



fact sheet
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Convert/VSAM is a fully automated migration solution that converts your existing VSAM programs, data and file structures into “ready-to-test” applications supporting any ANSI standard SQL environments including DB2, Oracle, Informix or Sybase. The resulting converted applications are functionally identical to their VSAM counterparts.

Convert/VSAM is superior to anything the competition has to offer because it:

- Has no 'black box' tools or run-time routines to maintain or depend on after the migration is complete.
- Creates a true relational SQL database design.
- Includes an automated data analysis – long before the data conversion phase. This unique process identifies what and where any bad data is hiding in the database, giving clients a head start in cleaning up their data. Based on client-specific rules, it identifies data that either the client or DB2 consider invalid. It allows the Forecross schema conversion process to accommodate situations where cleansing may not be appropriate or allows the data conversion process to automatically cleanse data according to rules established by the client.
- Comes with a guarantee that no data will be left behind at extract time.

Conversion Output

All VSAM components are converted to equivalent relational database components:

- VSAM programs are converted to ANSI standard SQL programs
- The VSAM file definitions are converted to DDL for the target environment (ANSI standard SQL including DB2, or MS SQL Server).
- A set of programs is generated to convert your data from the current VSAM environment to the target relational environment.

Customization Options

Convert/VSAM provides for a variety of user program customization options including:

- Renaming of programs, copybooks and other components
- Whether COBOL SELECT statement are to be generated as SELECT * or as SELECT fieldname
- Whether COBOL PERFORM statements are generated as a PERFORM sectionname or as a PERFORM paragraphname THRU paragraphname-EXIT.
- The type of library control cards to be used for COBOL programs and copy members (e.g. IEBUPDTE, CA-Librarian, C.A-Endevor, etc.).
- Whether existing VSAM statements should be removed from the converted program or left in the program and converted to comments.

Convert/VSAM also provides a number of standard customization options including:



505 Montgomery St, 11th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94111
Tel 415-543-1515
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- Whether data access should be via a TABLE or VIEW
- Whether SQL host variables should be generated as 01 LEVELs or 05 LEVELs
- Whether SQL host variable prefixes should be generated
- What format should be used for DATE and TIME fields (ISO, U.S, European or Japanese)
- What structural changes should be made to the relational databases (such as group and elementary item selection, date and time field designations, primary and foreign key modification)
- Name selection for all tables, views and columns

Benefits

Pressure to reduce IT costs and deliver more value is constant. Paying multiple license fees for redundant DBMS or TP technologies and keeping qualified staff who know these sunsetting technologies is costly. Many legacy applications are still getting the job done, so redeveloping them from scratch, especially when subject matter experts are about to retire, cannot be cost-justified. Automated legacy modernization is key to solving this problem.

By converting legacy mainframe applications from VSAM to SQL, you are able to:

- Minimize reliance on scarce (often expensive) trained personnel – thereby reducing application maintenance costs
- Eliminate escalating (often redundant) software license fees
- Enhance application portability

Key benefits of using Convert/VSAM for your redeployment include:

- Partnering with the Best – Forecross has the best migration software, experience and methodology, along with the most complete end-to-end automation for VSAM to SQL migrations.
- Reduced Time – by leveraging the benefits of automation. This reduces client personnel costs, increases project personnel focus on

quality results, and enables application maintenance to continue with minimal disruption

- Reduced Risk – by ensuring that, through automation, all program functionality is moved completely and accurately to the new environment.
- Reduced Cost – automation, and expertise in applying it, will result in a project of higher accuracy in a shorter duration. Direct vendor fees and internal staffing costs are reduced accordingly.

Forecross Software Solutions

Redeployment Solutions:

Languages:

From: ADS/O, PL/I, COBOL, CSP, IMSADF II

To: COBOL, C# .NET, VB .NET, IBM EGL (Java), .NET COBOL

User Interfaces:

From: IDMS-DC, IMS-DC

To: CICS including mainframe CICS, the TXSeries for AIX, Windows, Solaris, HP-UX, other transaction servers (UNIKIX, MicroFocus CICS Option)

Database Platforms:

From: IDMS, IMS, VSAM

To: DB2, Oracle, SQL Server

Solution Enhancement Tools:

- I/O Navigator
- Data Evaluator
- DBAdvisor
- TestSentinel

XML Solutions:

L2X SmartXML Series



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