



# THE MISSION

## RE-ENGINEERING THE ENTERPRISE

Before Empire Engineering Company International tapped NEXTSTEP as its computing platform, it faced an almost impossible mission: Coordinating thousands of engineers from branch offices around the world to consult on environmental engineering projects. Empire's mainframes and personal computers couldn't support the global enterprise. With bids and proposals pouring in and out of various offices and headquarters, document management and routing became a nightmare. Travel and freight budgets soared as Empire tried to place personnel and equipment on-site at the right time. Billable hours rarely matched actual work totals. And because the company relied on traditional shrinkwrapped software solutions for office automation, it faced consistency, compatibility, and technical support problems.

Just as the first explorers 500 years ago chose their own inspired routes to riches, so did Empire. By choosing NEXTSTEP – the only shipping object-oriented operating system – to run on Canon object.station client computers and Sun Microsystems servers, the company gained smooth integration of office-automation tools, consistency of applications in its global enterprise, and the immediate benefits of custom-application development for mission-critical tasks.

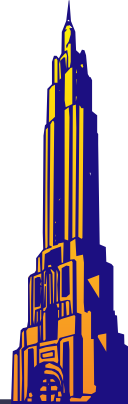
Empire's software engineers developed several custom applications to coordinate field measurement and sampling probes, time/billing and logistics; and to standardize report writing for bids, reports management, proposals, and document archiving. NEXTSTEP's object-oriented tools speeded the development cycle, while Application Programming Interfaces on third-party software allow seamless interoperability with custom and off-the-shelf software solutions. Documents, source code, information, and formats

can all be reused in future projects.

Benefits extend to all Empire divisions. The sales and marketing department has used a suite of interoperable software to standardize proposal writing and document creation. The audio/visual department can now develop professional presentations in-house, while the MIS department can support database querying from any point on the globe. The legal and accounting departments have improved communication and document management through e-mail and OCR technology, without having to completely abandon legacy applications. E-mail has also become the backbone of Empire's pool of consulting engineers, who can now communicate and send documents between themselves and branch offices and headquarters. Re-engineering has allowed Empire's reproduction department to save money and increase efficiency by not having to farm out work to specialized printing houses.

And with NEXTSTEP's support for the industry-standard Pantone Color Matching System and PostScript Level II in both display and output, the firm has centralized all document creation in its in-house publications department. Empire uses high-quality scanners and printers from industry leader, Canon, and printing and publishing software from GS Corporation.

Empire is using NEXTSTEP and the underlying support of NEXTSTEP hardware and software developers to chart a clear path around the globe. By allowing its staff to standardize on interoperable client/server technology and leverage object-oriented software development and shrinkwrapped applications, Empire Engineering Company International has brought technology solutions down to their most important level: employee productivity.



# EMPIRE

ENGINEERING COMPANY INTERNATIONAL  
*A Fictional Company*