Financial Services Migration to Informatica PowerCenter

Award-winning innovation powers rapid Application Migration.

Summary: Rapid Application Migration from Datastage to Informatica PowerCenter was achieved in 80% less time using software-driven automation to perform the migration process. The speed of delivery enabled the client to achieve a successful major upgrade to Peoplesoft thereby enabling wider business efficiencies and lower IT costs.

Benefits

- Significantly reduce time and cost of ETL Delivery

- Up to 10X Improved Productivity

- Award-winning innovation from ETL Factory

The Migration Challenge: A Global Financial Services organisation must migrate their HR system, Peoplesoft, from its existing DB2 DBMS to Oracle 11g. As a result, the feeds to their DW staging area were to be rebuilt. The project team engaged with an Offshore service provider to carry out the work.
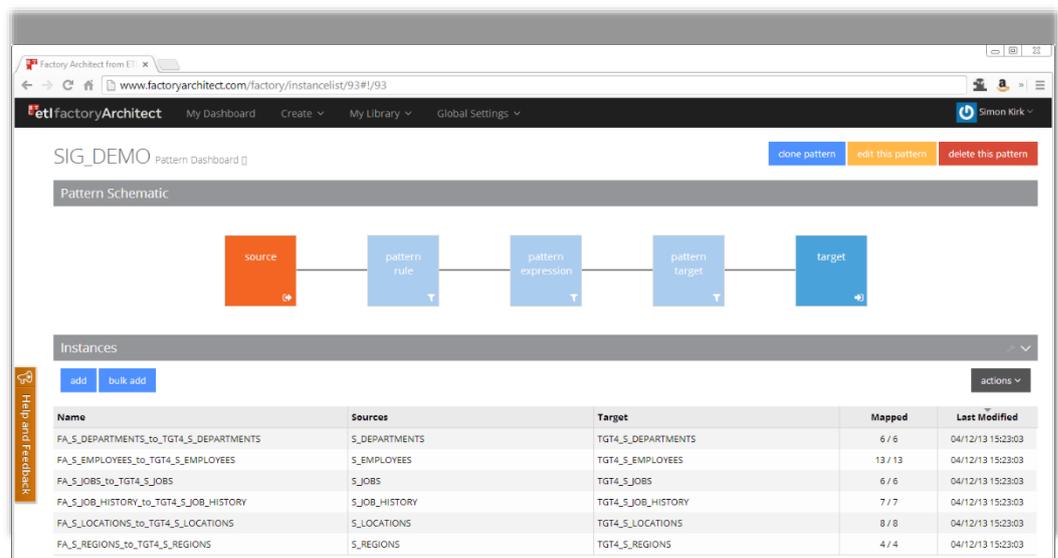
The process involved the creation of Informatica PowerCenter workflows to carry out two distinct tasks:

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 were to be carried out across 350 tables. This required the creation of 700 mappings, sessions and workflows.

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 ETL Factory to use pattern-driven automation to rebuild the functionality of their existing application in Informatica PowerCenter.

Screenshot of an ETL pattern being built within our Factory Architect software

Key Features

The Migration Challenge:

The Application was a complex one with several technical features which the client believed would be difficult to implement. These included:

- 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.

The ETL Factory 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 mismatches between rival platform features and metadata standards. Instead we capture the functionality of the original code base as ETL Patterns in our software and then use the automation features of our software to combine the ETL patterns with source and target metadata to generate fully-functional Informatica Mappings, Sessions and Workflows ready to deploy and test.

Our approach to this migration project then was to firstly analyze the existing code base and capture the application's functionality as ETL patterns. 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 complete.

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, the 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. The entire testing process took less time due to the consistency of code. 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 succes validated the client's choice of software-driven automation to deliver their Application Migration.

Key Benefits

1. Software-driven automated development is significantly *faster* and *cheaper* than the traditional manual development approach which enables business agility.

2. As Project delivery times and team size reduce then migration projects become easier to manage and control.

Contact ETL Factory today to discuss how to transform your next Migration project!