

## DATA CONVERSION PLAN



### Where does the 'subject matter experts' who has been liberating data since 1985 start? With a Data Blueprint!

A data conversion plan is a requirement with all migration projects, regardless of whether the organization decides to:

1. Replace a Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) business application
2. Port an existing in-house developed and custom application to a new platform
3. Purchase the same COTS business application in use on the current Computing Platform & Operating System with one on another Computing Platform and OS (UNIX, Linux, OpenVMS or Windows)

A Data Blueprint defines the data, source systems, and framework for transforming data into useful information; starting with the sources (information provider) and ending with the business user (information consumer). Typically the Data Blueprint is under estimated in project planning, under appreciated in scope discussions, and it is where shortcuts are taken. The latter is the most damaging as it results in the creation of information silos that can confuse and complicate the business decision making and Business Intelligence (BI).

#### Plan Includes:

- Review of the data requirements for the application for
  - Completeness of the target schemas logical and physical design document
  - Completeness of the semantic description of each data element required
- Development of a plan for the logical data architecture
  - Inventory of the logical source, schema, metadata and all self-describing files
  - Cross reference of target to source logical data elements
  - Develop a list of missing but required data elements
- Development of a plan for the physical data architecture
  - Develop a source data physical model
  - Develop a cross-reference between each source and target data element
- Determine the right tools to execute the conversion
- Develop, extract, transform and load processes for each data source
- Develop cleaning process
- Determine data loading process - ODBC/JDBC - loader files
- Develop audit trail and track business metrics

#### About MB Foster

MB Foster has been providing data access, transformation and delivery tools and services to Hewlett-Packard users for over 30 years. Manipulating data requires knowledge of the data repositories, and the applications that handle and store the data. Our expertise in this area is second to none.

We have, since 1996 been providing Hewlett-Packard with data access solutions for integration into Business Critical Servers (BCS) and we have been the lab for supporting and developing these products.

Our expertise and knowledge of Hewlett-Packard platforms made us the obvious choice as a selected charter member of the HP3000 Platinum Migration Partner Program. In addition to our own expertise we have forged relationships with "best in class" partners, to ensure that we can offer our customers the best possible solutions for their migration.

MB Foster's Professional Services Team is familiar with the risks involved when migrating mission critical applications. Their knowledge of HP3000, OpenVMS, UNIX, Windows and Linux is unparalleled and they are well versed in new technologies. With MB Foster on your team you can rest assure that your migration will be completed successfully - on time and on budget.

