

Financial Services

Migration to Informatica PowerCenter

CASE STUDY

Award-winning innovation powers rapid Application Migration.

Application migration from Peoplesoft on a Datastage / DB2 platform to an Informatica / Oracle 11g platform was achieved in 80% less time using software-driven automation to perform the migration process. The speed of delivery enabled the client to deliver business efficiencies significantly faster than manual conversion of the application.

The Migration Challenge

To migrate the PeopleSoft HR system operated by a global Financial Services organisation from its existing IBM Datastage/DB2 platform to Informatica/Oracle. This involved the rebuilding of hundreds of individual data feeds in Informatica in order to provide data to the Oracle installation of the PeopleSoft application.

The process involved the creation of Informatica PowerCenter workflows to carry out two distinct tasks:

1. Perform full table copy from Oracle Staging to Oracle Target
2. Perform incremental loads from Informatica CDC to Oracle Target

Each of these tasks was to be carried out across 350 tables. This required the creation of 700 mappings, sessions and workflows.

Key Features

The Migration Challenge:

The Application was a relatively complex one involving:

- ★ Change Data Capture with complex datatypes such as Clob fields
- ★ All Primary Key fields required custom logic to set default values
- ★ All string fields must go through a data cleansing process
- ★ Standardised batch variables were required for each table
- ★ All Oracle datatypes converted to PowerExchange datatypes
- ★ Post Session Failure command processes using worklets
- ★ Various Session and Workflow parameters were required.

Key Benefits

1. Software-driven automated development is significantly faster and cheaper than the traditional manual development approach that enables business agility.
2. Benefits extended beyond the development phase and into testing further shortening the overall project timescales.

The Projected Costs

The client estimated that the migration would require approximately 1500 man-days of effort to build and unit test the new PowerCenter code base resulting in a net cost in excess of \$900,000.

The client then investigated if there were tools or approaches available on the market that could reduce the cost and effort involved. After assessing these options they choose Datawave instead to use pattern-driven automation to rebuild the functionality of their existing application in Informatica PowerCenter.

The Datawave Approach

We do not translate code from one ETL platform into another; instead we use software-driven automation to build a new PowerCenter code base thereby avoiding the pitfalls that arise from the mismatches between rival platform features and their different metadata standards.

Our approach is to define the functionality contained in the original code base as one or more ETL Patterns. These Patterns are then combined with source and target metadata to generate fully functional Informatica Mappings, Sessions and Workflows ready to deploy and test. Our approach to this project followed the same model: we first created the ETL patterns by analysing the existing code base, we then generated samples of the required code base and tested these samples against the existing application. The patterns were then adjusted when mismatches were found and then re-tested. This process was iterated over a twenty- day period until the patterns were completed.

The source and target metadata was then imported and the entire code base of seven hundred mappings was generated in a matter of days. Unit testing then commenced. When errors were found remediation was applied to the patterns, not to the mappings, and the code base was regenerated and retested until the new application exactly matched the old application. As a result, testing and remediation timescales were shortened. The overall outcome was that the entire build and test phase of the migration was achieved in less than 20% of the original estimated effort. This significant success validated the client's choice of software- driven automation to deliver their Application Migration.