With its roots in the fields of business intelligence and data warehousing, Appian Corporation works with enterprises having extremely large-scale database applications. Not long after Appian’s founding, the company was looking for a way to scale out the query performance of these large datasets such that it would be able to deliver functionality to its customers that they couldn’t find anywhere else.

After one of the company’s founders read an article in Wired magazine, this market leader in the field of Business Process Management contacted Kx Software regarding kdb, its small-footprint database that could handle tremendous data volumes. It wasn’t long before Appian was embedding kdb as a platform for building solutions for the company’s telecommunications, government, and financial services clients.

Today, Kx technology is a core piece of Appian’s BPM Suite architecture, which helps clients rapidly design and execute repeatable processes — processes that are continuously subject to an enormous number of rules, regulations, and changes. The software turned out to be particularly suitable to the company’s expertise in BPM, where analytic queries and high-speed, real-time reporting are of critical importance.

The key, according to Appian, is the syntactic elegance, algorithmic performance, and simple, reliable construction of the Kx system. These technical advantages have created not only business possibilities for Appian, but a very real, and distinct, competitive advantage. Today, Appian uses the software in a wide variety of applications, from data storage, real-time analytics, and personalization to high-performance bulk updates to virtually every type of query, including time-series, OLAP, and hierarchical.

What’s more, the productivity of Appian programmers has improved significantly with kdb, as the integrated query language makes it easy to develop applications faster. Not only that, whenever an Appian coder has a question or problem, Kx has proven to be incredibly responsive, often returning a solution within hours.

At the beginning, Appian saw Kx as a visionary company. Yet even today, after a more-than-10-year relationship, and with all of the dramatic improvements that have occurred in hardware and software, the company still hasn’t seen what it believes to be a comparable technology for solving this class of problems.
One for all
Kx technology runs on Linux, Solaris, Windows, and OS X operating systems, and requires only commodity hardware. kdb+ takes full advantage of the latest generation of processors built for vector arithmetic, giving it tremendous speed and making it especially well-suited for high-performance applications in a broad array of industries.

Industry players
Kx’s mission has always been to provide powerful software that allows companies to tackle the most complex and data-intensive applications. That’s why Kx customers tend to be market leaders in their fields — from top investment banks and hedge funds to premier energy companies, pharmaceutical firms, and scientific research institutions. All of these enterprises share a common objective: to gain competitive industry advantage.

Worldwide coverage
Based in Palo Alto, California, Kx has offices in North America, Europe, and Asia, and counts among its customers more than 100 top-tier companies, including global OEM customers. In addition to conducting its own sales, Kx retains strategic sales partners around the world.

For more information about Kx Systems, please visit our website at kx.com, or send us an email, to info@kx.com.