



KCS - Knowledge Centered Support



- KCS is a concept developed by the Customer Support Consortium (CSC) to offer a better strategy of providing solutions for their customers.
- The CSC is an association of over 70 leading technology service organisations.
- A search for innovative ways to meet growing needs of support industry.

08/04/200

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KCS Background



- Challenges for support centers:
 - Improve efficiency
 - Control costs
 - Decrease in profit margins
 - · Increase in administrative and operational costs
 - Meet increasing customer demand
 - Support quality
 - Increase in product complexity
 - Improve customer satisfaction
 - Expand (and maintain) technical expertise
 - Make use of newest and latest technologies

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KCS Background



- Effects of these challenges:
 - Customers:
 - Loss of confidence in support organisation
 - Product value is diminished
 - Support analysts:
 - · Lack of job satisfaction
 - · Performance measured purely by statistics
 - Poor identification with the organisation
 - Organisation:
 - Resource constraints
 - Lack of expertise
 - Loss of responsiveness

08/04/2001

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KCS Overview



• Traditional Call-Centered Support delivery model:

Customer →

Support →

Information

Islands of knowledge Knowledge hoarding Reliance on individual Fragmented sources Quality?

Internally focused
High skills required to
access information

- Tools and processes have been developed to optimize the workflow.
- Little attention has been given to optimize knowledge transfer and to customer needs.

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KCS Overwiew



- "Knowledge Centered Support is a methodology for leveraging support transactions to create knowledge that empowers a company to better resolve problems for customers."
- It is more than a tool. It is a change in:
 - Culture
 - Process
 - Technology
- It provides a solid foundation for customer self help applications over the internet.

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KCS Overview



• Knowledge Centered Support service delivery model:



- Attention is given to creating, developing and reusing knowledge.
- The fundamental unit of transaction is the solution; the knowledge requested and delivered to satisfy the customer request.

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KCS Overview



- Solutions are the key elements of support knowledge.
- Solutions contain:
 - Situational context
 - Relevant information
 - Problem solving analysis
 - Resolution of the problem
- Solutions also contain:
 - All necessary information to identify, diagnose and resolve the same situation again.
- Creating, using and re-using solutions should be the main activity of a support transaction.

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KCS Overview



- KCS practices:
 - Move solution delivery close to knowledge capture
 - Create a solution for all issues that warrant a solution
 - Create a solution using the same process used for solving a problem
 - Capture the customer context
 - Design solution content to map to the experience and need of the audience
 - Improve the solution throughout its life cycle
 - Measure solution re-use within the system

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KCS Overview



- Goals of KCS:
 - Create a single, virtual, global Knowledge Base
 - Use customer interaction to help create the Knowledge Base
 - Employees, service partners and engineering add to the KB
 - Improve the time taken to resolve a customer problem
 - Structured capture of content
 - · Re-use of solutions
 - Improve organisational performance
 - Improve customer satisfaction
 - · Problems solved faster
 - · Solutions published to the Web
 - Improve employee satisfaction
 - Take active part in knowledge development
 - · Learn and benefit from collective knowledge

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KCS Overview



- · What KCS is not:
 - Not a way to eliminate people
 - Not a way to replace specialists with less knowledgeable people
 - Not dependent on one platform or tool
- · What KCS is:
 - A way to manage the growing demand for resources
 - Allows specialists more time to work on difficult problems
 - A support strategy

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KCS in Pre-merger Compaq



- KCS Program initiated in March 1999
- Implementation strategy:
 - A corporate culture supportive of a focus on knowledge
 - Clearly communicated processes and practices of KCS
 - Measurements aligned with knowledge capture and creation
 - Workflow structure to incorporate knowledge capture and re-use
 - Systems to support the people and business

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KCS in Pre-merger Compaq



- Primus is selected as the capture and search tool
- KCS and Primus are integrated into the call entry system
- · Rollout program started world-wide
 - Americas
 - Emea
 - Dublin
 - Reading
 - Munich
 - France
 - Asia Pacific
 - Japan implemented a local language version of Primus

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Primus – Search and Capture Tool

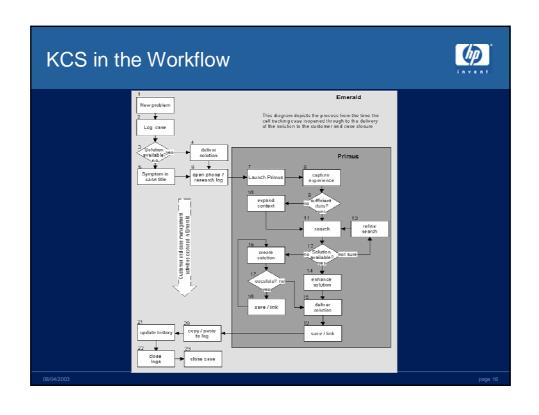


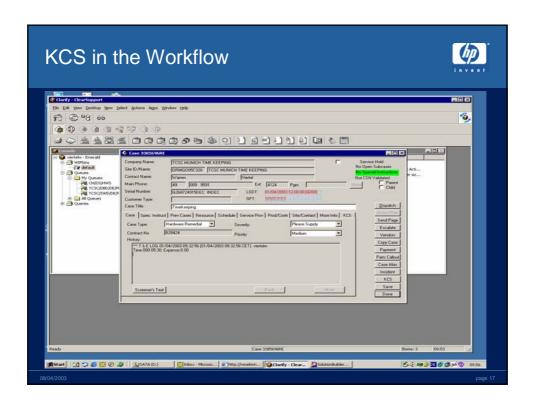
 Primus Knowledge Data Base and Search Technology Description

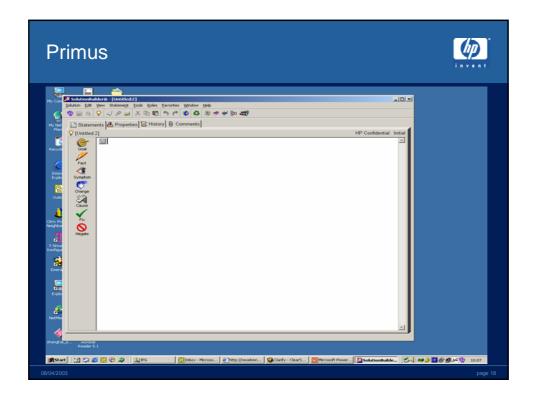
Primus is a knowledge database with a proprietary associative search engine. Primus search technology is based on an information model comprised of associated concepts, statements, properties and solutions.

Integrated into the workflow process, the Primus tools, Primus Solution Builder and/or Primus Solution Explorer, are used to gather information in the form of facts, symptoms, changes, causes, fixes and goals for a specific customer problem. This information is then used either to search for an already known solution to the problem or to create a new solution if none yet exists.

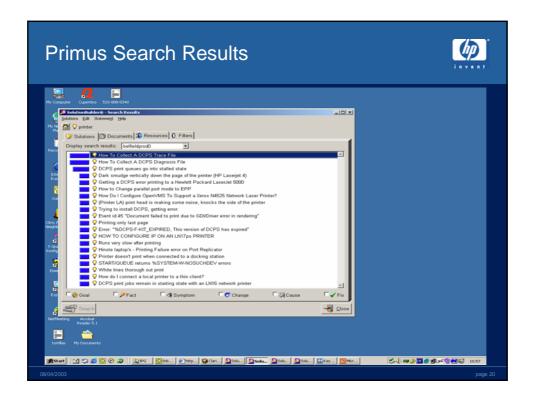
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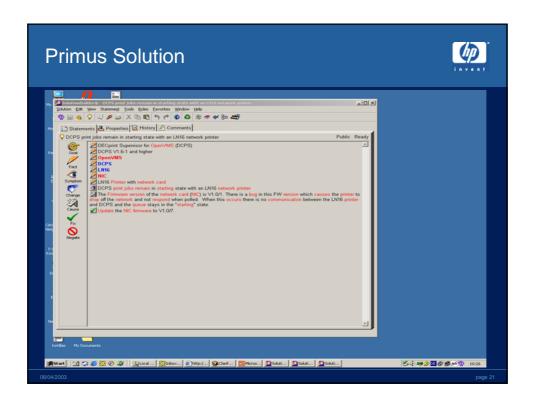


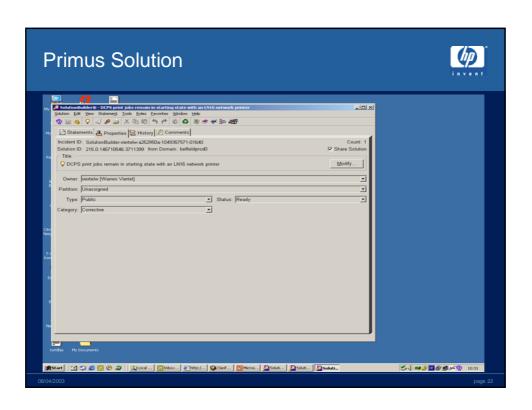


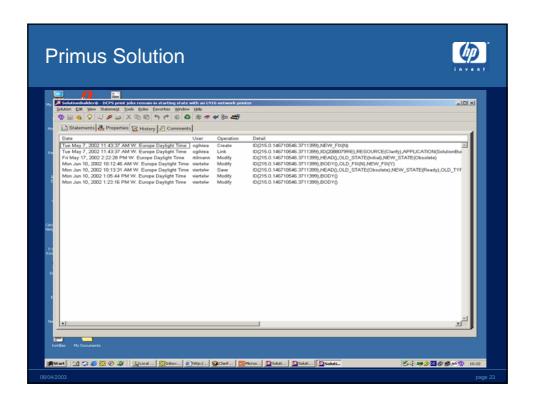


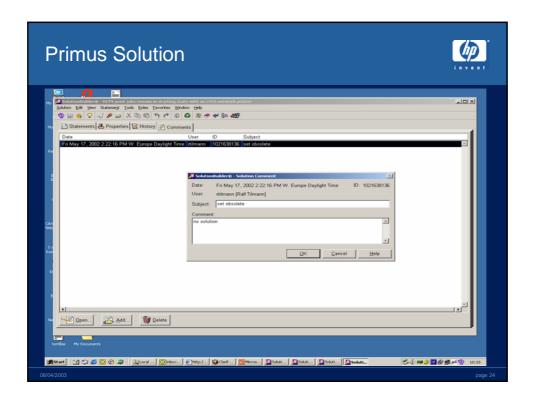
The Primus Search Engine Associative serach engine Not a keyword search tool Indexes every term in every statement Determines relevant statements for each statement entered in the workspace Level of relevence determined Solutions with relevant statements are evaluated Adjustment is made that weighs goals, symptoms, changes and causes four times heavier than facts and fixes Result displayed with relevance indicators











KCS in Post-merger HP



- Knowledge Centered Support will continue
- Transition to one common Knowledge Management infrastructure
- Integration of KM tools into the workflow
- Use of systematic knowledge capture and re-use
- Establish one Content Repository with input from
 - Workflow
 - Content submittal
 - Heavy authoring
- Result:
 - Standardized KM platforms, processes, procedures and culture

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