones were often engaged, out of date information was received and operations staff had to use manual display boards to map the progress of aircraft - archaic and time consuming.

The solution

RASDA, the Replicated Air Support Decision Aid, was developed and is now an important part of the RAF's SECRET level operational systems at bases at home and abroad.

RASDA uses Oracle technology, functioning in a Windows environment to provide a flexible and easy to use solution, adaptable to the RAF needs. It uses advanced replication methods to ensure that data is accurately passed around the system and all users have the same information.

Fujitsu designed and built the solution, and continues to provide support, working closely with the customer to implement any changes required.

Benefits for our Customer

The preparation and dissemination of the operational flying programme is now available on one database along with information such as the storage of crew qualifications and currency; the totting of aircraft serviceability and other information to support flying operations.

Same operational picture seen worldwide The flying programme information is replicated throughout the system within seconds so that staff and senior commanders have visibility of operations throughout all theatres where ever they are in the world.

Flexible and evolving The system is flexible and, as procedures evolve, Fujitsu works with the customer to make the necessary changes.

More effective way of working Over time, RASDA has saved the RAF a lot of staff time by eliminating the need for phone calls and the use of manpower to carry out the intensive methods to store and share secure information.

Part of a greater Network Enabled Air Command system RASDA has features that allow it to interact with other applications with web features. These capabilities allow RASDA to be fully web enabled and interact with other Air Command and Control systems. This makes it part of a wider Network Enabled Air Command system.

Our Approach

In the development phase, Fujitsu worked closely with the customer to identify the functionality of RASDA to make it do what they wanted.

Fujitsu used rapid prototyping techniques to develop Oracle forms in conjunction with users in workshops. This enables RASDA to be implemented in phases rolling out updates at user request.

RASDA became operational in June 2000 and future developments will migrate onto the DII infrastructure.

RASDA is SECRET as standard, but plans are being made to also allow RESTRICTED operation for such information as air traffic control and flight times.

Our Expertise

Management of the system is very hands-on, with regular meetings at which changes, improvements or problems are discussed and planned with members of the user community.

Fujitsu developed the RAF CCIS infrastructure and therefore was a low risk partner for RASDA.

ASK FUJITSU

Phone 0870 242 7998
email askfujitsu@uk.fujitsu.com

Ref. 2101