

PRESS RELEASE

State of Brandenburg slashes bureaucracy, drives international investment with Software AG technology

- Brandenburg installs innovative IT technology to continue a long tradition of economic internationalization
- New IT infrastructure can rapidly implement online eGovernment services
- The first new services include an automated, virtual Planning Permission department and full implementation of the European Union service directives
- The economic benefits will cascade through state economy benefiting both business and private citizens
- The State of Brandenburg has used Software AG's webMethods business process management suite to develop the new IT infrastructure

Darmstadt, Germany, September 16, 2009 - Software AG today announced that the State of Brandenburg has significantly cut the cost and time needed to establish a business in the region and has further opened its economy to international commerce. The State of Brandenburg has a long history of attracting international business and has now developed a state-of-the-art IT infrastructure that will allow it to implement diverse regional, national and European eGovernment and eCommerce requirements quickly and cost effectively. The first new initiatives launched will include a full implementation of the European Union Service Directives and a "virtual Planning Permission Department", guaranteeing planning decisions within a month. The objective of the Services Directive is to make it easier for businesses to provide and use cross-border services in the EU by removing legal and administrative barriers. The EU directives will lead to increased cross-border competition in service markets, lower prices and improved quality and choice for consumers. The economic benefit of the State of Brandenburg's new IT infrastructure will cascade through to all areas of the state economy.

The first service to be launched on the new infrastructure will be the "virtual Planning Permission Department", linking 21 agencies with responsibility for the municipal budget, accounting procedures, building authorization and specialized construction expertise, through a single automated process. Each planning application will be automatically routed to the relevant agencies delivering decisions within guaranteed time frames.

"The economic benefits of this new IT infrastructure will cascade throughout the region and all industries" said Dr. Andrea Grochtmann of the Brandenburg IT Department. Referring to the virtual Planning Permission Department as an example; "Guaranteed planning permission response times will significantly ease internal resource planning for construction companies, allow more on-time construction start-ups and save money for both contractors and clients."

This year, the State of Brandenburg will also implement the European Union Service Directives, making it easier to establish a local business from anywhere within the EU and increase the regions international competitiveness, ahead many other European regions.

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The State of Brandenburg initiated its new IT program in 2008, in conjunction with Software AG and EITCO GmbH, to provide a Business Process Management platform with the flexibility to implement regional, national and European Union eGovernment directives quickly and easily. The project is based on the philosophy of reusing existing IT assets whenever possible, building intra and inter-departmental processes that can provide new services to the public and private sectors rapidly and cost effectively.

“We see this as just the latest step in making Brandenburg attractive to international business. We have a long tradition, starting with the Potsdam Edict of 1651, in opening our economy to new ideas, new influences and new technologies. This is an import technological step with many positive economic and political outcomes”, added Dr. Grochtmann.

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Our leading product portfolio includes solutions for high performance [data management](#), developing and [modernizing applications](#), enabling [service-oriented architecture](#), and improving [business processes](#). By combining our technology with industry expertise and best practices experience, our customers improve and differentiate their businesses - faster.

Software AG has 40 years of global IT experience and about 3,600 employees serving customers in 70 countries. The company is headquartered in Germany and listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (TecDAX, ISIN DE 0003304002 / SOW). Software AG posted total revenues of €721 million in 2008.

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