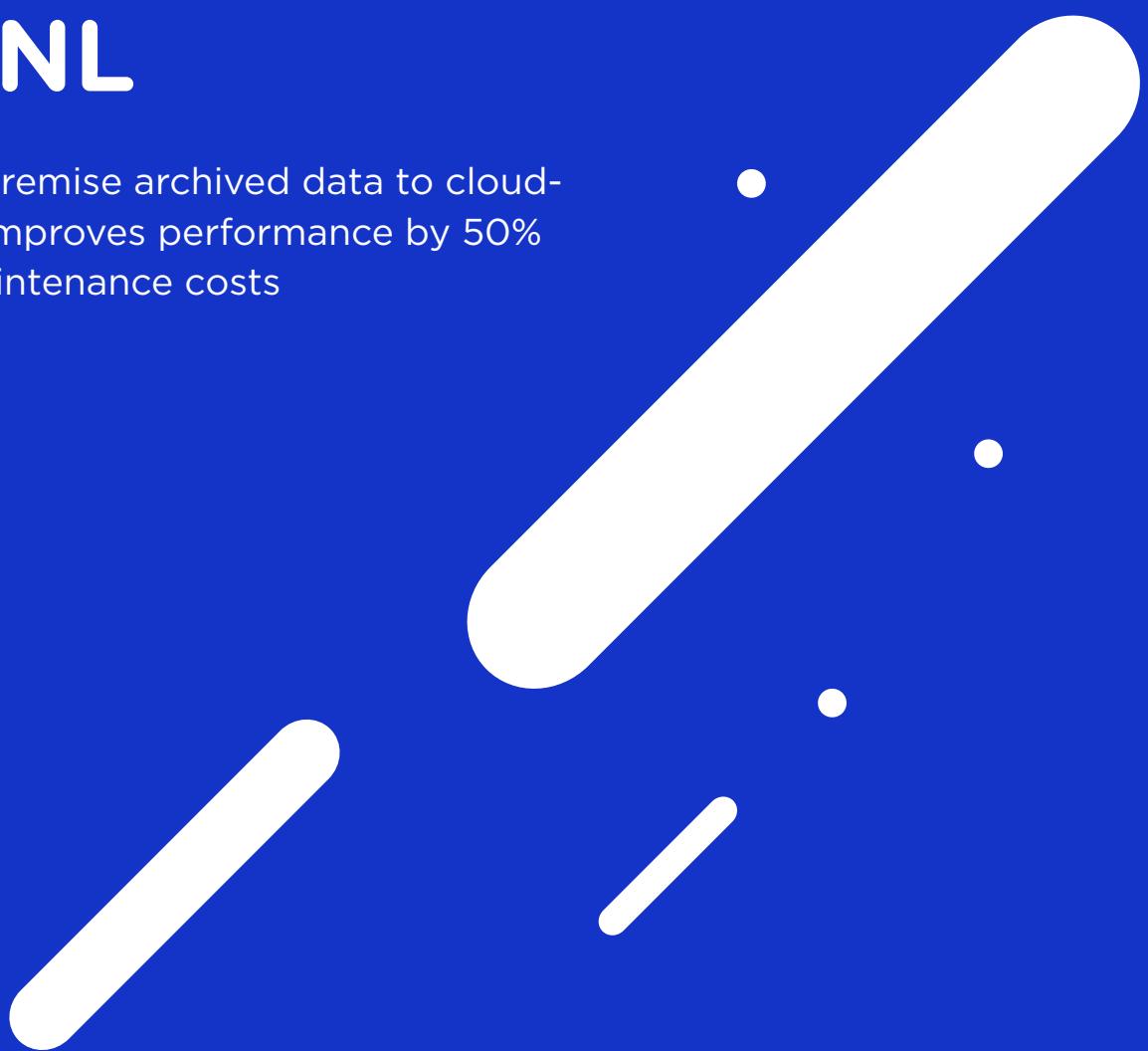




Success Story

Datavard Moves On-Premise Archived Data to the Cloud for PostNL

Moving on-premise archived data to cloud-based NLS improves performance by 50% and cuts maintenance costs



PostNL Mails It!

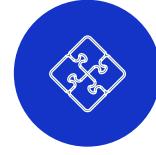
PostNL is the Netherlands' number one service provider in mail and logistics. It oversees the largest and most modern mail and parcel network in the Benelux region.

When PostNL set out to migrate their SAP BW environment to SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud (HEC), they turned to Datavard to help them with migrating 4TB of archived data. The overall project took only five months, saved on maintenance costs, and improved performance by 50%.



CHALLENGES

- Moving SAP BW environment to the SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud (HEC), along with the archiving storage (NLS on Oracle)
- Slow performance of the current archiving platform (Oracle)



SOLUTION

- Using Datavard OutBoard solution to move data from the on-premise Oracle storage to AWS on the cloud

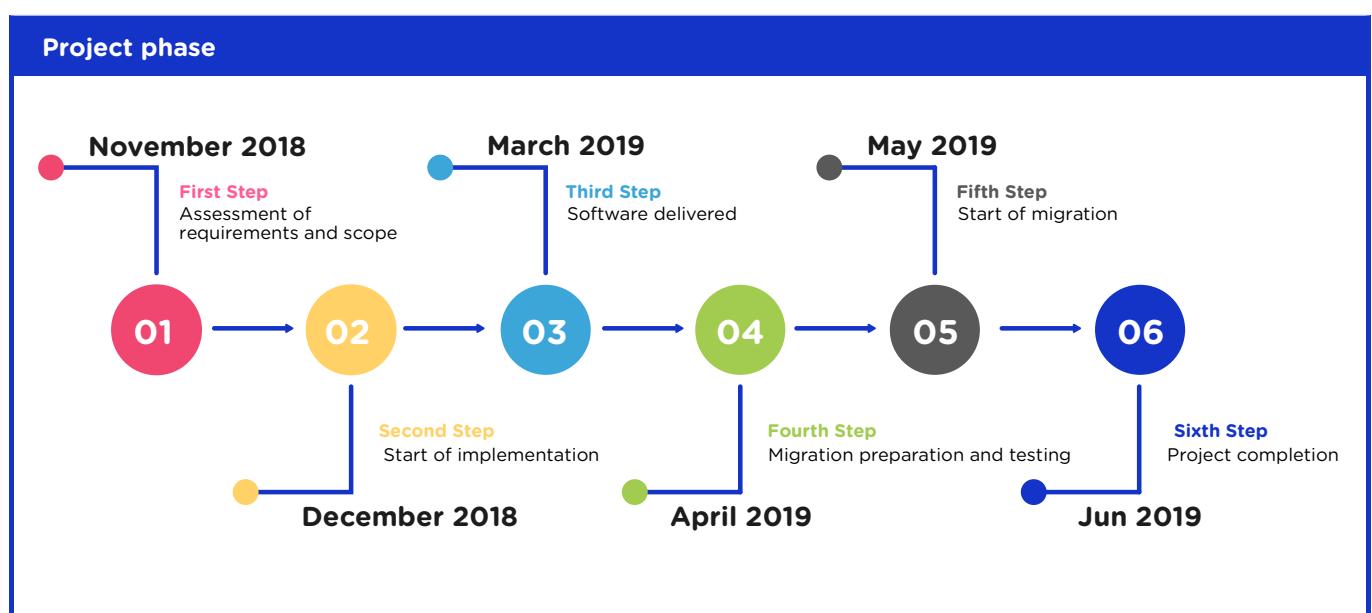
The Cloud Promises

Sunny Skies Ahead

As part of a corporate-wide cloud strategy, PostNL was moving its entire SAP BW environment to the SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud (HEC). The organization needed help in its plans to migrate archived (NLS, or near-line storage) data from its legacy on-premise Oracle storage platform to a new cloud-based Amazon Web Services (AWS) Redshift solution. Following the migration, PostNL would be able to phase away the legacy platform and cut the total cost of ownership.

"Our decision to turn to the SAP HEC environment meant that we had an opportunity to also move our NLS to the cloud in order to improve performance and we went with AWS Redshift platform," Roderik Vrijmoed, Team Lead, Service Management, Business Intelligence Competency Center, PostNL, the group leading the data transformation.

PostNL's legacy Oracle solution processed data too slowly, which restricted the team's use of the solution. According to Roderik Vrijmoed, his team could only archive to the older NLS data that was never accessed but could not be deleted for compliance purposes. Mr. Vrijmoed and his team needed to find help to speed up the system, in a short time frame, and within budget.



Datavard Returns to the Scene of Success

Mr. Vrijmoed and his team had previously worked with the Datavard team and its Datavard OutBoard solution when PostNL first installed the Oracle archiving storage.

The original Oracle storage had initially reduced costs of server power by creating smaller data footprint in PostNL's HANA database of the SAP BW application. However, slow processing speeds, costly remote servers and PostNL's move to SAP HANA EC rendered the Oracle redundant and made a cloud-based NLS solution a priority.

"We explored multiple options, but Datavard most closely matched our functional requirements and their solution was most cost effective. In addition, we already had very positive experiences with Datavard while working with them on implementing the Oracle storage"

Roderik Vrijmoed
Technical Service Manager
PostNL

Project Overview:

01. Development to support AWS Redshift in the Datavard Outboard software
02. Establish connectivity between SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud (HEC) and AWS
03. Testing of the new Datavard Outboard solution on the AWS Redshift
04. Migrating data from the legacy Oracle storage to the AWS Redshift
05. Data offloading or archiving from SAP BW to AWS Redshift

Total Project Data Size:

4TB

"We first had to help PostNL migrate the data from Oracle to AWS Redshift. Then, we could shut down the costly legacy remote virtual machines that were running the production, QAS and development BI environments," said Robert Adamec, Team Lead, Glue Software at Datavard."

One of the early challenges in the data storage transition was that the poor performance of the older NLS made the migration to the AWS Redshift slower than desired — Mr. Vrijmoed explained — adding a month and a half to the project.

Migration of archived data to the cloud improves performance by 50%

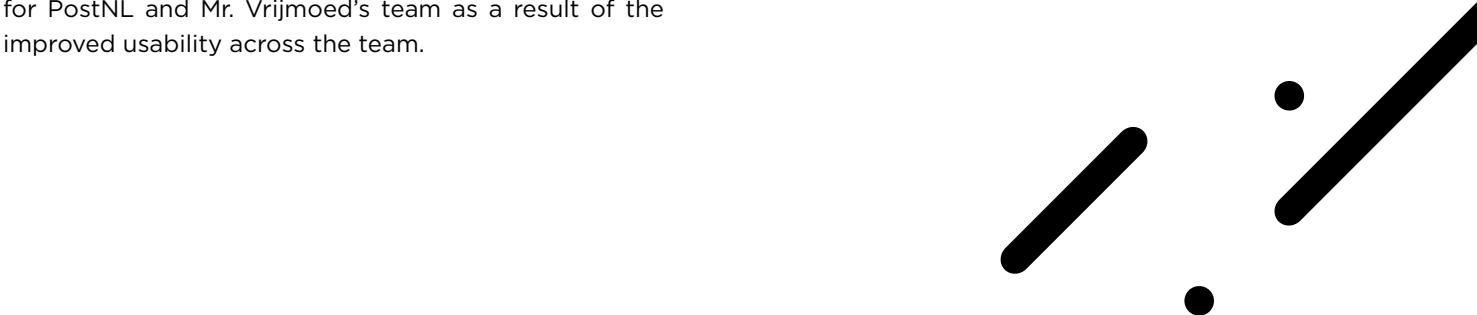
When the Datavard and PostNL established connectivity between the SAP HANA Enterprise Cloud and AWS, tested and implemented the software along with a transport fix in the storage update, the immediate result was a 50% performance improvement for PostNL.

For Mr. Vrijmoed and his team, the ability for Datavard to speed up data migration directly resulted in less uptime costs of the old virtual servers and improved performance of the overall business.

The performance dividends continue to this day for PostNL and Mr. Vrijmoed's team as a result of the improved usability across the team.

"We are experiencing a 20x performance and usability improvement with the new NLS solution on AWS Redshift, said Mr. Vrijmoed. "It is so much faster, which means we can also archive or offload data that needs to be accessed more frequently and we can start thinking of archiving a lot more data that could not have been considered with the old NLS solution."

Added Vrijmoed, and it doesn't hurt that the new NLS solution on AWS Redshift matches a lot better to the PostNL target cloud architecture.



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Roderik Vrijmoed
Technical Service Manager
PostNL

About PostNL

PostNL is the premier provider of postal and parcel services in the Netherlands. We work closely with national postal services and private delivery partners in order to offer customers the most comprehensive and reliable network for delivery of their mail, packets and parcels – not just in the Netherlands but also abroad.

About Datavard

Datavard is a recognized global leader in data transformation and management solutions with decades of experience helping many of the world's largest organizations to transform, innovate and optimize their critical data assets.

Datavard brings unparalleled SAP® data and system expertise for SAP S/4HANA® and SAP BW/4HANA® migration, Big Data landscape design, cloud migration, System Landscape Optimization (SLO), transformation and system harmonization.

Datavard is a privately held company with more than 200 data-driven employees around the world. We are headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany.