

# VSAM Migration Solution



*Freeing data from VSAM dependence.*

## Overview

Wherever COBOL is to be found, chances are you will find VSAM as well. The question though is what to do with the data held on VSAM files once the decision is taken to modernisation or migrate those COBOL systems by moving them forward onto new and contemporary platforms.

This question is particularly relevant because VSAM does not have much adherence to open standards, and so the question of what to do with VSAM in the execution of a migration project requires special attention.

MigrationWare has developed an approach to the migration of VSAM data to relational database alternatives that is fully aligned with the principles of openness and sound system architectural practices.

With the MigrationWare approach, the migrated application has no dependencies on third party software. Such solutions force development to take place along the narrow constraints imposed by the emulation software and serve to replace one form of dependency with another.

The MigrationWare approach to VSAM migrations produces a migrated system that separates data access from business logic, providing a structured and standardised interface between the business logic layer and data access layer. This serves to protect the integrity of the application layer from potential future changes in database management system.

All data access is performed against the new relational database structures by means of standard SQL code and future developments are only hindered by any existing limitations of SQL.

The migration of VSAM can be undertaken to any one of the main stream relational DBMSs including DB2, SQL Server, and Oracle with exceptionally high rates of automatic conversion. New database structures are derived from existing VSAM record structures and an I/O module layer is generated to allow all standard accesses to the new database structures.

All COBOL access statements embedded in the COBOL code are automatically replaced with standard COBOL calls to the I/O module layer which is itself developed in COBOL the source code of which is delivered as part of the conversion.

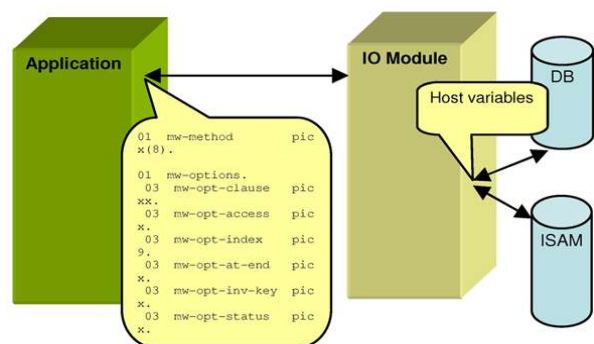
## Benefits

The migration of VSAM to RDBMS takes place with minimum intrusion to the application source code layer, reducing the risk of errors arising as part of the modernisation project and the amount of testing necessary to ensure a successful migration.

A relational database also ensures that ease of access to the migrated data is increased, improving the value of that data to the organisation. The value of the applications that make use of the data is also enhanced.

Migrating VSAM data to a relational database removes the restrictions of propriety software, which prevents users from taking full control over an application. It also frees the company from the licensing costs associated with such software.

All converted code is delivered in source code format so that future enhancements and modifications can be made directly to the source code without needing to consider third party solutions, allowing the company to benefit fully from having complete control over the target database and platform.



## Key features

- Highly automated solution.
- No runtime dependency or dependencies on “black-box” technology
- No license and maintenance fees are charged
- Simple deployment strategy and reduced complexity
- Provides for separation of business logic from data access logic

## Conversion execution

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

When delivering a conversion service, the VSAM inventory including source code and data is delivered to MigrationWare. The VSAM record structures and programs that access them are automatically converted into a clean compiling COBOL programs and the data is converted to the new database record structures. These are then returned to the customer for subsequent testing and implementation.

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

## 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 quote is only provided after initial interaction with the client and when MigrationWare has fully understood the scope of the project and the client's required involvement 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.

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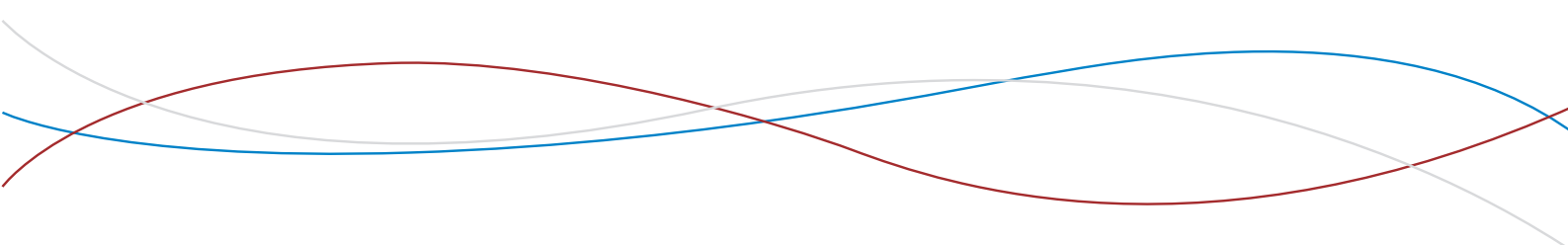
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