



CASE STUDY · LEGACY MODERNIZATION

David Nieper

RPG to Python Migration Blueprint

Helping David Nieper modernize critical IBM AS400 RPG software with a structured migration plan toward Python.

AT A GLANCE

CLIENT

David Nieper

INDUSTRY

Fashion / Manufacturing

LEGACY TECHNOLOGY

IBM AS400 RPG

TARGET TECHNOLOGY

Python

MIGRATION BLUEPRINT

www.strumenta.com

ABOUT THE CLIENT

About David Nieper

David Nieper is a British designer and manufacturer of luxurious women's clothing. The company was founded in 1961 in Derbyshire in the UK and has over 250 employees.

They are proud to be one of the few British clothing organisations still making their clothes in Britain. They manufacture, design, pack and produce everything in the UK.

1961

Founded in Derbyshire, UK

250+

Employees

UK

Manufacture, design, pack and produce in Britain

70s

Software origins on IBM AS400

THE CHALLENGE

Modernizing critical RPG software

As an old, established business, David Nieper started developing software back in the 70s on the IBM AS400.

In 2025, they acknowledged that while this RPG software is still critical to business operations, it needed modernizing so that it could be connected to other business systems. They chose Python as the language they wanted to migrate to. However, they didn't know how to go about updating this crucial piece of software, or even where to start.

RPG

Critical legacy software to modernize and connect

"It was very carefully organized from the outset. We learnt a lot. The Strumenta team took the time to share knowledge and explain areas we didn't understand. The information was shared in an easy to understand way. If you need to migrate your RPG code to Python, give Federico a call."

Kay Litchfield

IT Manager, David Nieper

Why Strumenta?

In early 2025, after a Google search, Kay Litchfield, IT Manager at David Nieper, realised that not many companies could help with this migration. In fact, she found that Strumenta was the only company that could help automate a migration from RPG to Python. She approached Strumenta, who recommended its Migration Blueprint service.

The Migration Blueprint service involves a Strumenta team working closely with the client to create a step-by-step approach to migration. Strumenta analyzed the code, categorised the different ways GOTO statements were used, and considered related technologies including DDS, CL, Interform, DB2 database and integration with PHP middleware.

Automation expertise

Strumenta was identified as the only company able to help automate this migration from RPG to Python.

Structured planning

The Migration Blueprint created a step-by-step path before implementation began.

Specific modernization experience

The work addressed real migration issues such as GOTO usage and surrounding technologies.

Broader system understanding

The analysis covered DDS, CL, Interform, DB2 and PHP middleware integration.

The Migration Blueprint Process

The Migration Blueprint process with David Nieper consisted of 5 workshops and a few additional meetings. Strumenta started by identifying goals, understanding their RPG system, highlighting critical areas and pinpointing obstacles.

Strumenta then developed a customized plan for each module to be migrated.

A Clear Migration Plan

The final result was a migration plan that the company can follow to migrate their RPG code. By using this Migration Blueprint, David Nieper has a step-by-step approach to ensure:

Relevant code is migrated and unused code is discarded.

A smooth, structured transition across the migration effort.

Business continuity is preserved throughout the process.

LEGACY MODERNIZATION

MIGRATION BLUEPRINT

IBM AS400

RPG

PYTHON

“The detailed Blueprint Migration report covered the aspects, the process and exactly what needed to be done. The detailed report helped to give us a good understanding of the overall work involved and what was required in the project.”

Rowan Wagstaff

IT System Administrator, David Nieper

Find out how Strumenta can help you.

Please contact us for any further information or visit our website.

info@strumenta.com

www.strumenta.com