



### **About Medavie Blue Cross**

Medavie Blue Cross is one of the few Canadian insurance companies offers individuals and their families a complete line of individual health, dental, vision care and prescription drug programs, as well as travel plans, critical illness coverage and life insurance.

### **Challenges: Date forward testing of critical application on time and within budget**

The Medavie Blue Cross Quality Assurance Team faced a number of issues regarding testing critical application dates on their Solaris UNIX systems with their Oracle database. They needed an immediate solution to date-test their custom insurance application for processing and adjudicating claims. Due to several factors they had a very short timeline to complete this project and a limited budget.

### **Integrate Time Machine for the perfect solution**

Eventually their QA team received a recommendation from another internal group which has been a long time Time Machine user. After a quick test of the software, they verified Time Machine would be an ideal solution for date forward testing on their internal provincial claims system Medicare Rules Composer (MRC) which manages rule conditions for Medicare their claim processing. They use unique Oracle usernames combined with a maintenance database associated with the MRC. Oracle's virtual time is then set in Time Machine through a process invoked by the developers using the open source program sudo (sudo allows a user to issue limited commands under the user context of another ID). Their sudo command was created as an interactive shell script wrapper that ultimately calls the time machine executable.

With Time Machine, Medavie Blue Cross found they could immediately complete their project requirements without purchasing additional hardware and software licenses, as one test environment can now serve multiple test environment with multiple virtual clocks And due to the ease of integrating Time Machine into their test process and enable time change by the tester themselves, they were able to reap significant productivity gains. The testers no long has to wait for the availability of test systems and wait for system administrator to reset the system clock. The rollout of Time Machine was very quick and smooth and they encountered no issues.

"At Medavie Blue Cross, we have to conduct date forward testing for our internal provincial claims systems on a regular basis. With Time Machine, we're able to host multiple Oracle testing environments on the same system for multiple developers and testers. This not only saves significant costs for potential hardware and software, but also streamlines our application testing process."

Michael Jones, UNIX System Administrator