

Make your data-driven business more agile and slash costs

A major French governmental agency has chosen the Atos DataBase by bullion solution to migrate several hundred databases to a modern and open infrastructure. By doing so, it achieved a simplified migration process, significant operational benefits and sustainable improvements in quality of service.

“Our close relationship with the client coupled with the flexibility of DataBase by bullion allowed us to define a solution that met its technical requirements as well as specific operational constraints.”

Hervé Sannier, Atos

A public sector that needs to save money and innovate

At local and at national level, public organizations are constantly torn between the need to reduce costs in the face of budgetary restrictions and the need to innovate, to meet the new demands of citizens and political decision-makers. By modernizing IT infrastructure, it is possible to reconcile these seemingly competing needs, replacing ageing systems with technology that offers scalability and performance improvements, while also being simple and cost-effective to use. This was the path chosen by a major French public agency to modernize an infrastructure that has reached its limits.

500 databases, 12 versions, 3 sites

In order to deliver sustainable quality-of-service improvements and greater flexibility to handle future functional needs, this public organization decided to conduct a complete replatforming of its Oracle database environment. Spread over three sites and with more than 500 databases operating in 12 versions in an AIX environment, this infrastructure was particularly onerous, complex and costly to maintain. The project's goal was to rationalize it and consolidate the number of database servers, if possible. That meant modernizing the hardware and software base in order to improve performance and flexibility, reduce costs, and also to simplify administration and migration tasks, so reducing the burden on the under-resourced IT team that was overloaded with work.

DataBase by bullion, the advantages of an open solution

To meet these requirements, Atos proposed DataBase by bullion, an open platform based on standard components and running the x86 environment. In this way, the client avoided getting locked in to a proprietary legacy environment and gained more opportunities for evolution, thanks especially to the flexibility and scalability offered, on the one side, by virtualization (Oracle VM) and, on the other, by the hardware infrastructure itself. The use of standard tools also ensures easier migration and management for the teams.

One key benefit is that DataBase by bullion allows databases to be migrated without having to consolidate the different versions in advance, unlike competing solutions. This way, clients can start taking advantage of the new platform straight away and plan for its functional optimization based on their resources and priorities.

After performing an on-site audit of the client database environment, Atos developed a scale model in its Grenoble Competence Center, which enabled to define and validate the configuration best meeting the client's needs. In particular, the choice of full flash arrays (20 TB per site) provided important advantages over the old storage solution in the areas of performance, space, and power consumption.

Major direct and indirect benefits

The main benefit of the new environment has come from changing to processors optimized for Oracle databases (and to reduce their license and support costs!). Moving from 220 to 160 cores has saved €600,000 on license fees, which translates into an ROI of less than two years -- providing that the old systems are rapidly decommissioned, of course.

In addition, there are many direct and indirect operational gains: a 15-20% improvement in performance, data center real estate reduced by a factor of 10, drastically simplified administration operations particularly for planned maintenance tasks, reduced downtime and the risks associated with it. All of these gains add up to a general reduction in operating costs, along with an improvement in the quality of service.

It remains for the client to complete the migration. But this once-onerous task has become much easier thanks to the procedures defined and validated with the support of Atos. And once the migration is complete, the full range of benefits of the Atos solution will become readily apparent.

About Atos

Atos is a global leader in digital transformation with approximately 100,000 employees in 72 countries and annual revenue of around € 12 billion. The European number one in Big Data, Cybersecurity, High Performance Computing and Digital Workplace, The Group provides Cloud services, Infrastructure & Data Management, Business & Platform solutions, as well as transactional services through Worldline, the European leader in the payment industry. With its cutting-edge technologies, digital expertise and industry knowledge, Atos supports the digital transformation of its clients across various business sectors: Defense, Financial Services, Health, Manufacturing, Media, Energy & Utilities, Public sector, Retail, Telecommunications and Transportation. The Group is the Worldwide Information Technology Partner for the Olympic & Paralympic Games and operates under the brands Atos, Atos Consulting, Atos Worldgrid, Bull, Canopy, Unify and Worldline. Atos SE (Societas Europaea) is listed on the CAC40 Paris stock index.

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