

Natural/ADABAS to .NET Migration



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Overview

Few will argue against the fact that today Natural/ADABAS exists within an increasingly shrinking market. Where exactly it lies within the vortex that leads with increasing speed to ultimate extinction is hard to tell, but that it has entered that vortex is undeniable. For many organisations with a significant investment in Software AG's Natural/ADABAS technology, the question of what the future might hold is of great relevance.

At the same time as some technologies appear to be winding down, others are coming to the fore and laying a convincing claim to ownership of the future. Microsoft's C# and SQL Server are two such technologies in the prime of their lives with thriving and expanding communities of users, third party vendors and an expanding user base.

For those organisations with key investments in Natural/ADABAS technology and for whom Microsoft technology is regarded as strategic, MigrationWare has a solution that will result in the replacement of Natural/ADABAS with Microsoft C# and SQL Server.

This MigrationWare solution provides an automated approach to the conversion of Natural and ADABAS, providing functionally equivalent applications on the chosen .NET target environment.

The generated code is designed to be maintainable and all inline comments are preserved, thus ensuring that any documentation that may exist in the original source code is retained.

All code is converted automatically with well above 90% accuracy thereby minimising the need for any manual intervention.

Once converted, the resultant code inherits all the benefits of productivity and extensibility provided by the .NET environment as well as the benefits provided by the well represented body of third party vendors.

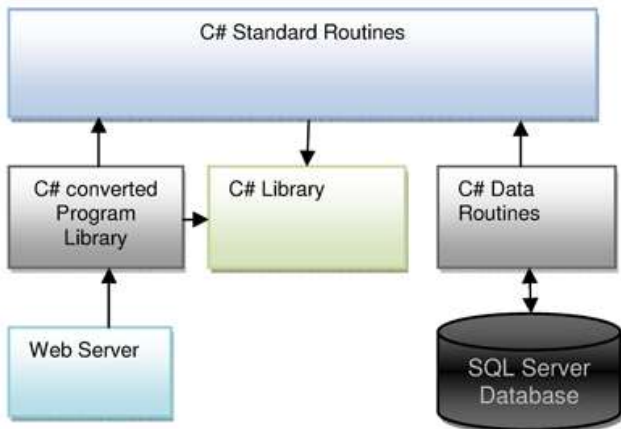
The converted code is delivered entirely as source code with no run-time dependencies helping to ensure no additional costs are incurred and also making sure that the system owners have complete freedom to undertake technical developments in any chosen direction, independent of third party support.

Benefits

The immediate benefits to be derived from this migration are those of significant cost reduction, including hardware, software licensing and application support costs. Beyond this, the value of having a business critical application redeployed on a strategic platform offers very clear benefits such as securing the long term viability of the application and ensuring that it can continue to add value to the business into the future.

MigrationWare's strategy of providing a "black box" free solution ensures no additional dependencies are introduced and that all links to the original Natural/ADABAS environment are severed. This provides for a cost effective environment as well as an application that conforms much more closely with the requirements of the new platform than with the old.

A conversion to a .NET environment resolves the threat of a shrinking skills base and ensures that the application can continue to be maintained and enhanced at costs that are in line with the rest of business and not inflated by the scarcity of appropriately skilled resources.



Key features

- Highly automated code conversion.
- Data is more accessible once converted to SQL Server.
- Web based deployment ensuring a customisable web based 'look and feel' and as opposed to a 3270 green screen.
- Application lifespan would be extended due to the availability of C# developers as opposed the reduced availability of Natural developers.
- Retraining of users is not required, as the behaviour of the converted application remains unchanged.
- Producing a XML staging tier provides an increase scope to produce multiple target types (i.e. object models, use cases, documentation) in addition to source code generation.

Conversion execution

MigrationWare will work with you to deliver according to a plan best suited to your needs. This may range from a conversion service only through to a complete turnkey solution.

The standard MigrationWare offering based on the provision of a conversion service would require the client to deliver to MigrationWare the Natural and ADABAS source plus all related artifacts which necessary to complete the delivery. MigrationWare would then undertake the conversion of the programs and database structures to a C# and SQL Server configuration and achieve an error-free clean compiling environment. The converted programs would then be delivered back to the client for subsequent testing and implementation.

Should any issues surface, which require MigrationWare's involvement, MigrationWare will remain active in a technical support role throughout the testing period.

Pricing

Each project is unique with differing requirements volumes, schedules and deadlines. It is therefore usually impossible to supply a fixed pricing structure.

A final MigrationWare quote is only provided after interacting with the client to ensure that MigrationWare fully understands the scope of the project and the level of involvement required from MigrationWare.

About us

MigrationWare specialises in modernising legacy code and aging IT infrastructure by transforming and extending existing valuable investments in IT onto contemporary, open, more cost-effective environments or software languages. Through its commitment to automating the conversion and migration process, MigrationWare reduces to a minimum the costs and risks associated with IT rejuvenation projects.

South Africa - Head Office:

Tel: +27 (21) 681 2500

Fax: +27 (21) 681 2501

Email: southafrica@migrationware.com

Netherlands:

Tel: +31 (0)33 448 03 62

Fax: +31 (0)33 468 00 80

Email: netherlands@migrationware.com

Nordic:

Tel: +47 971 97 321

Fax: +47 971 97 322

Email: nordic@migrationware.com

www.migrationware.com