

ADAMS STREET PARTNERS

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A CUSTOM ETL (EXTRACT, TRANSFORM, LOAD) PROCESS DELIVERS THE DATA NECESSARY TO IMPROVE INVESTMENT ANALYTICS AND REPORTING.

ADAMS STREET PARTNERS.

Adams Street Partners LLC is one of the largest global managers of private equity investments in the world. Together with its predecessor organizations, Adams Street Partners has been investing in private equity fund-of-fund partnerships since 1979 and managing direct investments in private equity since 1972.

PRODUCING ACTIONABLE INVESTMENT DATA.

Adams Street Partners utilizes a proprietary system to track its investment entities, commitments, and transactions. Because this system was built primarily for transactional processing, it has complex data storage characteristics. Adams Street Partners wanted to use this transactional data to improve investment performance and allocation analyses; for example, by producing timely reports of:

- ◆ Portfolio internal rate of return, U.S./non-U.S. allocation, sub-class diversification, and general partner performance
- ◆ Aggregated portfolios by fund family and vintage year
- ◆ Single fund assets by vintage year
- ◆ Representative client and aggregate client returns, both gross and net of fees

These analyses required complex data aggregations; however, the company did not want to invest significantly in its transactional system to facilitate its enhanced reporting needs. In addition, the existing data structure did not provide the proper format for efficient reporting.

For assistance with building a software engine and a data warehouse that could quickly and efficiently gather data from the transactional database and transform it into a usable format, Adams Street Partners turned to West Monroe Partners. West Monroe Partners understood the company's operations and transactional data from past projects, and it offered extensive knowledge of complex ETL (extract, transform, load) processing.

TRANSFORMING DATA FOR MORE EFFECTIVE ANALYSIS.

West Monroe Partners created a custom ETL process that:

- ◆ Pulls data from the transactional system
- ◆ Performs data integrity checks
- ◆ Creates customized and/or aggregated portfolios of data
- ◆ Allows for the addition or modification of data points
- ◆ Loads data into a data warehouse with detailed logging

Developing the ETL process involved complex logic with many exceptions and special cases. Furthermore, many of the calculations that take place involve tens of thousands of transactions and intensive computations. By properly architecting a solution to utilize both database and code-based computations, West Monroe was able to distribute these calculations across multiple processors on multiple servers—cutting running time significantly. Finally, West Monroe Partners created a web application to administer the process, enabling Adams Street Partners to:

- ◆ Check for and correct data inconsistencies or gaps
- ◆ Manage virtual and representative entities
- ◆ Map entities between the source system and the data warehouse

Since the initial implementation, West Monroe Partners has worked with Adams Street Partners to continuously enhance the application as reporting needs evolve.

IMPROVING RESPONSIVENESS AND MANAGEABILITY.

By establishing the ETL process to improve Adams Street Partners' analytics and reporting capabilities, West Monroe Partners has helped the company achieve its goals.

- ◆ Analyses of investment results—which once took many hours using Excel spreadsheets—now are automated.
- ◆ The company can provide customers with investment information in mere minutes, rather than days or weeks.
- ◆ Because the application was written using the Microsoft .NET platform and Microsoft's SQL Server, it is easily maintained and updated by the large community of Microsoft developers.

West Monroe Partners is an international, full-service business and technology consulting firm focused on guiding organizations through projects that fundamentally transform their business. With the experience to create the most ambitious visions as well as the skills to implement the smallest details of our clients' most critical projects, West Monroe Partners is a proven provider of growth and efficiency to large enterprises, as well as more nimble middle-market organizations. Our more than 200 consulting professionals drive better business results by harnessing our collective experience across a range of industries, serving clients out of offices across the United States and Canada.