



# *OMV: All fired up over SAP R/3 and IBM OS/390.*

Vienna-based OMV AG (Austrian Mineral Oil Authority) is primarily active in the oil and gas business. In 1998, with more than 6,000 employees, the company reached consolidated sales of 4.7 billion Euro. With a market capitalization of 2.2 billion Euro, the OMV Group is the largest industrial company listed on the Vienna Stock Market.

OMV's activities are not limited to the distillation and marketing of purchased oil and natural gas supplies. The Austrians are also involved in development and exploration projects, among them projects in the core regions of Austria, Libya, Pakistan and Great Britain, as well as Albania, Sudan, Tunisia and Vietnam. To boost its natural gas business – in which OMV is fast approaching an Austrian market share of 80 percent – the Viennese operate a network of pipelines whose total length is 2,000 kilometers. Roughly a third of all Russian natural gas exports to Western Europe travel through the OMV network.

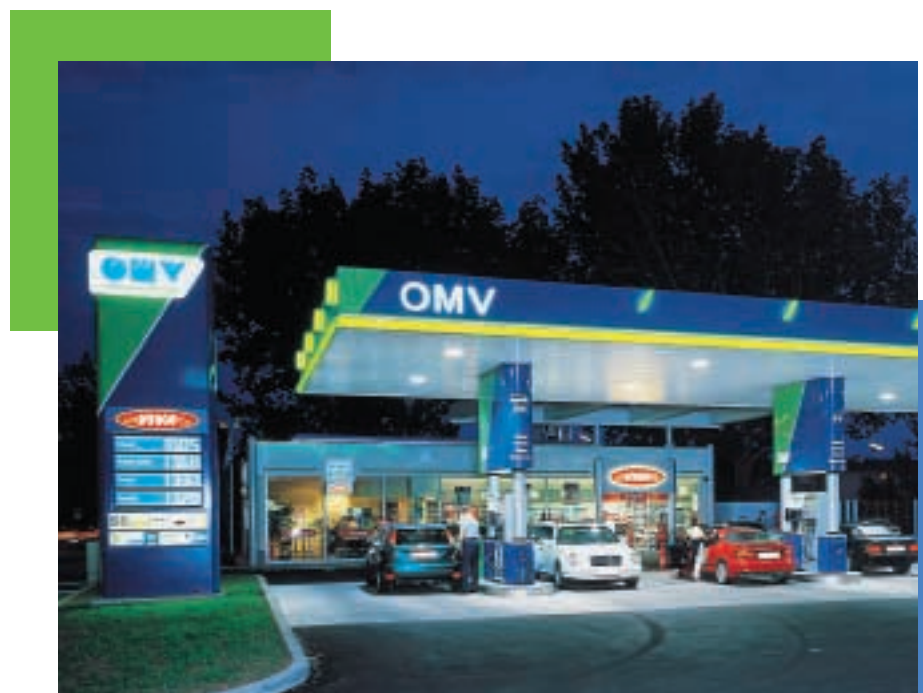
In Schwechat, near Vienna, and in Bavarian Burghausen, OMV refineries are hard at work. The plant in Schwechat is one of the largest refineries in all of Europe. OMV's network of gas stations also extends beyond Austrian borders. Among the diverse OMV affiliates and associated companies are leading manufacturers of fertilizer, laminates, geotextiles and polyolefin products.

## **Rising market demand? React with ERP software**

The OMV Group has always relied on powerful data processing to stay at the top of the market. When market-induced demand rose in 1997 to the point that the group's business processes sent out the first warning signs, the Austrians didn't wait long. They decided to introduce standard software.

It was obvious that if OMV were to switch to standard ERP software, then it would be the software with the best perspectives – perspectives of various kinds, among them adaptability to an already existing (and also to any future) situation, excellent functioning and user-friendliness; an established support structure; and reliable suppliers. For OMV, only

<b>Industry</b>	Petroleum
<b>Application</b>	SAP R/3 Modules FI, CO, IM, TR, MM, PP, PS, QM, SD and IS-OIL
<b>Software</b>	OS/390 AIX Tivoli
<b>Hardware</b>	S/390 Parallel Sysplex RS/6000 SP



one applications suite would satisfy those premises and pass thorough testing – the SAP R/3 system, especially as the industry application for the oil area, IS-Oil, was already available at the time. It was to the advantage of SAP R/3 that OMV already had long experience with SAP R/2 and was also already using the S/390 system environment.

### **System comparison bears out superiority**

In spite of this, the OMV sought further affirmation and put the S/390 up to a duel with its UNIX and Windows NT competition. These comparisons showed clearly that the S/390 can assure guaranteed access to the system that is untouched by the other platforms. High availability was one of the central criteria for the Austrians, as in the dynamic processes in the markets served by OMV a potential system failure would be an unjustifiable risk. The results of the system comparison were that much more impressive, because they highlighted the high-volume strengths of the S/390 in a productive SAP R/3 environment even more. Says OMV manager Walter Rotter: “The practice test gave us clear evidence that the S/390 solution is superior to the rival approaches.”

### **A Geographical Dispersed Parallel Sysplex guarantees the highest security against system failures**

Since May 1999, OMV has had an S/390 in parallel sysplex operation, consisting of two S/390 processors of types 9672-R16 and 9672-RC6, in productive use. The configuration is designed as a Geographical Dispersed Parallel Sysplex, i.e. the server and storage system are in separate locations and are connected to each other redundantly by means of an ICF (Integrated Coupling Facility), in order to offer the highest degree of failure protection even in the event of a catastrophe. The switch from one to the other location is fully automated without requiring OMV to monitor it constantly.

Two IBM RS/6000 SP's are used as applications servers and are linked via ESCON channels to the database servers. RAMAC Virtual Arrays, which provide automatic

data mirroring via the remote copy function PPRC, serve as data storage. The SnapShot function is used for backup and recovery, so that OMV can back up all data as quickly as possible.

### **S/390 doubles as SAP R/3 application server**

Since the beginning of the year, OMV has used SAP R/3 application server on IBM S/390 in the Controlled Availability Program. The desire to use the high availability of the S/390 for the application server processes was as important as the goal of reducing downtime whenever a new SAP R/3 release is planned. The first experiences were so positive that OMV decided to operate smaller SAP R/3 systems in a homogeneous S/390 environment. For larger systems, batch and update processes will be moved to S/390 application server in order to take full advantage of the performance that this solution offers.

### **Tivoli as system management for demanding installations**

For systems management of this demanding installation, OMV is using the IBM software Tivoli Enterprise. Tivoli offers all options to scalably illustrate the many aspects of an integrated systems management solution and to be able to react to error situations. Specifically in the area of scheduling, OMV relies heavily on the Tivoli Workload Scheduler, and integrates SAP Job Scheduling and Tivoli Operation Planning and Control into an entire company wide scheduling process.

### **Serene look into the future**

Walter Rotter, looking over the past project, says: “We were able to immediately convert old procedures as applied in data center operations under SAP R/2 to use on SAP R/3. That way, we were able to significantly reduce the prices of migration. The OMV underwent a smooth transition from the first day onward. This very satisfactory project start led us to the decision to consolidate SAP applications – which are now running on alternative platforms – on IBM S/390.” And the future?

*“We are confident because we are prepared. We will have more and more SAP R/3 users. But with the availability, reliability and scalability of our IBM S/390, it will be an especially economical and cost-efficient system operation.”*

*Walter Rotter, IT Manager for OMV*



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