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From Oracle to PostgreSQL:
How a European rail platform is building a future-proof data platform

Reference story
Undisclosed European rail platform

"Moving to PostgreSQL wasn't just a technical decision; it was a strategic one. Splendid Data enabled us to reduce costs while completely eliminating vendor lock-in, without compromising reliability."

The client

The organization needed a database platform that could support long-term growth without increasing complexity or cost. Rising licensing fees and limited flexibility in the existing Oracle setup were putting pressure on both IT and the business.

Founded as a collaboration between two national railway organizations, the company has grown into a European-scale platform integrating numerous railway systems across multiple countries. Its ambition is to support more sustainable, climate-friendly travel by making cross-border rail journeys easier and more accessible.

The challenge

The organization needed a database platform that could support long-term growth without increasing complexity or cost. Rising licensing fees and limited flexibility in the existing Oracle setup were putting pressure on both IT and the business.

The existing Oracle database environment began to show limitations and faced several challenges.

Key limitations included:

- Increasing licensing fees (in the near future) and related maintenance fees.
- Limited scalability to support future growth.
- Performance constraints for data-intensive workloads.

- A desire to move toward a more open, flexible, and future-proof technology stack.

To address these issues, they decided to migrate their Oracle database to open source PostgreSQL, but needed an experienced partner to ensure a smooth and risk-free transition.

The solution

Splendid Data supported them throughout the entire migration journey, from initial assessment to successful go-live, with a strong focus on business continuity and risk mitigation.

The migration was planned and executed end-to-end, ensuring transparency for stakeholders and predictability in outcomes.

Our approach included:

- We used our Migration Scoping service to perform the analysis of the Oracle databases potentially in-scope to be migrated to PostgreSQL.
- An in-depth assessment (using Cortex) of the two core Oracle databases in scope to be able to make for each database an accurate time estimate, project plan and fixed price to perform the migration including remediation and dedicated support during testing, tuning and go-live.
- Cortex: for every Oracle database in scope, migrate all table definitions to PostgreSQL and migrate all Oracle PL/SQL, approximately 200,000 lines of code, context-aware to PostgreSQL PL/pgSQL to preserve all valuable business logic.
- After Cortex did its work for both databases we took care of the manual remediation to be able to deliver two to PostgreSQL databases. During their testing phases we supported them in case any remediation (incl. tuning) was needed.
- Knowledge transfer and documentation to ensure long-term maintainability by the team.

The business results

The migration from Oracle to PostgreSQL was completed successfully and delivered immediate benefits.

Key business outcomes included:

- Reduced Oracle database licensing and maintenance fees costs with more than 80% .
- A scalable platform aligned with future business growth.
- Lower dependency on proprietary technologies.
- A stable, modern foundation for data-driven decision-making.

The new PostgreSQL environment now fully supports current operations and provides a solid foundation for future innovation.

When can Splendid Data help?

Splendid Data is relevant when:

- Oracle licensing or support costs are under pressure
- Vendor lock-in is becoming a strategic risk
- Open source and digital autonomy are becoming more important
- A cloud migration or database modernization is on the agenda
- PostgreSQL is already in use, but professional support is needed
- An organization wants to assess which Oracle databases are suitable for migration
- An organization wants to accelerate and automate Oracle-to-PostgreSQL migrations using the proven Cortex solution
- An organization requires enterprise-supported PostgreSQL with PostgresPURE

Explore the possibilities of PostgreSQL for your organization

Let's discuss where PostgreSQL can add value within your organization, from Oracle migration with Cortex to supported PostgreSQL with PostgresPURE.

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About Splendid Data

Splendid Data was founded in 2013 and, as Oracle experts, we have focused entirely on PostgreSQL ever since, bringing its benefits to our customers and partners.

We're proud to help companies of every size, in every sector, find their way to digital freedom, flexibility and the power of PostgreSQL.

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