

Combine a robust methodology with next-generation technology to deliver a seamless data migration

An Experian guide

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Jim Williams

Principal Consultant, Experian Data Quality

Jim joined Experian Data Quality in October 2014 as Principal Consultant and is a specialist in the development and application of data quality software solutions for data driven initiatives including data migration. Jim spent a number of years as part of, and leading the delivery of data driven projects undertaking roles such as analyst, designer, auditor and project manager. He then moved into the pre-sales role with a variety of companies that specialise in providing software to accelerate the delivery of data migration projects while driving up the overall quality of the end result – more accurate data on time and within budget.

In his 20 years' experience in the data migration field, Jim has worked for IBM (project delivery and software sales), Trillium Software, Datanomic, Informatica and X88 Software for a variety of projects in different lines of business in Europe, the Middle East, South Africa and the USA.

Johny Morris

Data Migration Consultant and Founder, lergo

Johny Morris has over 25 years' experience in Information Technology spending the last 15 years consulting exclusively on data migration assignments for various industries such as financial services, utilities and telecommunications.

His book "Practical Data Migration" defines the leading data migration methodology – PDM. Johny co-founded the specialist data migration consultancy, lergo Ltd and is on the expert panel of Data Migration Pro.





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1. Introduction

Data Migrations are typically time consuming, costly and complex and it's our job as data quality experts to make this process a little easier for you. Back in 2005, lergo launched Practical Data Migration which has since become the only industry-wide methodology certified by organisations, practitioners and vendors.

Among the decisions that have to be made when embarking on a data migration, a migration method should be chosen that is appropriate to the complexity and scale of the project. This should then be supported by appropriate technology which is certified to support the chosen method.

This brochure outlines what the Practical Data Migration method is, how Experian Pandora works and how together, they make the perfect pairing to deliver a seamless data migration.

Method

Having the right method enables you to identify and manage all aspects of the project including how you interface to, and exploit any technology including software.

Software

Having the right software in place that supports the chosen method will help deliver better inputs and outputs across the human-machine interface across all stages of the project including the delivery of high quality data to the target.



"1 in 4 says poor interpretation of business data rules is a significant problem for their data migration efforts."

2. Project tasks overview

Practical Data Migration (PDM), is now in its second edition. It is the only end-to-end data migration method that takes care of a project from start to finish and covers everything including:

- The contracting in of suppliers
- Sourcing data analysis
- · Data mapping
- Data quality
- Extract transform and load design
- · Migration execution and legacy decommissioning

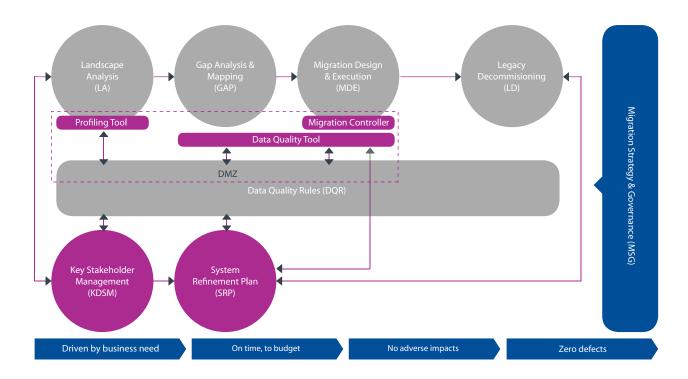
Whatever you need from a data migration PDM has the answers.

PDM is modular and each module provides a discrete set of services in the delivery of a data migration. This means that the PDM model can be used either in a waterfall manner or in an agile, iterative mode depending on the project approach.

There are seven modules in two streams of activity with a controlling Migration Strategy and Governance (MSG) super module that provides the project support functions common to any project plus the data migration specific controls that only PDM supports. Finally there is a De-Militarised Zone (DMZ) concept to cater for the common practice of dividing activity between the work the target solution providers carry out and the work that falls to the data migration owners.

The two streams of activity, made up of technical and business engagement, are what most modules fall into, expect for the Data Quality Rules (DQR) module.

More information on the modules can be found at: http://www.practicaldatamigration.com/pdm-overview





"91% of companies engage in data migration projects, of which 85% find they have challenges."

3. Experian Pandora explained

Experian Pandora has been architected as a single solution to support a company's data management needs and is particularly suited to support data migrations. It is designed to operate with high data volumes.

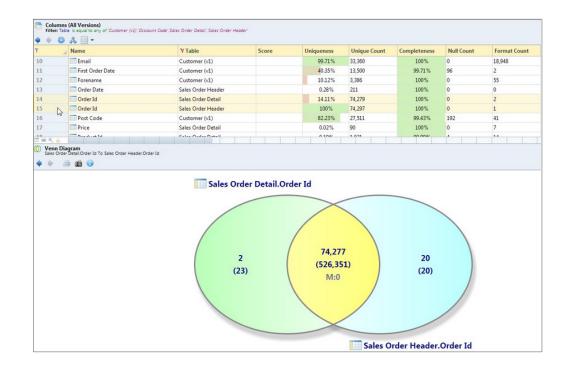
Experian Pandora automatically analyses (profiles) all (full volume) data on load and presents the results of the analysis to non-technical users in an easy to use and intuitive way.

Profiling feeds naturally into data quality monitoring so enables organisations to identify and investigate all relevant data, assess and improve its quality, and monitor and control the quality over time.

Utilising the understanding of the discoveries made during profiling, data analysts are able to design any transformation, cleansing or business rules within Experian Pandora via a simple graphical interface. The results from these rules are shown immediately on screen as the rule is being defined allowing the data analyst to prototype the rule and validate that the results are correct in real-time without the need for hand coding or an untimely testing cycle.

Once the analyst is happy with the results Experian Pandora can save and automatically rerun the developed metrics, rules, transformations or automatic cleansing routines on new versions of data on demand or to a schedule.

Experian Pandora outputs a full specification/audit trail of all manipulations applied to the data. Data prototyping is unique to Experian Pandora and dramatically speeds up any project where data has to be transformed, cleansed and moved. The same profiling power is used analyse and instantly see the results of any data quality rules, cleansing and transformations.





"37% say a lack of data standardisation or data consistency is a significant challenge for their company when it comes to data migration."

4. Practical Data Management and Experian Pandora: The Perfect Partnership

Bringing together the Practical Data Management method and our Experian Pandora software ensures that you have your data migration project under control.

As you can see from the image below, at the heart of PDM is the DQR, which provides the control panel for the readiness of a migration project in all its stages. At the heart of Experian Pandora is its repository which stores the actual state of the data and its readiness for migration.

PDM focuses on the process of migration, whereas Experian Pandora focuses on the data in the migration. Identify a data issue with Experian Pandora, record it in the DQR, define the resolution in the DQR, implement the resolution in Experian Pandora, create the remediation metrics in Experian Pandora and report the metrics through the DQR.



Landscape Analysis: The Experian Pandora repository allows full volume data sources to be profiled into a single repository shared by all. Not sure of source; profile it and decide. Confirm and manage your scope according to the agreed rules. Any data issues; create a DQR entry, create the matching DQ rule and review progress through the dashboard.

• Experian Pandora Profiling: Provides input across the technical stream from original source issue identification, through scoping, monitoring manual cleansing activity, validating in-flight cleansing, validating data outbound to the DMZ, to validating finally loaded data. Any issues; create a DQR.



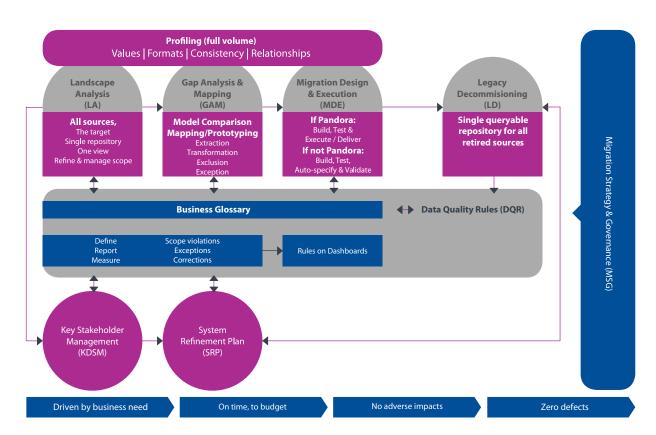
Gap Analysis: Profiling allows multiple sources to be compared, duplicated data to be identified and master source(s) confirmed. Source models can be compared with each other and the target and gaps recorded as a DQR.



Mapping: Accessing the sources, filtering to scope, transforming, cleansing, incorporating 'created' missing data and formatting for DMZ is done interactively using Experian Pandora. Prototype it all ready for execution or deliver specifications for execution elsewhere.



Migration Design and Execution: Prototyping delivers the design and Experian Pandora automation delivers the execution. If Experian Pandora is not to be the execution environment it can be used to identify test cases and validate that the chosen execution environment has delivered as expected.





Data Quality Rules: Any data value issue registered in the DQR from whatever PDM module should be supported by a data quality measurement rule in Experian Pandora. These are reported via dashboards which allow the movement toward the target level of quality to be graphically displayed so stakeholders can monitor progress over time. Every time a new cut of source data is loaded (manually or automatically) all the metrics are refreshed.



Legacy Decommissioning: As a data repository itself Experian Pandora will contain the latest version of the data that is migrated from source to target and therefore contains an archive of the sources. This can be queried using the graphical interface while locking out any ability to change the data.

More information

For more information on how Experian Pandora could save your organisation time and money, please contact Experian Software on 01183 241000, or send an email to info@Experian.com.

Get a flavour for some of the Pandora functionality by downloading the Experian Pandora Free Data Profiler from www.edq.com/data-profiler/



"A third of companies complain about poor system design and see it as a significant challenge."

About Experian

Experian unlocks the power of data to create opportunities for consumers, businesses and society.

At life's big moments – from buying a home or car, to sending a child to college, to growing your business exponentially by connecting it with new customers – we empower consumers and our clients to manage their data with confidence so they can maximize every opportunity.

We gather, analyse and process data in ways others can't. We help individuals take financial control and access financial services, businesses make smarter decision and thrive, lenders lend more responsibly, and organisations prevent identity fraud and crime.

For more than 125 years, we've helped consumers and clients prosper, and economies and communities flourish – and we're not done. Our 17,000 people in 37 countries believe the possibilities for you, and our world, are growing. We're investing in new technologies, talented people and innovation so we can help create a better tomorrow.

Learn more at www.experianplc.com

Learn more about data quality from Experian at www.edq.com/uk

