

## **VSAM to DB2 UDB for z/Linux**

**Customer:** United States Golf Association

**Industry:** Recreation

The United States Golf Association (USGA) is the rule making and governing body for the game of golf in the United States. The handicap index – the means by which players of varying abilities can compete fairly against one another - was for decades calculated using a CICS/COBOL/VSAM application. VSAM is notoriously inflexible when it comes to changes in an application data model. This made it difficult to incorporate refinements in the handicap index calculation and to analyze the years of data USGA had accumulated to spot trends. The USGA opted to convert its existing application code to DB2.

The Golf Handicap Index Network (GHIN) subsidiary of USGA engaged The Fillmore Group to provide assistance for the full array of application development life cycle tasks including:

- Data modeling and physical database design
- Training application developers to imbed SQL in existing VSAM programs
- Training database administrators to maintain a DB2 database
- Supported code reuse by converting CICS transactions to DB2 Stored Procedures
- Migrated data from VSAM to DB2
- Performance tuned the application SQL, data model, and database server

The USGA now has greater flexibility in supporting its member associations and will be able to employ sophisticated tools such as Online Analytical Processing (OLAP) and data mining to analyze the scoring data it has amassed.

In addition, all new application development will be able to exploit web services, the SQL API, and invoke the Stored Procedures (formerly CICS transactions) using the SQL Call verb from Windows .NET applications.

