

A Brief History of INTERCOPE Messaging

Dedication to mission critical high quality development

A Single Window for financial messaging

Overview

Today INTERCOPE provides an outstanding 'Single Window' and multi-tenant solution for the financial messaging and gateway requirements of the financial services industry. "BOX Messaging Hub" (BOX) is used by many large financial institutions including central banks, market infrastructures and service providers throughout Europe, North America, and Australia – handling very large transaction and data volumes through hundreds of BICs.

High end "off the shelf" products since 35 years

For 35 years, the company has focused development on specialized key competences in high end, high performance, and high availability messaging systems. A broad scope of diverse functions has been implemented in standard "off the shelf" products, ensuring stability and minimizing maintenance efforts. High quality, customer oriented, short development cycles and flexible implementations have been the major factors driving this ongoing success story.

Business continuity for the future

INTERCOPE was founded in 1982 by Reinhart Laumer, a software development pioneer and IT entrepreneur. Today the daily business of INTERCOPE is steered by an experienced executive management team of younger key players with long term commitment to the company guaranteeing business continuity for the future.

Reinhart has more recently concentrated his efforts on partner and customer relationship in addition to engaging with his management team on the global company strategy. The company was, and still is today, privately owned by Reinhart and several key employees and intentionally never went public.

Telex link for IBM's SWIFT solutions

Telex and Fax for IBM

For large SWIFT users IBM's mainframe based MERVA evolved during the 1980's and 1990's into a de-facto standard, yet MERVA did not have an appropriate Telex link which was required by many customers. Therefore in 1985 IBM chose INTERCOPE as their global partner to provide this missing functionality. INTERCOPE became an active player in the SWIFT community, participating in all SIBOS events since 1985, and countless IBM and SWIFT user group meetings.

One of the first computer based fax solutions in the market

In the early 1990's fax and email started to replace telex as the main means of business communication in many business sectors. In 1992 INTERCOPE responded to customer requests by launching (in close cooperation with IBM) one of the first computer based enterprise fax solutions available in the market. FaxPlus/Open enabled mainframe-based processes to directly transmit business data over public networks, without any manual intervention, and with obvious cost savings. It was one of the first fax solutions to also include a certified SAP integration.

A generic message processing engine

MessagePlus/Open

From 2000 INTERCOPE began designing and implementing the next generation of its communication products called MessagePlus/Open (MPO) - a generic message processing engine, capable of handling any type of content - in a very flexible way, and providing extensive multi-client capabilities for service providers.

INTERCOPE

Fax, Email, and SMS for large corporations

In 2003 a large German Bank was the first to implement MPO. This installation handled all communication requirements complementary to SWIFT worldwide, replacing more than 25 individual solutions which had previously been deployed for this purpose. Today MPO is used worldwide, mainly by large customers to handle Fax, Fax over IP, Email, and SMS traffic in an enterprise wide solution.

A comprehensive SWIFT solution

BOX for SWIFTNet

Based on the generic MPO message processing engine, and exploiting its proven capabilities in agility, scalability, availability, monitoring, and platform independence. INTERCOPE could develop, in a very short timeframe, "BOX for SWIFTNet" (BOX) which went live in 2005. BOX had been designed to provide MERVA-like functionality, such as back office integration, a user interface, manual message processing functions, routing and print services. In addition, BOX included an RMA application. During 2010 INTERCOPE obtained the SWIFT certification for the new BOX CBT function. In 2011 BOX was extended to also cover FileAct and InterAct for SWIFTNet 7.

Close customer relationships

The BOX User Forum

In 2011 the BOX User Forum was founded, with the first meeting hosted by Bank Austria in Vienna. The event has been organized on a yearly basis since, evolving into the most important event for the BOX user community and INTERCOPE itself. Close customer relationships and the early consideration of customer requirements in the development process, form an essential part of INTERCOPE's culture and have been a key factor in the success of the company. The BOX User Forum provides an excellent platform to maintain and to enhance these Important relationships.

Multiple network providers

BOX Messaging Hub

BOX for SWIFTNet was further developed on and became the BOX Messaging Hub in 2013. With this INTERCOPE enhanced the solution for our customers to simultaneously support multiple financial networks beyond just SWIFTNet. With these enhancements BOX users can connect to Systemically important payment systems (SIPS) such as STEP2 via EBICS, SIANet, and SWIFTNet and to T2S, via both SIANet and SWIFTNet - out of the box. This guarantees complete redundancy of the networking infrastructure, with higher bandwidth to now handle peak traffic via load balancing.

Frontrunner service provider for EBA CLEARING

Instant Payments

INTERCOPE is one of the frontrunner service providers to support banks to implement the EBA CLEARING SEPA instant payment service. Frontrunner service providers were introduced by EBA CLEARING to help European financial institutions identify providers that can assist early adopters connecting to EBA CLEARING's pan-European real-time payment infrastructure.

INTERCOPE has extended BOX to the specific requirements of Instant Payments, and offers customers an integrated solution with highest reliability, availability, and performance via EBICS and SIANet. The multi-network capability of BOX allows other network providers and standards, such as SWIFT to be supported on the same single solution, when their capability for Instant Payments comes on-line.