Background:
Following the acquisition of a regional gas and electric company, our client needed to evaluate its application portfolio for purposes of application consolidation across the three utilities, which operated three independent IT organizations. TheY employed UST to develop a business rule extraction (BRE) approach including the methodology, analysis tools, and reporting to support its application analysis efforts.

UST's Solution:
UST developed a tool-assisted analysis methodology to ensure the accuracy and increase the speed of the application analysis and business rule extraction process for the application that supported the client’s Customer Assistance Program (CAP).

A critical success factor was to distinguish relevant and irrelevant application code. In a typical legacy application only about 20-30% of the source code contains the true business logic. Micro Focus Enterprise Analyzer (MFEA) enabled the UST team to identify all of the application programs. It helped the team evaluate the complexity and relationship of individual programs. It also identified common code modules that were used by multiple programs.

Results:
By analyzing over 200 objects and 170,000 lines of code, the UST discovered 520 requirements in the application. Dead and duplicative logic was eliminated, and the team identified opportunities to improve the performance and maintainability of the application. We translated complex application logic into business and functional requirements, which could be easily validated by business stakeholders.

The project took much less time than similar manual application analysis projects require and our analysis was completed with 99.8% accuracy. Through this work, our client gained and approach that effectively analyzes legacy applications and extracts business rules that can be used as requirements to support post-merger software package selection, legacy system re-engineering, and platform consolidation initiatives.

Technologies:
Micro Focus Enterprise Analyzer