Oracle Utilities Data Migration, Conversion, and Automation Future-proofing Your Data



Thought Leadership

Overview

The utilities industry is in the middle of an exciting change, growing into a more digitized, decentralized system. Conventional business processes, market participants, and ways of functioning are being disrupted and transforming quickly.

Many utilities have already begun their journey to cloud with incremental adoption of infrastructure but undertaking an enterprise strategy has been challenging. These challenges can be subdued. Getting to value requires a holistic system that blends modern technology with new ways of working that include cloud computing.

What Does Data Have to Do with It?

Risks to Organizational Performance

Business is constantly changing; from mergers and acquisitions to technology innovations and upgrades, these changes often create silos of information holding inconsistent and unnecessary data. Utility models based on incorrect or inadequate data constantly risk organizational performance due to faulty simulations, analysis, and processes that produce misleading results, or system errors. When utilities operate using insufficient or bad data, network reliability and customer experience suffer.



Data Migration versus Data Conversion

Data Migration is the process of extracting data from a legacy system and reallocating it to a fresh one. Miscalculating this task is one of the most basic blunders in an IT project. Moving data without an adequate cleaning system and without data validation inhibits the accurate behavior of the new system.

Data Conversion is the process of validating and cleansing raw data. **Data conversion** is a crucial step in the process that turns raw data into important, usable information.



Data Automation for Utilities

As utilities strive to get more timely, reliable data about their customers and assets, data related to customer locations and accounts, data that foretells weather and consumption behaviors, and data about work and outages. These data sources are typcially spread across many systems and brokers. CriticalRiver solves this challenge by allowing users to build, maintain and distribute information about all these aspects using intelligent automation of data. This approach presents a new framework for Utility operations to share data across time, locations, and systems. CriticalRiver calls this **Data Automation** for Utilities.

What is Data Automation?

It frequently happens in an organization that a system is extended beyond its intended life. Therefore, the time factor plays a significant role in a company's ability to grow and thrive. The more time that goes by, the more data is accumulated, and new innovative ways of interpreting and interrogating data come into the picture. **Data Automation** is designed to assist your organization in this respect.

Data Automation uses AI-driven methods to collect, process, interrogate, and expose data across digital consumers. Automation replaces manual execution or human interference with machines, software, and emerging AI applications.



Why it Matters

Non-congruent data, stranded data, lost data, bad data, siloed data, corrupted data, manual processes, and errors all lead to the same inevitable outcome **increased costs** and **lost revenue**. Add to that the pricey and long waiting periods for deploying legacy data into new innovative systems and technologies, and the case for Data Automation shows itself.

As Utilities push ahead into digital transformations, it is an opportune time to normalize and automate data collection, consumption, Interpretation, analysis, storage, access, migration, conversion, and archiving. This is the opportunity to "future-proof" Utility through Data Automation.



Immediate opportunities for improvement exist in areas like, energy management, asset condition & productivity, outage & restoration, revenue management, customer experience, behavior modification, and new revenue development to name a few.



CriticalRiver's Data Automation Services for Utilities

CriticalRiver provides prebuilt, scripts-driven data migration and conversion services for Oracle Utilities and edge products. These services are available for all our global clients, onsite and online, to help Utilities to use their data more efficiently and effectively. In parallel, Oracle's **ILM (Information Life Cycle Management)** product is deployed and configured to unleash the significant benefits of application transparency, fine-grained data, low-cost storage, and data compliance/ enforcement. This helps clients handle their historical data mass without restricting operational access to data, and without affecting the new system's performance.

CriticalRiver's Data Automation services combined with ILM help unlock several key benefits for Utilities at the enterprise level, including:



Packaged Data Automation Offerings for Utilities – Express, Standard, and Tailored

Express Conversion Method (ECM)

Fast track for utilities to transfer data from their legacy systems into target system. This methodology is recommended when there is a time constraint with minimum customization (not more than 5%) which are impacting data requirements. Timelines for the project completion is between 6 to 7 months in total, based on defined parameters and prerequisites.



Advantages

Reduced effort, schedule, & cost for the project.

Standard Conversion Method (SCM)

Best for clients having few customizations (10%) which are impacting data requirements for the solution, and the necessary changes can be managed using our pre-built data migration scripts. Timeline for these projects is usually between 8 to 12 months in total, based on defined parameters ad prerequisites.

Cover customization up to 10% (which are impacting data requirements).

Advantages

Save effort, time & cost for the project by using pre-build scripts.

Tailored Conversion Method (TCM)

Best for projects driven strictly by the client's requirements. Whatever level of customization and no matter what timeline the client wants, tailored data migration scripts will be developed according to those needs, and a detailed migration strategy will be formulated based on consensus of the client stakeholders and completion of requirements gathering and analysis activities.



Data Automation with ILM

Oracle's **Information Lifecycle Management (ILM)** is key to full Data Automation. ILM can be deployed in parallel with each of these conversion methods or implemented as a separate project.

ILM brings Advanced Compression and Data Partitioning options to the Utility to sharpen data access and usage patterns across applications and tables/ partitions. ILM also opens features like Heat Map & Automatic Data Optimization, so that data is automatically compressed and moved into relevant "data buckets" based on the data compression policies and data movement options for each Utility.

Data is automated as a Service, meaning it is available to all systems and end-uses at machine speed without manual conversion processes or archiving.

Advantages

Automation is developed by Oracle certified, and Utilities industry experienced professionals.

The CriticalRiver Value Proposition!

CriticalRiver helps Utilities improve operational performance, elevate the customer experience, and enhance asset utilization through Data Automation and Governance using Oracle ILM and packaged Data Services offerings designed to meet the specific needs and objectives, including:



Our Data Services team members typically possess over a decade of Oracle Utilities Data Migration experience to deliver high-quality, long-lasting solutions and outcomes for our customers, including:



Migrating to the Future with CriticalRiver!

Your Utility business needs to react to changes in user choices, comply with statutes, and alleviate risks of unforeseen events. A digital, connected, enterprise model using data automation will help you achieve a superior customer experience and *future-proof* your data.

Though moving to the latest model can be intimidating, it doesn't have to be. Performing a readiness evaluation enables you to plan how and when to unleash the power of Data Automation for your utility. To learn more, or to schedule an evaluation and consultation, please reach out to us **utilities@criticalriver.com**.

For more information, contact@criticalriver.com



CriticalRiver is a trusted digital technology consulting company with a demonstrated track record of successful technology implementations in areas such as Digital Transformation, Digital Engagement, and Digital Engineering.

We implement and offer consulting services for CRM, Supply Chain, and Integration Solutions by leveraging our skills and capabilities in cutting-edge technologies. We help enterprises simplify, automate, improve, and enhance operations and processes to scale and grow.

We are also technology partners for Salesforce, Oracle, NetSuite for consulting, implementations, managed, and advisory services. Our highly experienced consultants are experts at understanding customers' needs and delivering strategic solutions that leverage the latest technologies and industry best practices.