Intercontinental Exchange depends on IT to power its enterprise operations and services

As a leading operator of regulated exchanges, clearing houses, and data solutions around the world, including the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), Intercontinental Exchange (ICE) relies heavily on IT to power its business operations and financial services offerings. Because of this, ICE needs to help ensure that its IT infrastructure works smoothly, reliably, and securely. IT governance and regulatory compliance are also overriding concerns, requiring well-defined processes and comprehensive visibility.

ICE chose ServiceNow to reduce IT service delivery risk, lower costs, and increase visibility

ICE selected ServiceNow as its IT service management (ITSM) platform. Bretlan Fletcher, Senior IT Director at ICE, says, “The NYSE was an early ServiceNow adopter. We had multiple service desks and wanted to consolidate these onto a modern platform. We needed something that would reduce costs and risk, provide modern functionality and user experiences, and facilitate workflow automation and end-to-end visibility.”

Bretlan continues, “We also wanted comprehensive reporting for our business and our regulators. We looked at several options and decided that ServiceNow was the best choice. And it was—the rollout was highly successful. So when ICE acquired the NYSE in 2013, it decided to adopt ServiceNow across its global operations.”

Challenge
Reduce the risk and cost of delivering the services that power ICE’s enterprise operations

Products
• ServiceNow® App Engine
• ServiceNow® IT Service Management

Solution
Consolidate and replace legacy systems with ServiceNow custom and out-of-the-box apps, lowering business risk, increasing business visibility, and reducing IT costs

Intercontinental Exchange reduces risk and costs with ServiceNow App Engine custom apps

Industry: Financial Services
Location: Atlanta, Georgia
Size: 6,000 employees

Custom apps built with App Engine
Reduction in development effort
Legacy systems replaced with a single application
ICE saw the opportunity to extend the benefits of ServiceNow beyond IT using ServiceNow App Engine custom apps

ServiceNow IT Service Management was just the start. ICE saw a broader business potential. According to Bretlan, “We began by extending ServiceNow capabilities within IT, which gave us a clear understanding of what we could do with ServiceNow, and expanded from there. We had many business processes that ran on legacy systems and spreadsheets. That created unacceptable risk and cost.”

“With ServiceNow, we could automate these processes and make them enterprise grade,” continues Bretlan. “That just wasn’t possible before. We had some very large and mature platforms, but they weren’t nimble enough to take on these types of workflows.”

ICE develops more than 20 custom ServiceNow apps, slashing the development effort needed to consolidate and replace costly tools and applications

Starting with a single ServiceNow developer, ICE began to build custom business apps on ServiceNow App Engine. Initial results turned into growing momentum with the ServiceNow app development team gaining a reputation for successfully taking on increasingly complex business process automation initiatives.

James McGrogan, Director of ServiceNow app development at ICE, explains, “ServiceNow gives us a lot for free: workflows, organizational structures, service portal, forms, reporting, disaster recovery, and so on. That means we can focus on core functionality rather than having to build all the application scaffolding and platform capabilities by ourselves. That saves us at least 50% on development effort, and because we’ve got a consistent platform framework, we also get a lot of reuse.”

“That makes it easy to consolidate and retire applications built on legacy tools—for example, Lotus Notes—so we can modernize and save costs. In fact, since we started out, we’ve built more than 20 custom ServiceNow apps and our team is still fewer than 10 people—including QA,” says James.

ServiceNow automates order fulfillment and allows ICE to eliminate multiple legacy applications, lower risk, and create customer visibility for its sales team

Many of these custom apps support mission-critical ICE business processes. One example is ICE’s Data Order app, which lies at the heart of ICE’s Data Services business. ICE Data Services provides a wide range of data distribution services, connectivity, and content to ICE customers, ranging from exchange connectivity to security prices, valuations for illiquid securities, and third-party content services. The Data Order app orchestrates fulfillment of these services, both from a business and technical perspective.

“We use ServiceNow as the central hub for our data services. It takes in orders from our front-end CRM system and drives end-to-end fulfillment workflows. That starts with entitlements—checking whether a customer has all the necessary contracts in place. For example, if we’re providing access to third-party content, does the customer have appropriate contracts with the content vendor?” says Bretlan. “Then we use ServiceNow to orchestrate the

Bretlan Fletcher, Senior IT Director, Intercontinental Exchange
actual technical fulfillment process. This includes ordering circuits to connect to the customer’s premises and configuring our own backend systems, which ties into our core IT processes on ServiceNow. Once the service is up and running, ServiceNow provides reporting and notifications to support billing and financial forecasting.”

ServiceNow doesn’t just drive data order fulfillment—it’s ICE’s system of record for data services. ServiceNow has a comprehensive catalog of all the data services that ICE offers, along with a record of the services each customer has purchased. According to Bretlan, “By keeping our data services information in one place, we’re able to instantly answer questions. For instance, we use ServiceNow to generate reports for our regulators and our salespeople also use ServiceNow to see which services each customer has so they can focus their sales efforts.”

James also stresses the benefits for IT. “Prior to ServiceNow, ICE Data Services managed orders using five systems. With ServiceNow, we’ve been able to retire those five systems, which reduces our cost of ownership and eliminates support headaches. We’ve now got a robust, enterprise-grade solution, which lowers risk for IT and for the business. And we did all of this with a single development resource.”

**ICE now sees ServiceNow as one of its key IT and business platforms, delivering out-of-the-box value that ICE can easily extend with custom apps**

Looking forward, ICE continues to focus on the platform benefits of ServiceNow. The company is planning on rolling out several new out-of-the-box ServiceNow apps, and it continues to grow and support its custom apps. According to Bretlan, “ServiceNow gives us the best of both worlds—apps we can use out of the box and a platform to easily build custom apps with ServiceNow App Engine to solve our unique business problems. That’s a key reason why ServiceNow is one of our core IT platforms.”