



**MANAGEMENT
STUDIO**

MANAGEMENTSTUDIO CASE STUDY

Orchestrating a Complex, Large-Scale Data Centre

Migration with ManagementStudio

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Executive Summary

This group is executing one of the most operationally complex infrastructure programmes in its recent history: the decommissioning of existing data centres and the wholesale migration of its virtual server estate to a new facility. Spanning thousands of servers, hundreds of applications, and multiple layers of interdependent hardware and networking infrastructure, the programme demands a level of data accuracy, stakeholder coordination, and workflow governance that legacy tooling simply could not deliver.

Having previously relied on a third-party migration tool, the group selected ManagementStudio as its platform of choice to orchestrate the full lifecycle of this migration – from initial discovery through to post-migration validation. The results have been transformative, accelerating project stand-up, dramatically simplifying data aggregation, and providing every level of the organisation with real-time visibility into progress.

5,000+ Virtual servers targeted for migration	7→1 Data sources consolidated into one	Daily Automated estate data refresh
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The Challenge: Managing Complexity at Enterprise Scale

Migrating a virtual server estate of this scale is inherently complex. Each server carries its own set of dependencies: the applications it hosts, the hardware it runs on, and the network configuration that connects it to the wider environment. Understanding and tracking all these interdependencies, across multiple data centres, is a prerequisite for any migration activity – and getting it wrong carries significant operational and reputational risk for a systemically important financial institution.

Before ManagementStudio, the group's engineering teams faced a fragmented data landscape:

- Engineers were required to consult up to seven or eight separate data sources to assemble a complete picture of a single server's dependencies – a time-consuming, error-prone, and operationally unsustainable approach.

- The absence of a single source of truth created delays in the discovery phase and increased the risk of incomplete or inaccurate migration planning.
- Stakeholder communication and reporting were manual and inconsistent, limiting visibility for senior management and application owners alike.
- A third-party tool, used before ManagementStudio, in place for approximately six months, lacked the flexibility, dashboard capability, and integration depth required to meet the group's needs at this scale.

The Solution: ManagementStudio as the Programme Backbone

ManagementStudio was deployed as the central orchestration platform for the entire data centre migration programme, integrating directly with the client's existing data sources and providing a unified, continuously refreshed view of the estate.

Unified Data Aggregation & Estate Intelligence

- ManagementStudio integrates with all relevant data sources – replacing the need for engineers to manually consult up to eight disparate systems – and refreshes the consolidated dataset daily, ensuring the team always operates from accurate, current information.
- A comprehensive inventory of all servers across source data centres, their associated hardware, network configuration, and resident applications is maintained within the platform, providing the authoritative basis for all migration planning and sequencing decisions.
- Migration sequencing was intelligently prioritised, beginning with lower-complexity servers to build momentum and refine processes before tackling the most interdependency-rich workloads.

Structured Workflow Orchestration

- ManagementStudio governs the end-to-end migration workflow for each server: upon completion of each stage, the platform automatically

advances to the next step in the sequence, maintaining programme momentum without manual intervention between phases.

- The discovery phase for each migration is conducted within ManagementStudio, ensuring all dependency data is captured, validated, and accessible before any migration activity commences.
- The platform's flexibility has enabled the team to customise workflows iteratively as the programme evolves – an important capability given the complexity and scale of the estate.

Multi-Stakeholder Dashboards & Communications

- Tailored dashboards have been configured within ManagementStudio for each stakeholder audience – senior management, application owners, and consumers – delivering role-appropriate, real-time visibility into project status without information overload.
- Application owners receive automated, timely communications via ManagementStudio, notifying them of forthcoming migration activity affecting their applications and prompting them to provide required information through integrated survey functionality.
- Each consumer is provided with a personalised, self-service dashboard URL, enabling them to track the migration status of their specific applications and servers independently – reducing inbound queries to the project team and improving the overall stakeholder experience.
- Automated reminder communications are deployed to prompt consumers to review their dashboards at key project milestones, ensuring engagement without requiring manual follow-up from the engineering team.

“The communications element of ManagementStudio is an essential component of this project.” Programme Team Lead.

Business Benefits Achieved

The adoption of ManagementStudio has delivered material, measurable benefits across the programme – from accelerated delivery timelines to improved stakeholder confidence and operational resilience.

- Accelerated project stand-up: The team lead confirmed that the programme would have taken significantly longer to initiate without

ManagementStudio, particularly through the discovery phase. The ability to rapidly consolidate estate data removed what would otherwise have been weeks of manual data-gathering activity.

- Dramatic reduction in engineering effort: Consolidating up to eight data sources into a single, daily refreshed platform has eliminated a substantial volume of manual data retrieval, freeing engineering capacity for higher-value migration activity.
- Enhanced data accuracy and confidence: Daily automated data refreshes ensure that migration decisions are based on current, validated information - reducing the risk of errors arising from stale or incomplete data that plagued the previous approach.
- Real-time project transparency: Senior management benefits from up-to-date dashboards that accurately reflect the current status of each migration, enabling informed governance decisions without reliance on manually compiled status reports.
- Improved application owner engagement: Structured, automated communications and self-service dashboards have transformed the relationship with application owners, ensuring they are proactively informed and able to contribute to the programme efficiently.
- Superior platform capability: The engineering teams rate ManagementStudio significantly above the previously deployed tool, citing the depth of dashboard functionality, data portability, and the platform's flexibility to adapt to evolving programme requirements as key differentiators.
- Scale and pace: With a target of 5,000 server migrations in the current year and full project completion targeted by the end of the following year, ManagementStudio is providing the governance infrastructure required to sustain delivery at this pace across a highly complex and interconnected estate.

“The project would definitely have taken longer to even stand up without ManagementStudio, as well as the discovery phase. Now we can get the data much more easily.” Programme Team Lead.