# Orbitz®
## Builds And Maintains Complex Network of Services with Spring

**ORBITZ®**

**SPRINGSOURCE RESULTS**

Spring delivers the following business results to Orbitz:

- Faster Application Development—2+ Weeks Cut From Each Project
- Cutting Edge Functionality
- Best Practices
- Improved Application Quality
- Rapid Developer Ramp Up
- Improved Resource Allocations

**TESTIMONIAL**

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*"We needed a flow engine and Spring was the only platform that could provide that functionality."*

*"The penetration that Spring has made here at Orbitz is very impressive. Because it is so flexible, Spring has worked its way into every corner of our business."*

# Orbitz

Orbitz Worldwide, based in Chicago, is a leading global online travel company that uses innovative technology to enable leisure and business travelers to research, plan and book a broad range of travel products. Orbitz Worldwide is one of the premier technology organizations in ecommerce today and owns a portfolio of consumer travel brands including:  Orbitz, CheapTickets, ebookers, HotelClub, RatesToGo, the Away Network, Asia hotels, and corporate travel brand Orbitz for Business. Orbitz.com receives 6000 hits per second, and 10+ million unique visitors every day.

## Challenge

The Orbitz environment is a complex multi-layered network of services – multiple thousands of machines running a few hundred hosts – which can be challenging to develop and maintain without the right application development platform. Originally, the Orbitz development team wrote everything by hand in Java but over time they found that too much unnecessary effort was expended on infrastructure, especially when that time could be put to better use working toward meeting the company's business goals.

"We coded everything ourselves by hand," recalls Jerry Cattell, Software Architect, Orbitz. "It was much more complex and time consuming than it needed to be to get the job done."

"Before Spring, every time we started a new project we had to think about framework features first, and figure out how they are going to interact with other components," adds Alex Antonov, Orbitz Technical Lead, Core Frameworks.

Testing was also a challenge, because the Orbitz team was unable to conduct unit tests. Consequently, they could not test anything unless the entire application was up and running.

## Solution

Orbitz turned to Spring, the de facto standard platform to build, run and manage enterprise Java applications. The fact that Spring has such a large community behind it, including the SpringSource team, gives Orbitz strong confidence in the platform.

"Today, Spring underpins Orbitz's entire application infrastructure," states Martin Logan, Manager for Core Frameworks, Orbitz. "The penetration that Spring has made here at Orbitz is very impressive. Because it is so flexible, Spring has worked its way into every corner of our business."

## Service

"Support for WebLogic and tc Server are miles apart," Perkinson says about their SpringSource support contract. "We didn't always get the best people from WebLogic. But with SpringSource support, we got one of the lead committers of Tomcat to actually come on site. He was here when we made the live switch from Weblogic to tc Server and resolved the small number of issues we had in minutes. SpringSource support is something I would recommend to anyone switching to tc Server. It is worth it."

## Benefits

SPRINGSOURCE TC SERVER DELIVERS THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS RESULTS TO DSD:

### Faster Application Development
Orbitz relies on Spring for all its application infrastructure, so developers rarely spend time on foundational issues such as connecting to the database, managing transactions or sending messages. "We don't need to think about how we are going to start a project," Cattell confirms. "On the front end of a project, Spring saves us a couple weeks of time that we are not working on the infrastructure."

### Cutting Edge Functionality
"When we are working on a project that requires functionality we don't have today, we immediately look to Spring," stated Antonov. "We expect Spring to have the solution."

Spring Web Flow is just one example of cutting edge functionality Orbitz has leveraged from Spring. The company uses Spring Web Flow to develop and maintain a fully-internationalized global web platform which allows the company to move into new international markets quickly. "We tend to manage the site in terms of entire web flows, and if we didn't have Spring, we would have to home grow a web framework to meet our requirements," Logan notes. "There wasn't anything else that met our needs," adds Antonov. "We needed a flow engine and Spring was the only platform that could provide that functionality. It was either Spring or write it ourselves, which would have taken much longer."

### Focus on Competitive Advantage
"As we have moved to Spring, which allows our developers to do less work on the infrastructure, we can focus more on the business logic and features that make us competitive," Logan explains.

### Best Practices
Spring provides Orbitz developers with best practices, guiding the developers to write better code. "Spring promotes better decision-making while you write the business components," says Antonov. "When you use Spring, you start composing code in a similar manner, which improves quality because you think more about modularizing, testing, and injecting services."

### Improved Application Quality
Spring helps Orbitz improve application quality because the Spring components are already debugged, and Spring enables easier unit testing of the components Orbitz has built. "We definitely don't encounter any issues with the Spring components," Antonov notes. "There would probably be more bugs in the components if we wrote them ourselves. "SpringSource is doing a great job at not introducing bugs," he continues. "When a bug comes up, I can very quickly narrow down the area where the problem might be because of the complete trust I have in the stability and reliability of Spring. I can eliminate many problem sources because I know Spring wouldn't do that. Spring is a great help in finding and fixing bugs."

### Rapid Developer Ramp Up
Spring provides a standard development process at Orbitz, helping new developers ramp up quickly. The Orbitz team estimates that Spring saves developers from one to four months in ramp-up time.

### Improved Resource Allocation
"We are moving toward a more agile approach to our execution model, with teams working across verticals," Logan explains. "The ubiquitous Spring platform allows us to accomplish our goal with a lot more fluidity, allowing developers to move from project to project more easily. Consequently, Spring helps us with better resource allocation, so we can be more flexible delivering new features."

## About SpringSource

SpringSource, a division of VMware, Inc., (NYSE: VMW) and the leader in Java application infrastructure and management, provides a complete suite of software products that accelerate the entire build, run, manage enterprise Java application lifecycle. SpringSource employs the open source leaders who created and drive innovation for Spring, the de facto standard programming model for enterprise Java applications. SpringSource also employs the Java and Web thought leaders within the Apache Tomcat, Apache HTTP Server, Hyperic, Groovy and Grails open source communities. Nearly half of the Global 2000, including many world's leading retail, financial services, manufacturing, healthcare, technology and public sector clients are SpringSource customers. For more information visit: www.springsource.com.

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