

IMPROVED UNDERWRITING AND LEVELING UP LENDING WITH DECISIONRULES

First Response Finance (FRF) is a leading UK-based vehicle finance provider, specializing in hire purchase agreements for cars, motorbikes, and vans. With over two decades of experience, FRF blends innovative underwriting practices with a customer-first approach, continually adapting to meet evolving market demands.

The Challenge

FRF faced several hurdles with its legacy underwriting platform:

Lack of Agility

Rule updates in C# code required 2+ weeks, creating inefficiencies.

Limited Transparency

Non-technical teams couldn't read or suggest changes to underwriting logic.

Scalability Issues

Expanding into personal loans and collections was constrained by rigid rules.

High Costs

Maintaining custom-coded logic diverted resources from strategic projects.

The Solution

FRF chose DecisionRules to modernize its underwriting workflows. The platform's intuitive, no-code/low-code architecture provided:



Cloud Flexibility

Seamless integration with Azure-based APIs.



Cost-Effectiveness

A robust yet affordable alternative to other rule engines.



Ease of Use

Empowered business teams to manage rules directly without developer involvement.



Rapid Deployment

Swift setup enabled real-time decision-making and scalability.

REAL-WORLD IMPACT OF DECISIONRULES WITH FIRST RESPONSE FINANCE

Auto Finance Underwriting
Automates accept/decline decisions based on applicant and vehicle data.



Risk Mitigation by Vehicle Type
Flags high-risk vehicles (e.g., older models with elevated maintenance costs).

Champion-Challenger Analysis
Compares legacy underwriting logic to new rules for continuous improvement.

Transparency and Collaboration
Business teams directly manage and refine rules, reducing dependency on IT.

Looking Ahead

FRF plans to expand DecisionRules' usage to:

Personal Loans:

- Applying consistent underwriting logic to new product offerings.

Collections & Recoveries:

- Tailoring repayment plans based on borrower profiles.

Advanced Rule Flows:

- Implementing split testing and multi-hit rule flows for more granular strategies.

Success Metrics



Rule Update Time
Reduced from 2+ weeks to 2 days or less.



Efficiency
Developers redirected to strategic projects, increasing productivity.



Transparency
Audit logs and intuitive UI foster trust and collaboration across teams.

By implementing DecisionRules, First Response Finance has transformed its underwriting process, achieving faster decision-making, improved transparency, and enhanced scalability. This partnership positions FRF as a leader in auto finance and beyond, enabling innovative solutions for customers across the UK.