



# Developing an ODBC Text Driver for Interflex Datensysteme GmbH & Co. KG

## Case Study



### Challenge

Interflex's personnel scheduling product, SP Expert, included a third party text driver that was quickly becoming expensive and difficult to maintain. Interflex needed a new ODBC Text Driver solution that was both cost effective and inclusive of many new features its customers required. For licensing reasons, Interflex had a tight timeframe and needed the new ODBC Text Driver quickly. In addition, Interflex also had a set budget and needed a data connectivity partner that would provide a cost effective solution.

### Solution

Having previously worked with Simba on building an ODBC interface for one of its products and been impressed with Simba's expertise and technology, Interflex approached Simba to build a new ODBC Text Driver to replace its existing solution from another vendor. Simba worked closely with Interflex to understand its needs and determine what its existing text driver was providing. Simba then worked with Interflex to spec out requirements for the replacement text driver, which included functionality the existing driver did not have.

### Results

Simba delivered the ODBC Text Driver to Interflex on schedule. Simba's ODBC Text Driver provided all the required functionality, including new functionality for custom metadata handling and transaction support that the other third party solution did not have. Simba's solution was less expensive and more maintainable, ensuring Interflex had the functionality it needed for its customers.

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*"Reaching an impasse with both the business and technical support of our current provider, Interflex changed vendors and chose Simba to provide us with an ODBC Text Driver. Simba provided us with a quality, feature-rich, maintainable and less expensive solution compared to the other vendor's product. We had used Simba's ODBC SDK in the past for another project and we were confident that Simba would provide us with an ODBC Text Driver that would also match our needs. Simba fully delivered and continues to impress us with their data connectivity technology and expertise."*

*-Head of Research and Development,  
Interflex Datensysteme*

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Interflex has developed, produced and distributed combined software and hardware systems for time management, time and attendance recording, security and access control since 1976. Its solutions portfolio ranges from access control with biometrics or contactless credential identification to automated production data processing. When Interflex wished to replace a third-party ODBC Text Driver in its SP Expert product with a more cost effective and maintainable solution, it chose Simba to provide the driver.

Interflex's SP Expert product is widely recognized as a leading solution for personnel scheduling with integrated online time management. The product's existing ODBC Text Driver was becoming increasingly expensive and difficult to maintain. Interflex wished to explore new options that would allow it to bundle a new text driver with its product

*"Simba's ODBC Text Driver provided all of the required functionality at a lower cost than Interflex's original third-party solution."*

at a lower cost, and a solution that would also provide added functionality that its customers increasingly needed.

Interflex had worked with Simba previously to build an ODBC interface for one its products and was impressed with Simba's expertise and technology. Choosing Simba to provide a new ODBC Text Driver to replace the existing third-party solution was the logical choice.

Simba worked closely with Interflex to understand what Interflex's existing text driver was providing and to determine what features and functionality the new solution would require. Among the many features, Interflex required Simba's ODBC Text Driver to handle custom metadata and to support transactions – both functionality that its existing solution did not have. Compounding the technical challenge, Interflex required a completed driver in a very short timeframe to meet contractual obligations. It also needed a very cost-effective solution to meet its allocated budget.

Simba delivered the new ODBC Text Driver to Interflex, on schedule and on budget. Simba's ODBC Text Driver provided

all of the required functionality at a lower cost than Interflex's original third-party solution. Simba's ODBC Text Driver provided the ability to run in 64-bit environments, the capability to efficiently handle large volumes of data, as well as the functionality for metadata handling and transaction support.

Interflex's production-level testing found Simba's ODBC Text Driver to meet and in many instances exceed expectations. Simba had delivered a full-featured, easily maintainable and cost-effective solution.

### **About Simba Technologies Inc.**

Simba Technologies Inc. is the recognized world leader in standards-based data access products and solutions. Simba works with the world's leading software companies to deliver first class data connectivity solutions.

Simba is a pioneer in ODBC, MDX, ODBO and XMLA. Since 1991, Simba has developed advanced data access solutions for thousands of end users. Today, more than half of all MDX providers have been built with Simba technology, and through a partnership with Microsoft, Simba's SQL technology has been installed on more than 30 million desktops worldwide.

Simba's firm commitment to delivering the highest customer value through innovative solutions and expert support has gained the company a reputation as the industry leader for data connectivity solutions.

For more information about Simba's data connectivity products and services, visit [www.simba.com](http://www.simba.com) or call 1.604.633.0008.

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