

A+ for Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana Migration Project

"We had two goals with this migration project: to have the new system up and running as fast as possible and ensure that our internal IT staff was completely self-sufficient. We accomplished these objectives in less time than expected - and well under budget! In my 30-year career, I have never experienced such a smooth project."

— Douglas Smith, Director of IT
Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana

Customer Profile

With \$12.5 billion in assets, the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana (TRSL) is the state's largest public retirement system, providing services and benefits to more than 150,000 individuals. The organization's mission is to safeguard and manage the money it holds in trust to provide retirement income for its members.

Business Situation

In response to HP's end-of-support announcement for the HP e3000 platform, TRSL decided to migrate its mission-critical software applications and databases, used by over 250 users, to HP-UX. The organization also migrated all of its Image and KSAM databases to Oracle.

Value to Business

TRSL benefited from a quick and cost-effective migration of its key applications and databases to a new platform. Working with Speedware, the organization designed the migration project completely around the skill set of its own IT staff. By capitalizing on existing strengths, TRSL's IT team quickly became self-sufficient.

Technology Enablers

- Speedware professional services, including customized UNIX training
- Speedware V7, Visual Speedware, Speedware Autobahn II
- Turbolmage to Oracle

The Challenge

TRSL had been relying on mission-critical applications written in the Speedware/4GL, Visual Speedware and Speedware Autobahn II languages since the early 1990s. The organization was very pleased with the performance of these applications, as they had been perfectly customized for their specific requirements.

When HP announced that it would no longer support the popular HP e3000 platform, TRSL knew that migration was the way to go. In fact, its business applications had been so tailored over the years that no packaged application available on the market would suit its needs.

A Clear Option

The organization therefore solicited a number of proposals for migration projects - and Speedware quickly made the short list. Not only does Speedware understand its own technology better than anyone else, but its reputation and experience in the migration space are unparalleled. In addition, Speedware's overall solution price was much more competitive than what other vendors had proposed ... but that was simply icing on the cake!

Speedware's Migration Solution

Knowing it would be in good hands, TRSL retained Speedware's services to perform a complete system migration. Cross-platform-portable Speedware V7, Visual Speedware and Speedware Autobahn II applications were migrated to HP-UX, and the Turbolmage and KSAM databases were converted to Oracle.

To help TRSL's internal IT staff become self-sufficient, the consultants at Speedware created a customized training plan around their needs.

Within nine months, the challenging project was complete. The entire environment, consisting of 18 mission-critical applications was migrated to HP-UX and 11 databases were migrated to Oracle.

The team at TRSL had expected to implement the new system over the course of one long weekend, given that the nature of the applications precluded prolonged system downtime. Much to the staff's surprise, the new system was "cut-over" by midday on Saturday! The transition was therefore seamless to the system's 250+ users.

TRSL credits its strong relationships with Hewlett-Packard and Speedware, as well as the very strong commitment of its own internal staff, with the tremendous success of this project.

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Key Benefits

- **Years of investment were protected**
TRSL had worked very hard over the past 15 years to develop mission-critical applications geared specifically to their particular needs. Speedware's migration solution allowed the organization to protect its legacy applications while moving toward a more modern computing platform and database management system. Preserving the Speedware applications meant that the transition was seamless to the end user.
- **Rapid project execution and implementation time**
Within only nine months, all of TRSL's applications and database systems were migrated to HP-UX and Oracle. In addition, to minimize system downtime, the whole system was implemented and went "live" within a single weekend.
- **A rapid and cost-effective solution**
Not only was Speedware's migration solution much less expensive than its competitors', but the project was actually completed well under budget! As well, by capitalizing on the existing strengths of TRSL's IT staff and building a solution around their skills, the organization ensures self-sufficiency and minimizes dependency on outside vendors.

The Speedware Advantage

Companies whose mission-critical applications and databases run on the HP e3000 business server face unique challenges. As an HP Platinum Transition Partner, Speedware specializes in the migration of a wide variety of third- and fourth-generation language applications, databases and third-party utilities. And our experienced professional services team can ensure complete project management - from initial planning right through to implementation and support.

Speedware is committed to providing complete, centralized and cost-effective solutions. Our goal is to help protect the value of your applications moving forward.

Our Migration Tools

In addition to our complete portfolio of migration services, we develop and support innovative migration tools, such as AMXW and DBmotion. With AMXW, entire applications - such as those written in COBOL, FORTRAN, Pascal or C - are easily migrated to UNIX or Windows servers. No need to tediously rewrite endless lines of code or learn new languages. Our database migration tool converts your TurboImage, KSAM and flat-file databases to Oracle or SQL. Speedware even offers an automated migration solution to migrate PowerHouse applications to Java or .NET environments.

Speedware's Complete Portfolio of Migration Services:

- *Comprehensive migration assessment*
- *Migration planning and analysis*
- *Complete project management*
- *Implementation*
- *Database porting*
- *3GL and 4GL migration (including PowerHouse and Transact)*
- *Industry-certified technical support*

About Speedware

Speedware has been dedicated to helping companies modernize their business applications for over 15 years and enjoys a 100% project success rate. The company specializes in developing end-to-end modernization solutions that allow industry and government leaders to increase their business agility and reduce their operational costs. Speedware has been a leading provider of enterprise software solutions since 1976, offering a complete suite of legacy modernization, migration and application portfolio management solutions, business intelligence tools and application development solutions.

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