Founded in 1986, Paris-based Egide Informatique provides a comprehensive solution for real estate management. Its software encompasses the commercial, residential, and social housing and addresses the needs of property administrators, co-ownership trustees, and property managers through its modular set of features.

Due to their wide-ranging base of 500 customers who can have anywhere from one to 200 workstations each, with some not even having an IT system in place, they sought a reliable, high-performing database that would not require maintenance by a database administrator (DBA).

Actian Zen provides a small footprint, zero-maintenance embedded database

Egide Informatique selected Actian Zen through its existing relationship with Btrieve, a predecessor to Zen Embedded Database. They quickly found Zen to be highly robust and simple to use.

“The Zen Embedded Database is very reliable. I can only remember about 3-4 open tickets in the 30+ years we’ve had the product. We have never had any big issues,” said Philippe Racoupeau, project manager.

“I’m really impressed with the product,” added Laurent Milllasson, technical manager, who is responsible for the installation and configuration of Actian Zen at the customer site. “Installing the Zen client takes 15 minutes. I can’t think of an enterprise product that has been easier to install in my experience.”

Egide Informatique is also pleased with Actian Zen’s simple licensing model, which affords them a lot of flexibility. But the feature that they appreciate the most is its lack of maintenance requirements, since many of their customers are small businesses that do not have an IT department.

“Usually with a typical enterprise-scale database, you need a DBA to do even small things,” said Millason. “With Actian Zen, you don’t need an administrator because it just works and never breaks.”