

Mertech and WSA Team for Bank of America's Oracle Migration

HIGHLIGHTS

- Easily transitioned Bank of America from disparate databases to an enterprise-wide Oracle platform
- Eliminated the need for over 4,000 hours of developer time

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Background

William Stucky & Associates (WSA) produces the most widely used asset-based lending and factoring software in the industry. Located in San Francisco and founded in 1979, WSA works with over 400 prominent banks and commercial finance institutions, including Bank of America.



Business Challenge

Bank of America used WSA's WinABLM application to process large-scale precious metal loans. While Bank of America was mostly happy with the software's reporting capabilities, they experienced difficulties when attempting to synchronize six branches worth of data at their main New York office. Tired of manually dumping disparate piles of Btrieve data into their main Oracle database, Bank of America decided to move to a single, enterprise-wide platform. Due to the size and scope of their needs, Bank of America selected Oracle.

Typically, when companies providing transactional-based (Btrieve) applications assist customers in migrating to set-based (Oracle) databases, the project requires significant time and effort, up to and including a complete code overhaul. Neither able nor willing to invest in rewriting their code or creating a new solution from scratch, WSA approached Mertech to aid in Bank of America's migration process.

Solution: Mertech's BTR2SQL Driver

Without Mertech's assistance, WSA's Bank of America migration project was estimated to require over 4,000 hours of developer time, to say nothing of the time necessary for testing and iteration. By incorporating Mertech's BTR2SQL driver into the project, WSA was instead able to complete the entire migration in just a few months.

Mertech's BTR2SQL driver headed off the need for a code rewrite by creating a seamless connection between WSA's application and Bank of America's database. BTR2SQL intercepts Btrieve-based commands, like those coming from WSA's application, and relays them to Oracle databases as optimized, efficient Oracle statements. After a series of thorough testing phases, WSA went live alongside Bank of America's new database.

"Our transition and testing phases were very smooth," said WSA's president, Bill Stucky. "Whenever we hit a snag, the Mertech support people were right there with the answer."

Impact and Future

With the transition completed, Bank of America no longer had to manually transmit, upload, and resend data when looking for a big picture view of their branches' activity. In a fraction of the time it would've taken to rewrite WSA's application code, Bank of America was live on WSA's app alongside Oracle, providing the financial institution with improved performance, greater scalability, and enhanced reporting, thanks to BTR2SQL.