



PRESS RELEASE

**Implementation of IBM z10 BC technology
to run insurance brokerage applications at Rainbow ICT Services**

Louvain-la-Neuve, 3 February 2009 – I.R.I.S., listed on Euronext Brussels and specialized in Intelligent Document Recognition¹, in electronic Document, Content and Process Management² and in optimized IT infrastructure³, announces the implementation of IBM z10 BC technology at RAINBOW ICT Services.

Rainbow ICT Services is an Economic Interest Grouping providing IT services to its members⁴, who are all insurance companies. Through Rainbow ICT Services, that provides them with a critical mass, these insurance companies can access jointly to best-in-practice ICT infrastructure for their non-core applications. The members decide together on their investments, and take benefit from the economies of scale.

Johan Dekens, ICT manager Rainbow ICT Services: *“In October 2008, Rainbow asked I.R.I.S. to analyze what would be the best solution to run Websphere Application and CTG servers used by Vivium for brokerage applications. Our preference was to move this workload to zLinux in a mainframe environment, rather than to WinTel servers. We thought of acquiring an IFL on our IBM z9 mainframe.”*

Gamal Khaldi, General Manager I.R.I.S. ICT : *“Our very first reflex was to simply fulfill Rainbow’s request, but as IBM was announcing the z10 BC technology, we had several brainstorming sessions and decided to propose a solution where Rainbow would migrate a part of their activities in the WinTel environment, and move them to a z10 Linux platform. The advantages were obvious:*

¹ **IDR (Intelligent Document Recognition)** : automatic recognition of the content of documents, whether structured (forms) or unstructured (incoming mail, invoices, etc.)

² **DCPM (Document, Content & Process Management)** : term covering the following technologies: intelligent document recognition (IDR), electronic document management (EDM), electronic content management (ECM) and business process management (BPM)

³ **Optimized IT infrastructure** : best-in-class architecture for servers and storage, including consolidation and virtualization

⁴ **Rainbow ICT Services** was created in 2001 by insurance companies DVV (Dexia Group) and P&V, including their affiliates Actel Direct, Corona and Belstar. In 2003, Swiss Life (now Vivium Life) and Zelia joined too.

centralized management in the mainframe datacenter, better scalability, easier monitoring, “green” approach, virtualization and a disaster-proof robust solution.”

To achieve this move, I.R.I.S. had to take into account that the additional capacity would need to be variable and limited in time: flexibility was a key component in this project and this whilst presenting multiple available solutions under time pressure. The economic crisis in the financial sector also made the business case very challenging. Thanks to the very close collaboration with IBM (I.R.I.S. is Premier partner for zSeries), it was possible to present a solution with a high return on investment for the customer.

About I.R.I.S.- www.irislink.com

The **mission of I.R.I.S.** is to increase the productivity and knowledge of its customers by helping them to manage their documents, data and information more effectively.

I.R.I.S. Products & Technologies develops technologies and products in the field of Intelligent Document Recognition and markets its portfolio of products on a global scale through solid partnerships.

I.R.I.S. Professional Solutions enables companies and public authorities to find innovative expertise and high-tech solutions for the efficient management of documents, information flows and IT infrastructures, through a single company.

In 2007, I.R.I.S. Group achieved sales of 95,062,297 euros.

I.R.I.S. has more than 550 employees based in Louvain-la-Neuve, Vilvoorde and Antwerp (Belgium), Orly (France), Windhof (Luxembourg), Amstelveen and Maastricht (Netherlands), Aachen (Germany), Delray Beach (Florida, USA), Hong Kong (China) and Oslo (Norway).

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