

## Oracle Database Migration

**Client:** Anonymous

**Business Size:** Corporation

**Industry:** Aerospace Insurance

**Country:** UK

**Technology:** Oracle, SQL Server

**Objective:** Data Migration from SQL Server and Oracle to own Oracle Databases.

### The Brief

OCS Consulting was asked to augment the client's team with specialist data migration skills, as the existing team was struggling to move the project forward.

### More Detail

The client, a prominent insurance brokerage, risk management, and HR & benefits consulting company, has a significant international presence, with over 39,000 employees.

This Aerospace division was acquired from the vendor just before 2020, and initially the client's employees were using the original infrastructure to carry out their business. However, there was a time limit for this interim setup, and the client was responsible for implementing their own infrastructure in their data centre, and migrating the data related to the business acquired.

OCS Consulting provided a consultant to fill this demanding role.

### Challenges

This project was originally scoped as a purely 'lift and shift' operation. However, following analysis and clarification of the requirements, the project was amended as data migration and enhancement of the Oracle infrastructure to currently supported versions.

The vendor appeared not to be fully engaged with penalties possibly applicable to the client for project overrun.

The client was keen to reduce the cost of high license fees, quoted by Oracle, to keep the existing infrastructure.

The client also wished to reduce the frequency and cost of manual intervention required to overcome other issues with the purchased system.

## **Solutions**

After a short time at the client, our consultant provided:

- A high-level design of the Oracle infrastructure to be built at the client's data centres
- The design of the Oracle data migration approach and the Oracle file systems layout
- A detailed design of the software tools to be developed to facilitate the data migration
- A clear specification of the format that should be used to provide the dataset to the client
- A solution to considerably reduce the Oracle licence fees

Our consultant also developed and implemented a package of software scripts to facilitate the data load and ensure data integrity for the client's target Oracle database. They also provided a number of utilities around the Oracle database operation to simplify the daily administrative tasks, including backups, end-of-day tasks, and nightly snapshots to assist in issue resolution.

## **Results**

- The data migration for the Oracle database was cut down to a few hours from the initial estimate of a long weekend.
- An outstanding reduction of Oracle license fees by re-engineering the Oracle infrastructure. This continues to save several hundred thousand pounds per annum.
- There were also additional cost-savings by reducing the number of people needed to run the infrastructure and the period they were needed by fully automating some of the most time-costly tasks.
- The new datacentre infrastructure included features to aid daily support, such as the daily cloning of the production data into the support platform.