LuxGroup

Streamlined vendor workflows enable 20,000 daily transactions across a growing ecommerce portfolio

The Challenge

- Modernize ERP with NetSuite to better accommodate rapid and continued growth
- Integrate legacy-built accounting systems, managing ~7,000 vendors across 15 websites
- Streamline vendor relationships using a single platform from procurement to payment

The Solution

- Peregrine Connect, an intuitive, robust enterprise service bus optimized for the Microsoft .NET platform
- Transform a constant influx of unstructured data to NetSuite's SOA message format
- Accelerate and simplify integration via The Neuron ESB Connector for NetSuite
- Synchronize vendor orders, invoices and payments between legacy systems and NetSuite

The Benefits

- Enable legacy systems to handle future continued growth
- Fast, collaborative development with parallel workflow and visibility between teams
- No extensive coding required and work can be done affordably by existing team
- Pre-validated connectors eliminated the need for costly outside consultants
- Uncovered an integration platform suited to drive long-term enterprise strategy

> *Peregrine Connect hits a sweet spot from a price point and usability perspective. It outshines its competitors, sitting front and center as an affordable, easy to use product that makes my team more productive.*

– Brett Raven, Chief Technology Officer, Lux Group

Lux Group is one of Australia's leading pure-play ecommerce businesses, featuring a growing portfolio of daily deal and high-end lifestyle websites. Its curated ecommerce model offers single category shopping, including experiences such as dining and entertainment, designer fashion and home goods, and luxury global travel packages.

The Challenge

Growing from two to 15 online brands in its first five years of operation caused Lux Group to outgrow its accounting and ERP operations software provider. "Our previous provider handily fit our startup needs. But with rapid growth, fueled organically as well as through acquisitions, we quickly hit its capacity from both a functional and operational perspective. We opted for NetSuite as an ERP platform that would fit our needs now and flex with us in the future," said Brett Raven, Lux Group's Chief Technology Officer.

That decision drove consideration of new architectures, and how they would move data between the monolithic systems powering Lux Group's core business and the new ERP system. "We needed a growth infrastructure – a manageable way to transform rough, unstructured data from our legacy-built PHP MySQL application, and push it into NetSuite for smooth vendor operations."

Lux Group's ultimate goal was to effectively manage transactions with its nearly 7,000 vendors, creating a workflow capable of handling the entire vendor relationship lifecycle from procurement to payment.

The Solution

Lux Group initially considered both MuleSoft and NServiceBus integration platforms, but wanted to avoid complex user interfaces or more extreme coding requirements. "We found Peregrine Connect to be faster and more intuitive, with a clearer thought process behind it. It just fits together well, and makes it easier for users based on manageable coding and toolsets that are more comprehensive," said Raven. "We were able to work quickly and do more – without a lot of complicated overlays that would stand between us and the core project."

Another big factor in Lux Group's decision was pricing. "We recognized a world of difference between costs for Peregrine Connect versus annual fees for MuleSoft," said Raven.

Lux Group decided that their legacy system would not push data to Peregrine Connect; data would instead be pulled as a means of enabling control and visibility as deployment unfolded. Orchestration and events triggering occurs within

Peregrine Connect, relying on The Neuron ESB Connector for NetSuite to synchronize vendor, purchase order, product and payment transactions. Database queries are generated by a data team, supporting the company's developers in creating API endpoints in the source system. JSON data is pulled through the API, transformed by Peregrine Connect and pushed to NetSuite. "When you pull the data apart, it's quite a significant number of transactions – about 20,000 transactions daily, each containing multiple items. This includes every website that we operate, creating a sizable range and variety of vendor data companywide."

Lux Group's development teams are structured to collaborate easily using Peregrine Connect and its familiar .NET environment, with visibility into various feature sets and layers of work. "We've streamlined development by working in parallel, using the same stack for multiple teams." Transactions feature vendor-related financial data and operations such as purchase orders, vendor bills and 'recipient-created tax invoices,' or invoices for materials Lux Group consumes on a supplier basis. Flow is typical for any financial system – customer orders are created with purchase orders; when items are received, one or more invoices are generated and paid.

The Benefits

The key benefit to Lux Group is the speed at which systems are transforming data and pushing it into NetSuite ERP. "Our new platform is fast, both in terms of its implementation and how the transactions themselves are processed. It's running very smoothly because all our websites aggregate to the back-end, and we're able to capitalize on the Peregrine Connect platform for all vendor data integrations."

Without the need to engage outside consulting services, Lux Group now has visibility into throughput and health checks on its endpoints, and can manage or replay messages if they fail. "With Peregrine Connect, I can easily code features that don't necessarily come out -of-the-box. The enterprise level performance is significant, particularly with financial data at play."

Lux Group has found the team at Peregrine Connect to be responsive and knowledgeable, with the right technical expertise to readily answer questions. "I get speedy support and they take my requests seriously. Rather than wading through three levels of help desk support, I'm typically talking with the actual product development team," said Raven. "The Peregrine Connect team are obsessed with customer happiness, something that is so unique to see. Our successful vendor data integration drove us to adopt Peregrine Connect as a basis for our overall enterprise strategy."