# **BOSS Newsletter**

## July 2011





### Introduction

Most people use the holiday season as a time to catch up on their reading. So we got inspired and have a lot of links for you to follow.

The eGovernment magazine published an article called <a href="Data Boxes - myths and truths">Data Boxes - myths and truths</a> (only in Czech). Some of the discussed points are interesting only for the users of the ISDS' website, others are useful for everyone, and with the rest experts disagree (see the end of this newsletter).

Lately there have been a lot of debates on electronic invoicing. It is good to know that the Committee of the Ministry of Finance has <u>agreed</u> (only in Czech), that it is possible to use email as the means of transfer for invoices, even without

appending an electronic signature. However, such records have to be printed as they don't meet the requirements for electronic invoicing.

The last one on my today's list is a short book with beautiful illustrations about the basic terms on the web – "20 Things I Learned about Browsers and the Web".

Enjoy summer

Martin Humpolec Product Manager





## About: Clouds

There isn't a more popular buzzword nowadays than "clouds" and everything related to the topic.

So, we are interested in it as well and have a good starting point. We won the 13th Microsoft Awards in the BPOS category (Business Productivity Online Suite) for migration of a customer into clouds; we are the biggest implementer in this area in the Czech Republic and we have been actively participating on the launch of the Office 365 product on the market.

We actively pursue development of our own applications for this platform as well as we are allowed to use the "Powered by Windows Azure" logo.

All in all, we can tell you a word or two about the clouds, what it is and why to even think about it.

There are three basic types of clouds:

- laaS (Infrastructure as a Service) with the biggest provider Amazon. It gives you plenty of virtual servers on which you can install anything. On the other hand, you have to manage it on your own;
- PaaS (Platform as a Service) where Google and Microsoft are the known players. On top of a hardware, you get a software as well, and with Microsoft Azure you get also their powerful SQL database;
- SaaS (Software as a Service) where the most known representative is probably the Salesforce, and this is exactly the segment where we are heading to with our B055 and BRight products.

Having *B055* in the cloud means, for a lot of companies, significantly lower TCO. There are no licensing payments, long implementation work or need for integration into the

existing environment. You just pay the monthly payment based on your actual usage of the system. You can freely change the modules you use or the number of users you have. It is very similar to the model of mobile phones charges.

The length of standard implementation was shortened to the minimum. We have dedicated environment for each customer, which helps to minimize your concerns about the safety of

your data. The whole Windows Azure infrastructure would have to be compromised for another customer to get access to your data.

Our flexibility to make changes tailored to your needs isn't reduced when implementing in the cloud. We are still able to make changes as you need them; they are just paid for on top of the regular price.

Why don't you solve some of your agendas without hassles for as little as **1€ per month**?



Powered by Windows Azure

At the <u>Business & Information Forum</u> (only in Czech), they said that this phenomenon is at the Trough of Disillusionment on the hype cycle and it will slowly climb on the Slope of Enlightenment up to the Plateau of Productivity, where it will become useful and commonly used.

Results of the <u>mini survey</u> (only in Czech) which took place at the Cloud Computing conference in November of the last year are probably still valid. The main advantage of the clouds is the cost saving while the biggest concern is the data safety.

And, finally, it is good to know about <u>15 myths</u> (only in Czech) in this area – all of us use the clouds on daily basis, we just don't realize it.











#### Focus on: Directives

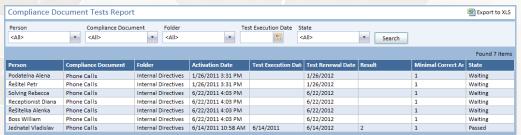
To make sure that people are familiar with the relevant guidelines and at the same time be assured that they are familiar with all they need to know - not a simple task, however, easily resolved with the module *Directives*.

The module allows you to enter the directives in the system, create test questions to check the user's knowledge (optional), choose its approval process and identify the target groups for whom the directive is addressed. You can define specific personnel across the organizational units or personnel with specific competencies as the target recipients.

Upon approval of the directive and its entry into force, test questions for all affected employees are automatically generated. When generating tests, it is possible to specify the number of questions to ensure that every test is unique. Additionally, the application

monitors the validity of the tests and will generate a new one before the current version expiry date (for example, if workers are to be tested each year). The application also monitors changes in the organizational structure and automatically generates tests for new workers or workers who have changed their position.

Employees are assigned the task to become familiar with the directive and complete the test. The test is automatically evaluated upon its completion. An employee can also always look at the directives related to him and refresh the text.





## Video: Mobile Phones Expenses

Mobile Phones calls prices are (allegedly) getting lower and yet, we still get a lot of attention with this module. We are not sure at this moment why it is – for easy monitoring of the different used services; for the ability to allow people to use all services provided by the operator and charge them for those you don't want to pay for; for the extra benefit of allowing transfer of private numbers under the company's contract or for some other reason. Take a look at the video (<a href="http://bil.ly/MobilePhonesExpenses">http://bil.ly/MobilePhonesExpenses</a>), give it a second thought and let us know how it can be beneficial for you.



## You are not alone

Data Boxes implementation in the environment of a bank is quite challenging. If nothing else, the amount of messages is enormous (hundreds to thousands a day). We are not allowed to say which one it was, but on the other hand it is by no means the only one in our portfolio.

"There were several errors during the installation of the Data Boxes module, which were promptly corrected. One of them was the impersonification problem and the other was a problem with "My Activities" page, where it wasn't possible to show excessive amount of data messages. The DIGI TRADE company resolved all these problems immediately and very proactively. Their reactions, approach and willingness of the project members to help were of a high professional level with the aim to provide the best service to the customer. We want to thank DIGI TRADE for the cooperation."



#### News

Long time validity of electronic documents is another popular topic, especially with the Data Boxes system in the Czech Republic. The interesting part is that the experts and the government cannot come to an agreement. We have respected the government's point of view for a long time and now we are coming to you with an add-on which enables us to respect the experts' point of view.

The government point of view is simple – what was passed through the ISDS system is valid indefinitely. It is enough to save the whole ZFO file. However, you will run into problems quite quickly - first attempted conversion of a document via the CzechPoint after signature expiration, and it fails.

The expiration date of signature is the problem which the experts have been pointing out. It is limited on purpose - to eliminate the risk of compromising the signature using the growing power of computers. So, they recommend attaching a time stamp along with the signature and before the expiration date of the time stamp adding a new one. This solution is somewhat financially demanding as you have to pay for each time stamp, but the proof of validity can be well worth it.

Our add-on for the Data Boxes module provides you with the automatic check of signatures on incoming PDF documents, time stamping in regular intervals and ability to sign outgoing documents.