

Modernize Legacy Data Integration and MDM to Informatica IDMC: Faster, Smarter, Cloud-Native

Introduction

Enterprises are under increasing pressure to modernize to the cloud as they race to prepare for AI. Legacy on-premises data integration and master data management (MDM) tools, which have been the cornerstone of critical business applications for years and sometimes decades, are now becoming a liability. The cost of maintaining these old applications has escalated, while many are now unsupported, or they're approaching end of life. As a result, previously stable and reliable tools begin to consume too much time and budget, both of which could be more usefully applied to critical AI use cases that will sustain the enterprise into the future.

As 90% of senior data leaders see AI-powered cloud modernization as a competitive advantage, and 84%¹ of data leaders believe modernizing to the cloud is key to maximizing AI benefits, the stakes couldn't be much higher.

If you're using legacy on-premises data integration systems such as Talend, IBM DataStage, and Ab Initio, or MDM systems such as IBM Initiate, the time to modernize to a cloud native data management platform is now. Unifying data integration, data quality, MDM, data governance and AI-driven automation to a single, cloud-native platform simplifies operations, reduces costs and delivers trusted data for critical AI use cases at scale across the business.

Informatica® Intelligent Data Management Cloud™ (IDMC) is the only end-to-end, cloud-native, AI-powered data management platform that not only accelerates your cloud modernization journey but also ensures your data foundation is ready for the cloud and AI era.

¹ https://www.informatica.com/lp/roi-guidebook-informatica-cloud-data-integration-services_5023.html

Challenges with Legacy Data Integration and MDM Tools

Legacy data integration and MDM tools create roadblocks that impact IT teams as well as the broader business. Decreasing the pace of innovation increases the running costs of older on-premises solutions dramatically. As a result, the time and budget that should be directed toward AI use cases is applied elsewhere, saddling businesses with crushing costs and brittle data foundations unfit for the demands of modern analytics and AI initiatives.

Cost and Complexity

Legacy on-premises platforms demand costly upgrades, heavy infrastructure investments and ongoing maintenance. Scaling on-premises ETL workloads often requires new hardware, driving costs up while offering no elasticity. This rising total cost of ownership (TCO) diverts budgets away from innovation and slows down your AI initiatives.

Monolithic and Rigid Architectures

Traditional data integration tools and MDM applications weren't built for today's cloud-first strategies, and they struggle to support hybrid, multi-cloud or modern data architectures such as data mesh, data fabric and lakehouse. This leaves IT teams locked into outdated infrastructure, delaying cloud migration projects and constraining business agility to respond to new opportunities.

Limited AI/Analytics Readiness

With no native support for open table formats, unstructured data, and real-time integration and processing, legacy tools can't meet AI/GenAI and modern analytics demands. This deprives the business of faster insights, predictive capabilities, and innovation driven by data and AI.

Fragmentation and Risk

Over time, organizations have pieced together multiple point solutions, creating data silos, inconsistent governance and increased compliance risks. For instance, reconciling customer data across integration, MDM and governance tools often requires manual effort. For business users, poor data quality undermines trusted decision-making and exposes enterprises to regulatory penalties.

Talent and Support Gaps

Skilled resources for legacy tools like IBM DataStage and IBM MDM are increasingly scarce and ever more costly. As vendor support diminishes and the talent pool shrinks, project deliveries slow down and rising operational risks jeopardize long-term sustainability.

Why Modernize to Informatica IDMC?

Informatica Intelligent Data Management Cloud (IDMC) is purpose-built for the cloud and powered by AI, delivering unmatched scale, automation and agility to help enterprises turn data into a true competitive advantage.

Cloud-Native and AI-Powered

Deploy seamlessly across multi-cloud and hybrid environments, with CLAIRE® GPT and Copilot automating data integration, governance and operations at enterprise scale.

Breadth and Depth of Capabilities

Consolidate data integration, MDM, data quality, governance, metadata management and API integration on one unified platform – eliminating the need for multiple point tools.

Future-Proof for Modern Analytics and AI

Native support for open table formats (Apache Iceberg, Delta, Hudi), retrieval-augmented generation (RAG) pipelines, unstructured data, and agentic AI workloads ensures your data foundation is enterprise-grade and AI-ready.

Proven Migration Programs with Informatica Partners

Access automated tools and a structured migration roadmap that simplify and accelerate modernization, ensuring faster value while reducing migration risks.

Modernize as quickly as possible and with minimum risk, thanks to the support of our global modernization program, featuring over 50 international partners and thousands of highly skilled and experienced resources trained to help you.

Lower TCO and Faster ROI

According to Nucleus Research, organizations modernizing to IDMC achieve 335% average ROI, a 5.3-month payback period, and \$3.9M in average annual benefits, while reducing cost and complexity across the data lifecycle.²

² (Missing Footnote)

Solution Overview: IDMC Modernization Path

Modernizing legacy data integration and MDM tools can be complex, costly and risky. Informatica makes the journey faster, safer and more predictable with a proven modernization program designed to lower costs, reduce risks and accelerate time to value.

Structured, Step-by-Step Migration Journey

With Informatica, migration from any on-premise legacy solution is a well-defined process. AI-powered productivity, coupled with a structured and phased modernization roadmap, drives cost and operational efficiencies, speed and scale.

From initial assessment through deployment and post-migration optimization, we guide you every step of the way:

1. **Assessment:** Conduct a thorough technical and ROI assessment to define the optimal migration and modernization roadmap. An automated analysis of your existing data landscape reduces planning effort from months to weeks and clearly defines your migration strategy roadmap.
2. **Execution:** Automate conversion and mapping of complex transformations, with rigorous testing to ensure accuracy and trust while minimizing business disruption. The automation tools like – the migration factory speeds up migration with automated analysis, parsing, conversion, validation, and deployment of ETL jobs to IDMC cloud.
3. **Cloud-Native Deployment:** Seamlessly deploy on AWS, Azure, Google Cloud, Snowflake or Databricks, with full cutover planning and management. Intelligent insights into platform health, covering observability, cost and performance, optimize the platform cost.
4. **Scale and Innovate:** Unlock innovation with an AI-ready data foundation that supports advanced analytics, unstructured data and GenAI/agent AI use cases. Ensure data trust with a comprehensive built-in governance framework.

Proven Modernization Program with Partners

Whether you are modernizing PowerCenter or other on-premises data management tools like Talend, DataStage or Ab Initio, Informatica and its expert partners seamlessly migrate your on-premises workloads to IDMC with an end-to-end modernization automation solution powered by automation tools and specialized services.

For example, among the many Informatica partners offering solutions, **LTIMindtree's IRX** has an end-to-end solution that automates most of the migration planning, execution and post-migration validation process. This approach accelerates your migration journey from legacy ETL to IDMC while maintaining integrity, reliability, trust and governance across the modernization value chain. Pacific Data Integrators are another example, offering **PDI Cloud Modernization Gen AI Bullets** to accelerate analysis, automate conversions and ensure a seamless deployment process from legacy ETL tools to Informatica IDMC.

Business Benefits of Cloud Modernization with IDMC

Accelerated Cloud and AI Adoption

IDMC is built for multi-cloud and hybrid environments, with pre-built templates, accelerators, and AI-driven metadata scanning to simplify migration and enable faster delivery of analytics and AI initiatives.

Reduced Costs and Complexity

Consolidate end-to-end data management and eliminate expensive on-premises infrastructure by replacing fragmented legacy tools and point solutions for integration, MDM, governance and data quality with a unified, cloud-native and AI-ready platform.

Increased Agility and Innovation

Support for new workloads. Legacy ETL prepares data for reporting. IDMC prepares data for AI and advanced analytics, the growth and innovation engine of every modern enterprise. Low-code/no-code interfaces democratize access, enabling analysts and citizen developers to create trusted pipelines. Self-service analytics empower business users with easy access to data and analytics tools, promoting agility and user empowerment with less IT overhead.

Trust and Compliance

Establish a formidable and reliable data and integration foundation with relevant, responsible, robust and AI-ready data. Informatica IDMC embeds governance, lineage and data quality across all data assets, giving you end-to-end observability across the data lifecycle.

Future-Proof Architecture

A flexible, extensible, cloud-native platform with any-to-any connectivity and real-time collaboration ensures AI-readiness at any scale. IDMC supports open formats, AI pipelines and emerging workloads — laying the foundation for intelligent AI agents and long-term innovation.

Start Your Cloud Modernization Journey Right!

Kick-starting the migration of your legacy ETL workloads and MDM tools to cloud-native Informatica IDMC is the first and most critical step in your cloud modernization roadmap.

Learn how our automated tools can accelerate and optimize your journey and free your enterprise data from legacy gravity.

Contact us to set up your
modernization strategy
workshop today.

Where data & AI come to



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Informatica (NYSE: INFA), a leader in AI-powered enterprise cloud data management, helps businesses unlock the full value of their data and AI. As data grows in complexity and volume, Informatica's Intelligent Data Management Cloud™ delivers a complete, end-to-end platform with a suite of industry-leading, integrated solutions to connect, manage and unify data across any cloud, hybrid or multi-cloud environment. Powered by CLAIRE® AI, Informatica's platform integrates natively with all major cloud providers, data warehouses and analytics tools – giving organizations the freedom of choice, avoiding vendor lock-in and delivering better ROI by enabling access to governed data, simplifying operations and scaling with confidence.

Trusted by about 5,000 customers in nearly 100 countries – including over 80 of the Fortune 100 – Informatica is the backbone of platform-agnostic, cloud data-driven transformation.

Informatica. Where data and AI come to life.™

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